

# Download And Run Amazon Linux 2 AMI Locally On Your VirtualBox or Vmware



Amazon has already released their custom Amazon Linux for download which is based on RedHat, I would like to walk through anyone interested in using their linux based distros on their hypervisors either Virtualbox or Vmware including WorkStation, Players, Fusion.

## Download Amazon Linux 2 For Your Hypervisor Platform

- [Vmware WorkStation, Player, Fusion](#)
- [Oracle VirtualBox](#)
- [Microsoft Hyper-V](#)

- [KVM](#)

Those links above contain the latest OS releases of Amazon Linux.

## **Prepare And Import Amazon Linux 2 On Your VirtualBox**

- Open Your VirtualBox and click on New

Look at the screenshots below, At what I choose, You might decide to use any name your prefer which doesn't matter.

Name: Amazon AMI Linux 2

Type: Linux

Version: Other Linux (64-bit)


Linux (64-bit)


← Create Virtual Machine

## Name and operating system

Please choose a descriptive name and destination folder for the new virtual machine and select the type of operating system you intend to install on it. The name you choose will be used throughout VirtualBox to identify this machine.

Name:

Machine Folder:   ▼

Type:  ▼ 

Version:  ▼

Click On Next, At the Memory Size, Just Click On Next Don't Worry

← Create Virtual Machine

## Memory size

Select the amount of memory (RAM) in megabytes to be allocated to the virtual machine.

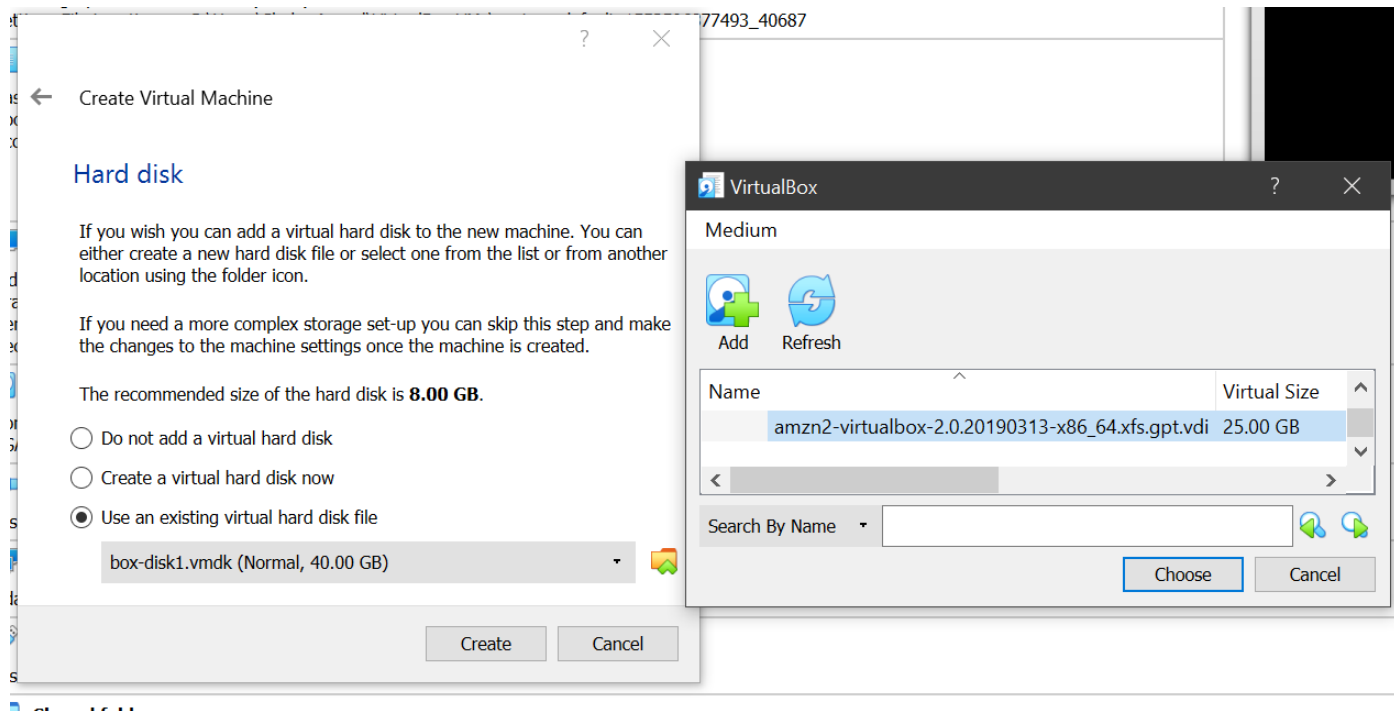
The recommended memory size is **512 MB**.

