

Van Neih Thawng

A+ Project

Date: September 15, 2025

Installing Kali Linux on Windows Using a Virtual Machine

Introduction:

This project outlines the process of installing Kali Linux on a Windows computer using Oracle VirtualBox. Kali Linux is a specialized distribution designed for penetration testing and cybersecurity research. Running it in a virtual machine allows users to experiment safely without affecting their host system. The following steps detail the installation and configuration process.

Step 1:

Download and install the VirtualBox package for Windows from <https://www.virtualbox.org>.

Step 2:

Download and install the VirtualBox Extension Pack to enable advanced features such as USB support and virtual networking.

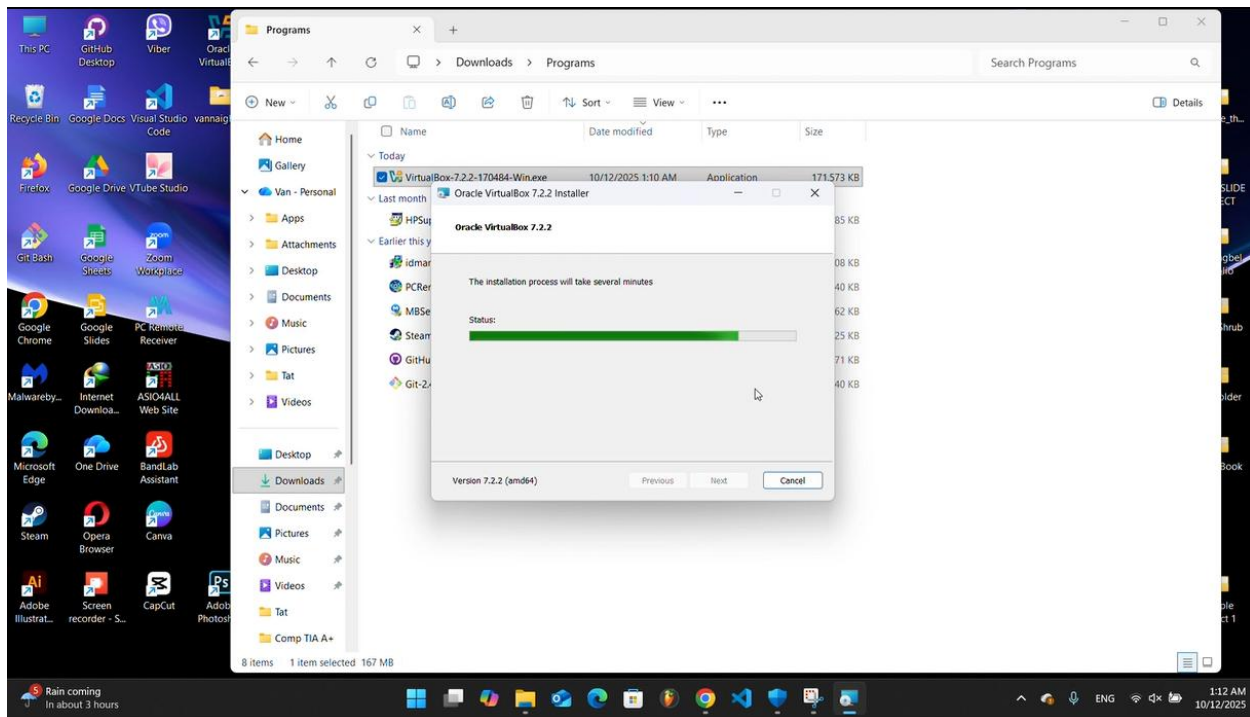


Figure 1: Installing Virtual Box

Step 3:

Obtain the official Kali Linux ISO file from <https://www.kali.org/get-kali>.

(Note: Choose the 64-bit installer ISO for VirtualBox compatibility.)

Step 4:

Launch VirtualBox and click **New** to create a new virtual machine.

