

Docker Desktop Installation Guide

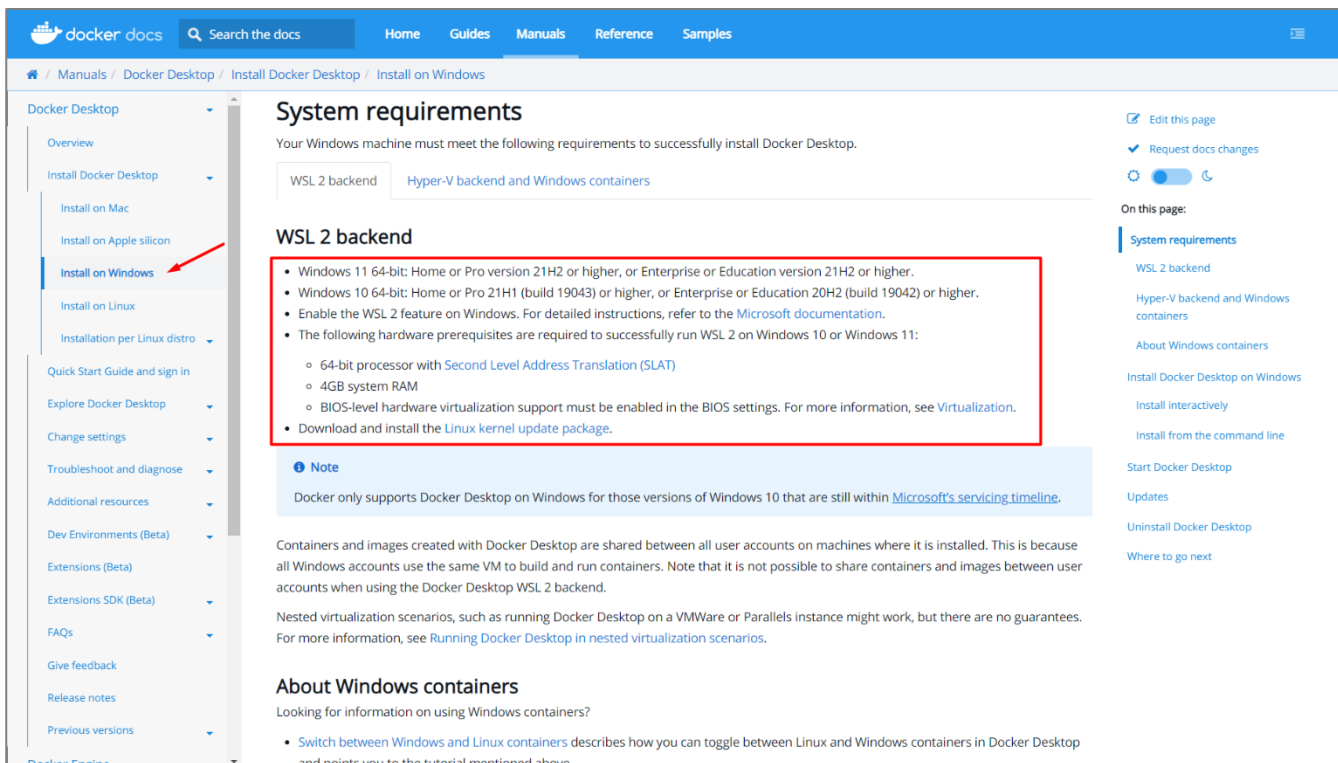
Guide for downloading and installing Docker Desktop on Windows, Mac, and Linux for the "[Containers and Clouds](#)" course @ SoftUni.

Download Docker Desktop on Windows

First, you will need to open the docker documentation <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/>.

Choose "**Windows**" from the menu on the left side of the screen. Before installing make sure that your machine **matches the needed requirements** to use Docker Desktop.

For example, if you use Windows 10+ you could **directly** download and install Docker Desktop because the platform runs natively on Windows 10+:



The screenshot shows the Docker Desktop installation guide on the Docker Docs website. The left sidebar has a navigation menu with 'Install on Windows' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'System requirements' and lists the requirements for WSL 2 backend and Hyper-V backend. A red box highlights the WSL 2 backend requirements.