4 MB 16384 MB

512 MB

Next Cancel

At the Hard Disk, Select **use an existing virtual hard disk file**, and select the location of your downloaded Amazon Linux 2 AMI you downloaded through the link above. And click Add and choose the downloaded file and create.



And Click on Start.

## Resetting Your User Account And Root Account Password

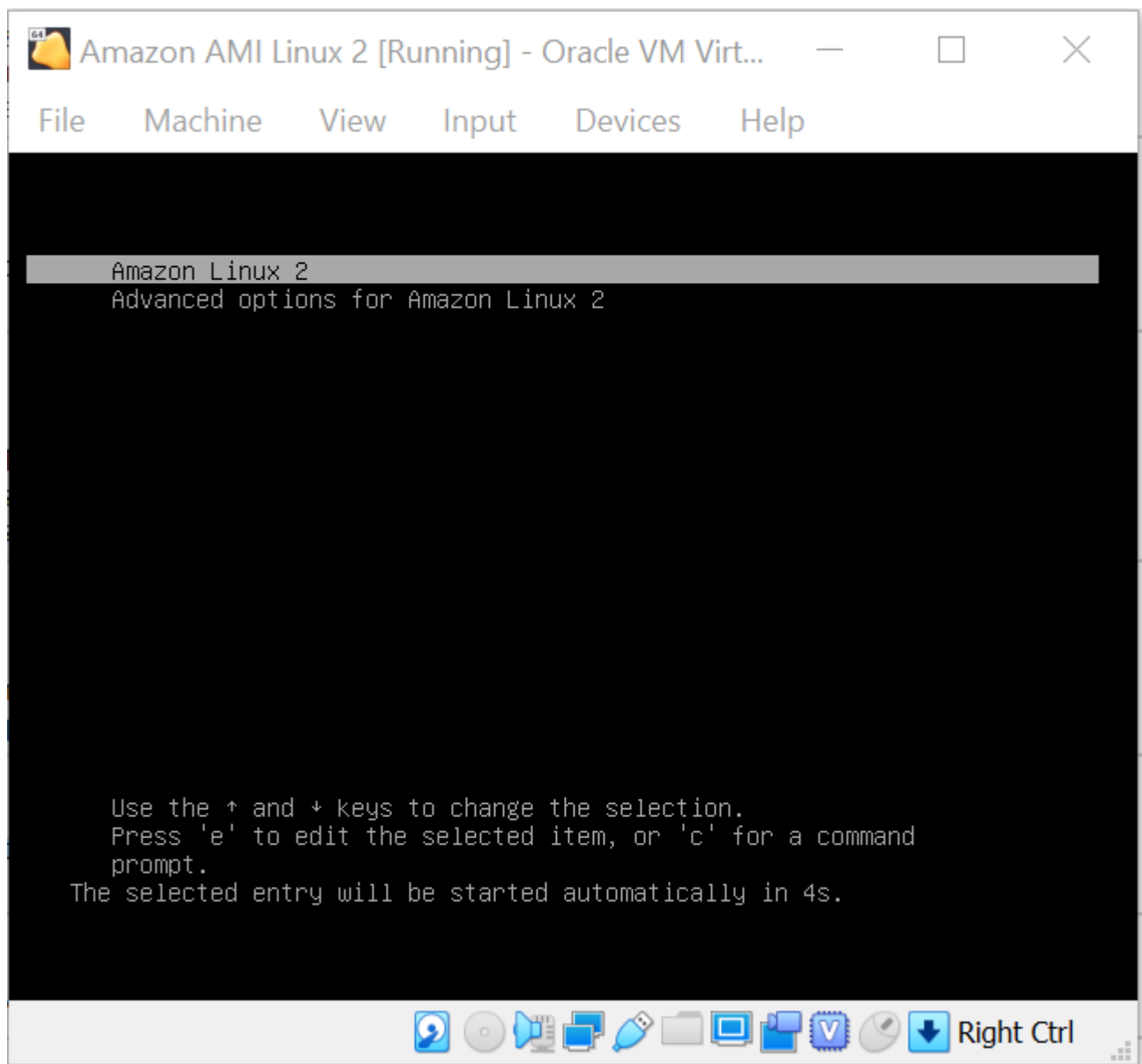
This is where things get tricky, As you might know for anyone who has launched an EC2 instance with Amazon AMI Linux2 on AWS, You have to login with SSH Private Keys because of Security, Amazon has already given a way to do that, But it's a long process doing that, So let's get started with the process.