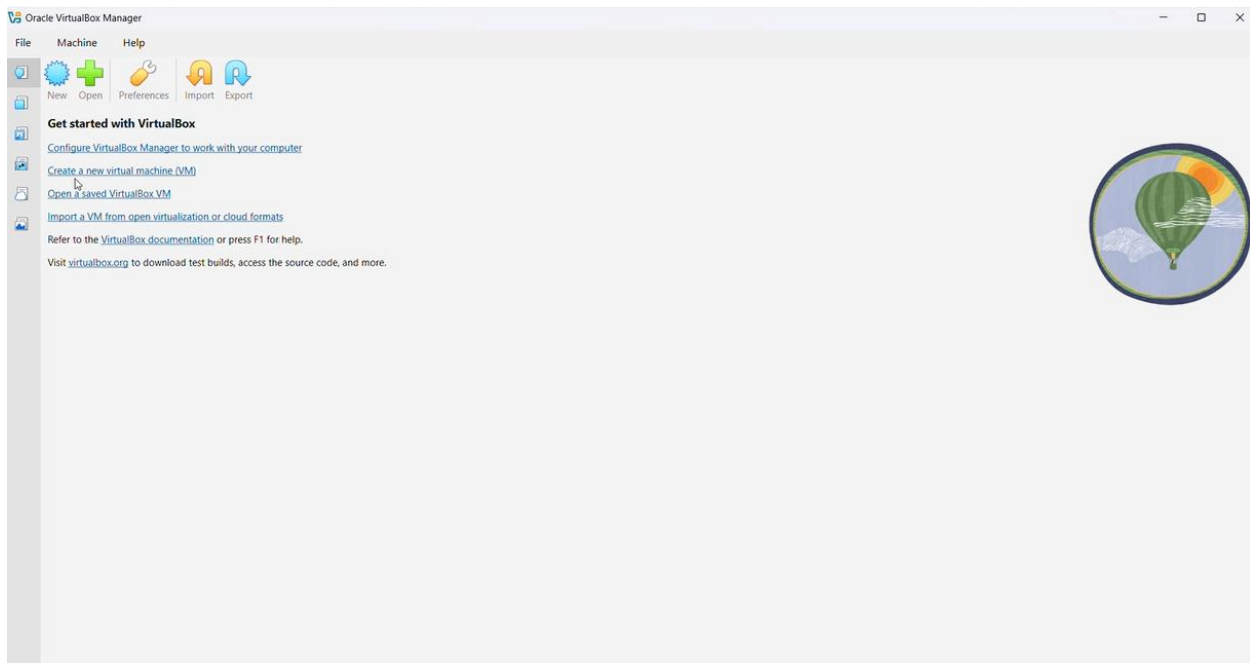


Figure 2: Virtual Box Interface After Installation

Step 5:

Configure the VM settings:

- **Name:** Kali Linux
- **ISO image:** Select the downloaded Kali Linux ISO file
- **Type:** Linux
- **Version:** Debian (64-bit)
- **Memory:** 4 GB (or more if available)
- **Hard Disk:** Create a virtual hard disk (minimum 20 GB recommended)