System requirements

Your Windows machine must meet the following requirements to successfully install Docker Desktop.

WSL 2 backend Hyper-V backend and Windows containers

WSL 2 backend

- Windows 11 64-bit: Home or Pro version 21H2 or higher, or Enterprise or Education version 21H2 or higher.
- Windows 10 64-bit: Home or Pro 21H1 (build 19043) or higher, or Enterprise or Education 20H2 (build 19042) or higher.
- Enable the WSL 2 feature on Windows. For detailed instructions, refer to the [Microsoft documentation](#).
- The following hardware prerequisites are required to successfully run WSL 2 on Windows 10 or Windows 11:
 - 64-bit processor with Second Level Address Translation (SLAT)
 - 4GB system RAM
 - BIOS-level hardware virtualization support must be enabled in the BIOS settings. For more information, see [Virtualization](#).
- Download and install the [Linux kernel update package](#).

Note

Docker only supports Docker Desktop on Windows for those versions of Windows 10 that are still within [Microsoft's servicing timeline](#).

Containers and images created with Docker Desktop are shared between all user accounts on machines where it is installed. This is because all Windows accounts use the same VM to build and run containers. Note that it is not possible to share containers and images between user accounts when using the Docker Desktop WSL 2 backend.

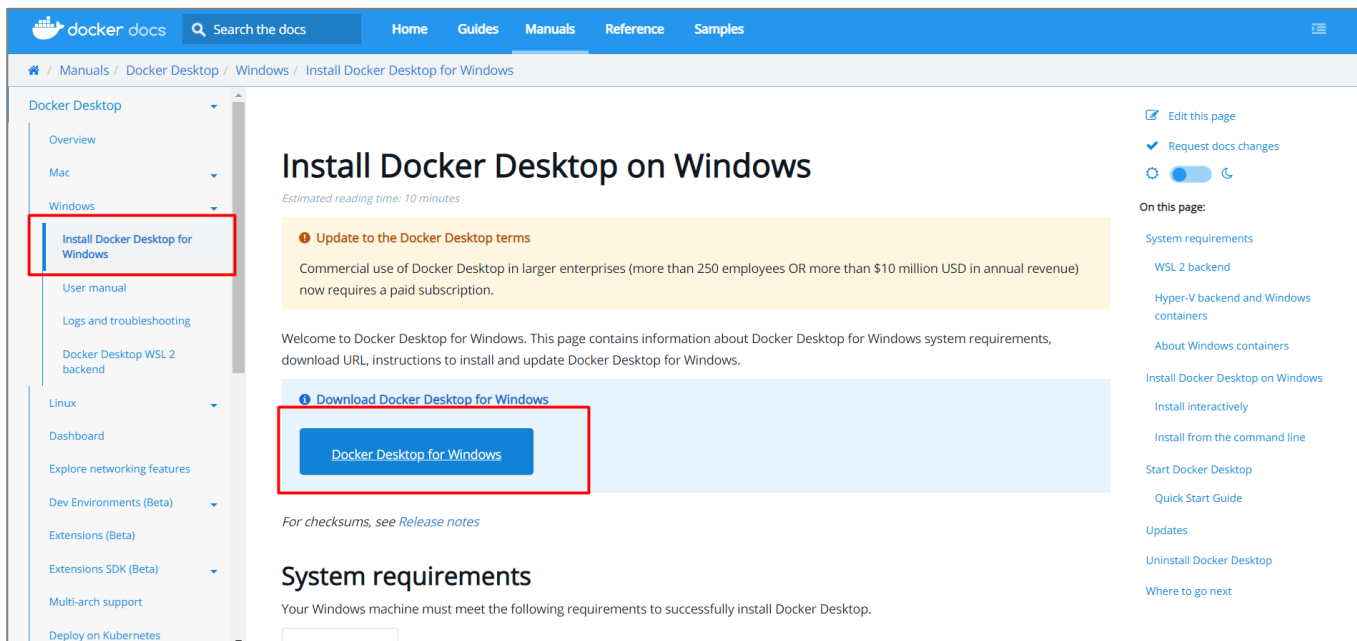
Nested virtualization scenarios, such as running Docker Desktop on a VMWare or Parallels instance might work, but there are no guarantees. For more information, see [Running Docker Desktop in nested virtualization scenarios](#).