By default Amazon Linux has these users,

> **ec2-user**

> **root**

- Start your Amazon AMI Linux virtual machine and while at the grub menu press **e** which stands for edit at the grub prompt.



- Look at the line below that **ro** and change it with **rw init=/sysroot/bin/sh** look at the picture below.

```

setparams 'Amazon Linux 2' 'rhel' 'fedora'

    load_video
    insmod gzio
    insmod part_gpt
    insmod xfs
    if [ x$feature_platform_search_hint = xy ]; then
        search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root f4e81282-6543-4b8d-af6e-\
862cb1732d46
    else
        search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root f4e81282-6543-4b8d-af6e-8\
62cb1732d46
    fi
    linux16 /boot/vmlinuz-4.14.104-95.84.amzn2.x86_64 root=UUID=f4e8128\
2-6543-4b8d-af6e-862cb1732d46.ro console=ttyS0,115200n8 console=tty0 net.i\
fnames=0 biosdevname=0 nvme_core.io_timeout=4294967295
    initrd16 /boot/initramfs-4.14.104-95.84.amzn2.x86_64.img

Press Ctrl-x to start, Ctrl-c for a command prompt or Escape to
discard edits and return to the menu. Pressing Tab lists
possible completions.

```

- This is what I change it to

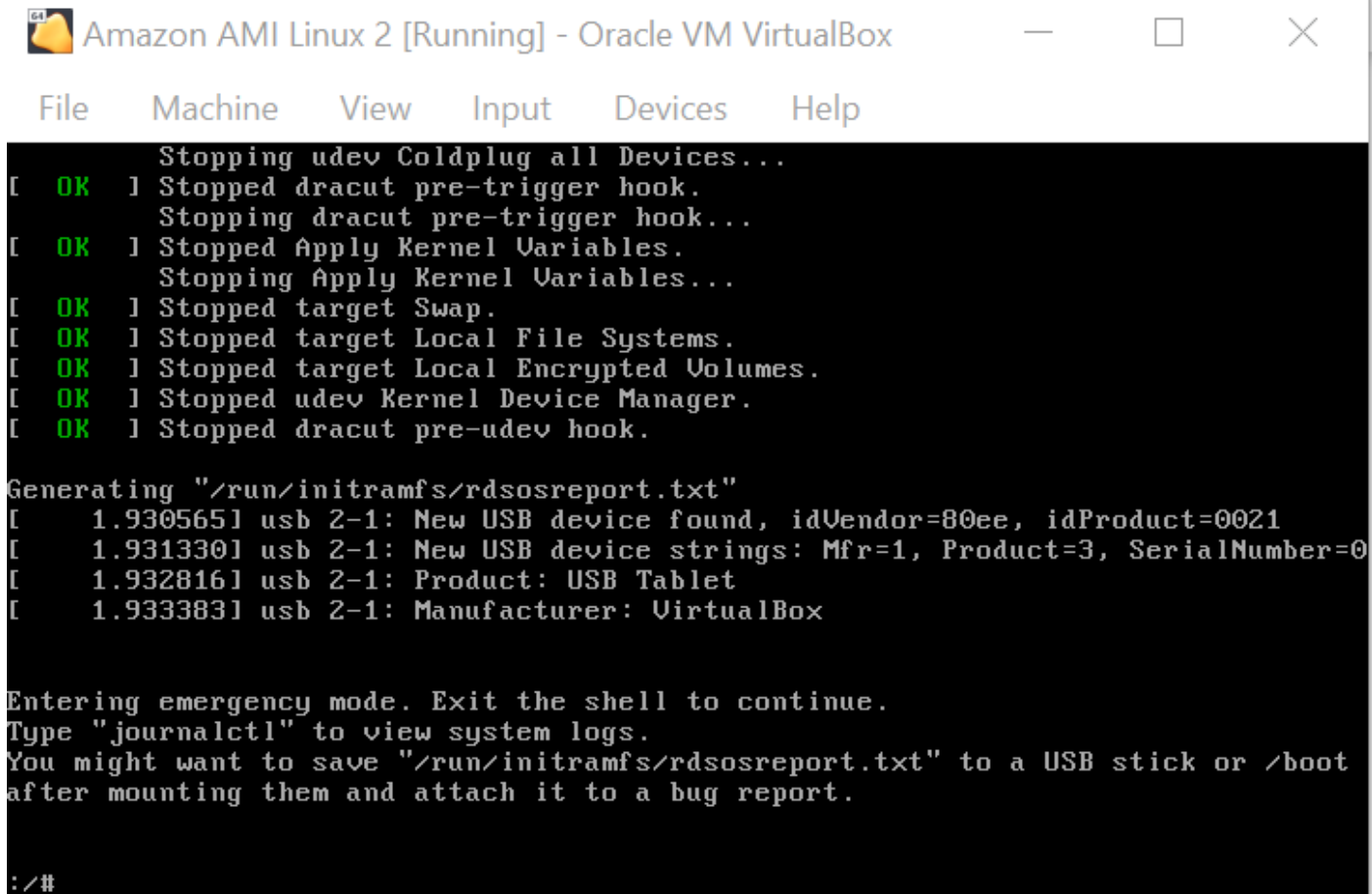
```
setparams 'Amazon Linux 2' 'rhel' 'fedora'

    load_video
    insmod gzio
    insmod part_gpt
    insmod xfs
    if [ x$feature_platform_search_hint = xy ]; then
        search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root f4e81282-6543-4b8d-af6e-\
862cb1732d46
    else
        search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root f4e81282-6543-4b8d-af6e-8\
62cb1732d46
    fi
    linux16 /boot/vmlinuz-4.14.104-95.84.amzn2.x86_64 root=UUID=f4e8128\
2-6543-4b8d-af6e-862cb1732d46 rw init=/sysroot/bin/sh console=ttyS0,115200\
n8 console=tty0 net.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 nvme_core.io_timeout=4294967295