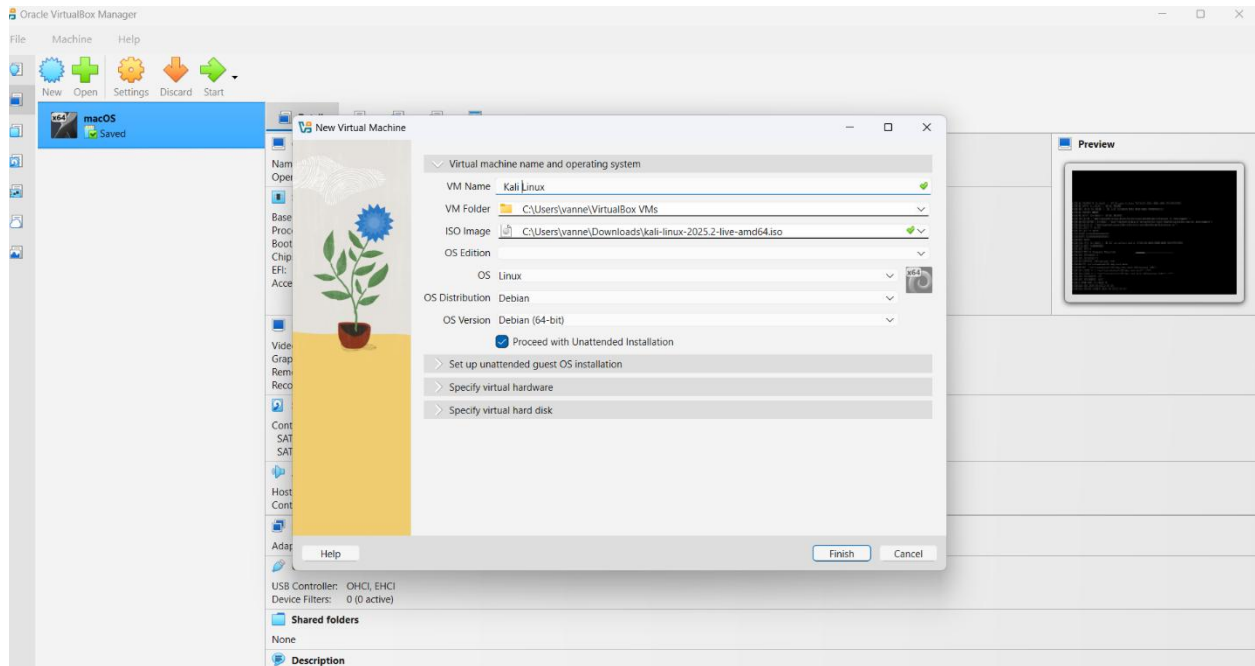


Figure 3: Selecting VM Name and OS setup

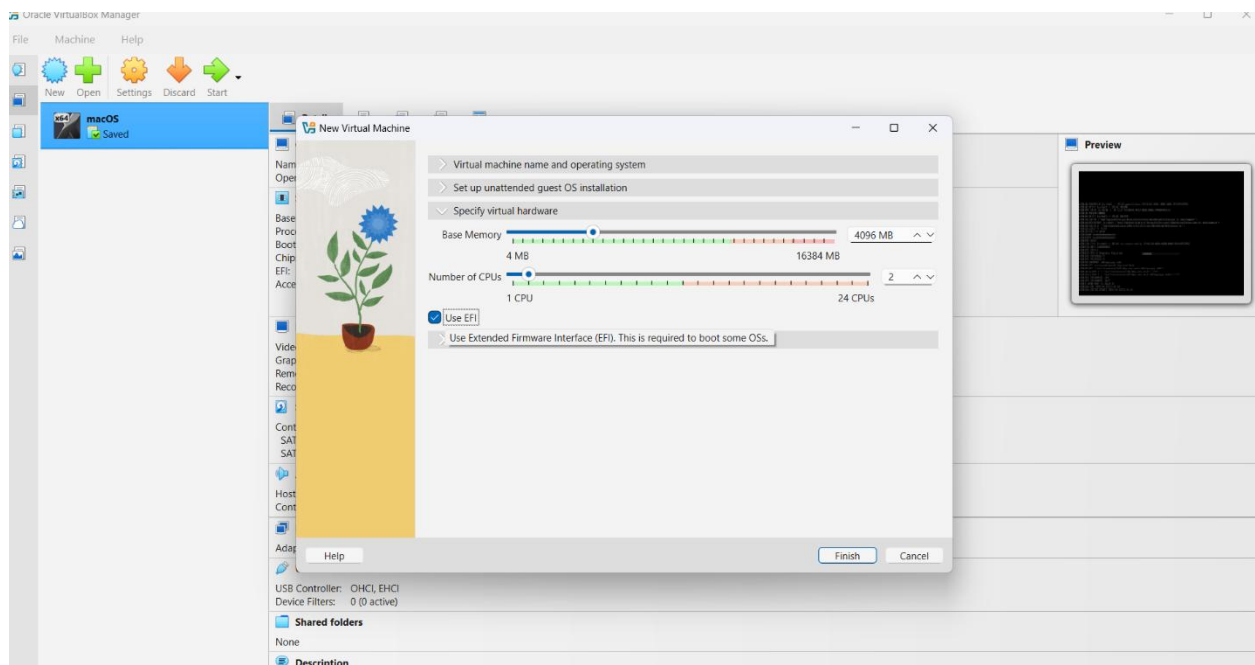


Figure 4: VM Hardware Specification

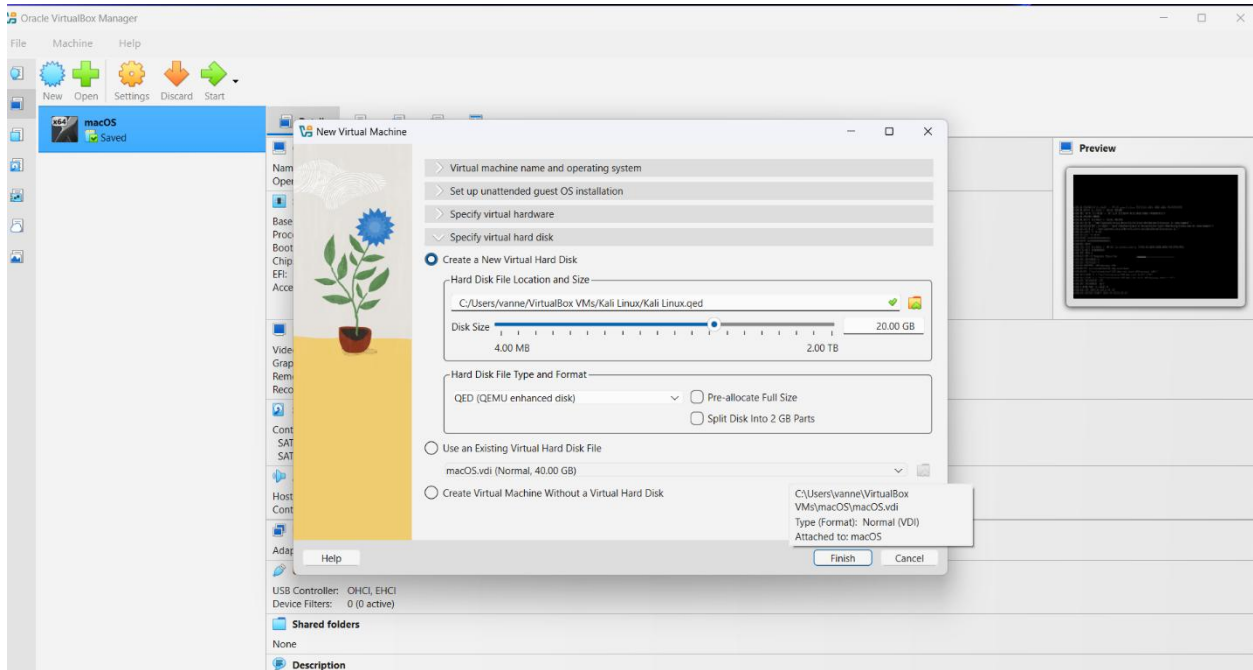


Figure 5: VM Hard Disk Size Specification

Step 6:

Start the virtual machine and follow the on-screen instructions to install Kali Linux.

(Choose **Live system Amd64** from the boot menu to run Kali directly without installation.)



Figure 6: Selecting Live amd64 in Boot Menu

Step 7:

Once installation is complete, reboot the VM and log in to Kali Linux.

You now have a fully functional Kali Linux environment running inside VirtualBox.



Figure 7: Kali Linux desktop after successful installation

Conclusion:

Installing Kali Linux on Windows via VirtualBox provides a secure and flexible way to explore cybersecurity tools and techniques. With proper configuration, users can practice ethical hacking, network analysis, and digital forensics without compromising their host system.