    initrd16 /boot/initramfs-4.14.104-95.84.amzn2.x86_64.img

Press Ctrl-x to start, Ctrl-c for a command prompt or Escape to
discard edits and return to the menu. Pressing Tab lists
possible completions.
```

- Press **Control + x** on your keyboard and give it some seconds to enter single mode, This is how it will look like





```
Stopping udev Coldplug all Devices...
[ OK ] Stopped dracut pre-trigger hook.
Stopping dracut pre-trigger hook...
[ OK ] Stopped Apply Kernel Variables.
Stopping Apply Kernel Variables...
[ OK ] Stopped target Swap.
[ OK ] Stopped target Local File Systems.
[ OK ] Stopped target Local Encrypted Volumes.
[ OK ] Stopped udev Kernel Device Manager.
[ OK ] Stopped dracut pre-udev hook.

Generating "/run/initramfs/rdsosreport.txt"
[ 1.930565] usb 2-1: New USB device found, idVendor=80ee, idProduct=0021
[ 1.931330] usb 2-1: New USB device strings: Mfr=1, Product=3, SerialNumber=0
[ 1.932816] usb 2-1: Product: USB Tablet
[ 1.933383] usb 2-1: Manufacturer: VirtualBox

Entering emergency mode. Exit the shell to continue.
Type "journalctl" to view system logs.
You might want to save "/run/initramfs/rdsosreport.txt" to a USB stick or /boot
after mounting them and attach it to a bug report.

:/#
```

Okay, Now use the following command to change the root and user password.

```
:/# chroot /sysroot
:/# passwd root
:/# passwd ec2-user
:/# touch /.autorelabel
:/# exit
:/# reboot
```

We're done, You can now use the Amazon Linux 2 AMI on your machine, But there's one more thing, you can't SSH because **PasswordAuthentication** is disabled in the sshd\_config by default.

```
nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

Look for PasswordAuthentication and change from no to yes, which will look like this.

```
PasswordAuthentication yes
```

Then save, After that just.

```
service sshd restart
```