About Windows containers

Looking for information on using Windows containers?

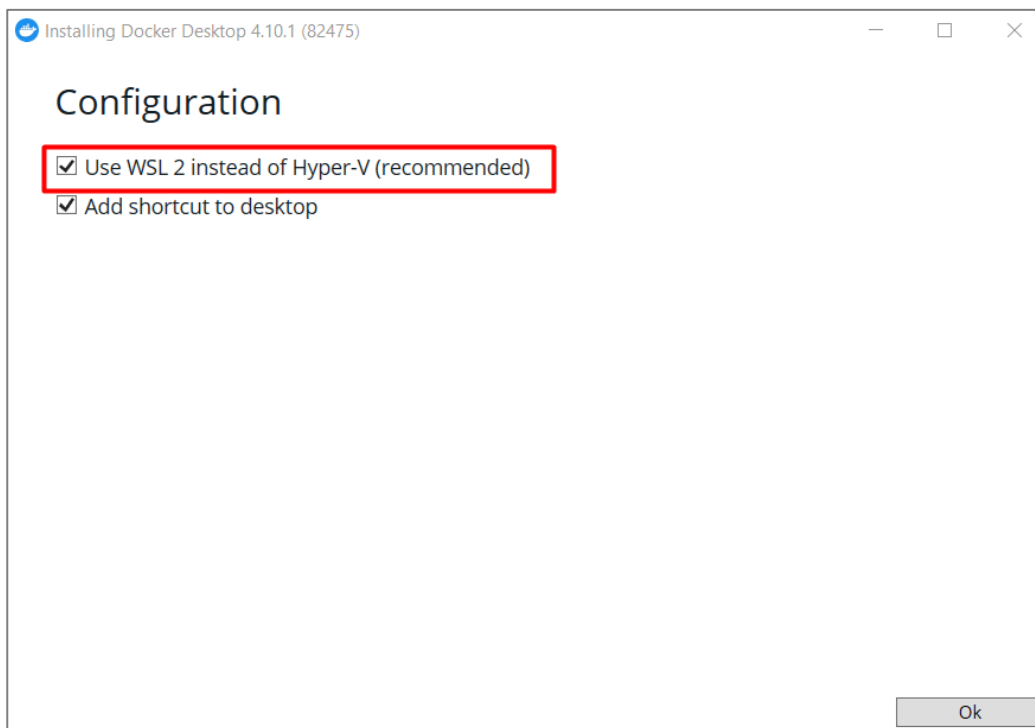
- [Switch between Windows and Linux containers](#) describes how you can toggle between Linux and Windows containers in Docker Desktop and points you to the tutorial mentioned above.

Download the **Docker Desktop Installer**:

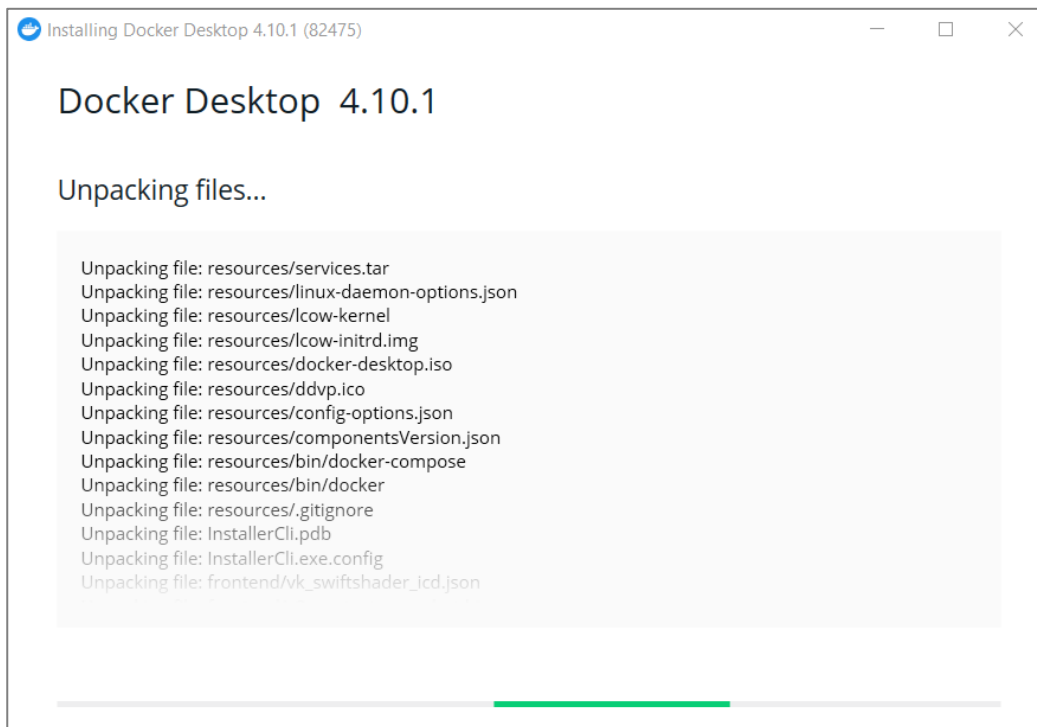


Double-click Docker Desktop Installer.exe to run it (for this example, Docker Desktop 4.10.1 will be installed; you do **NOT** need to download the same version of the software - it would be best to download the newest one).

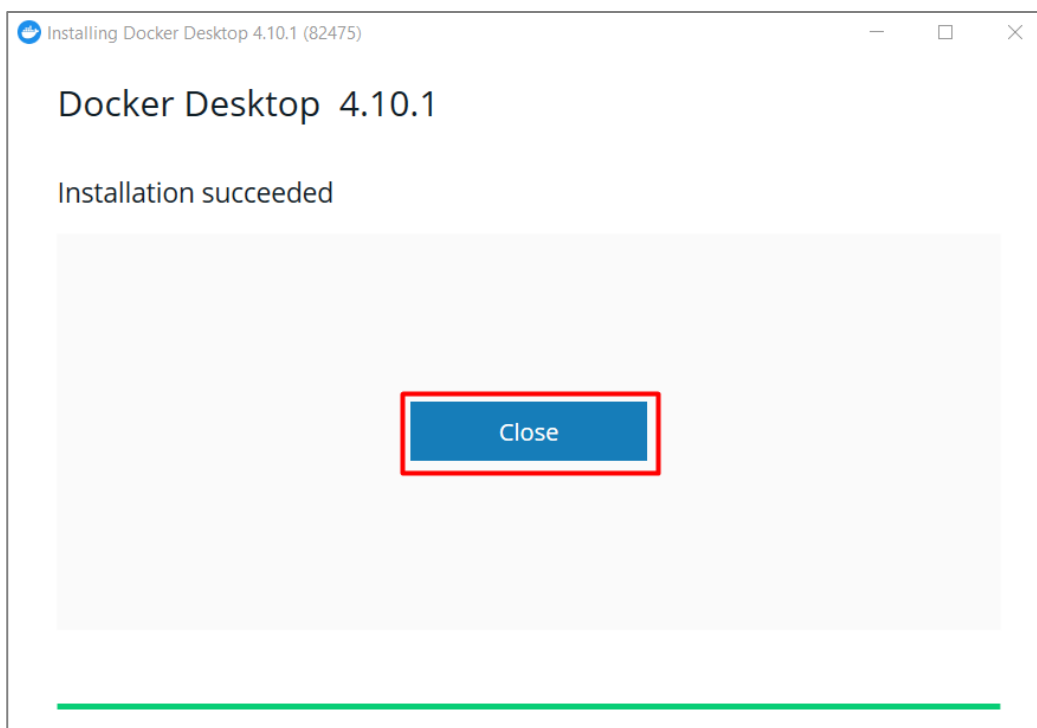
When prompted, ensure the **"Use WSL 2 instead of Hyper-V"** option on the Configuration page is **selected** or not depending on your choice of backend. If your system only supports one of the two options, you will **NOT** be able to select which backend to use:



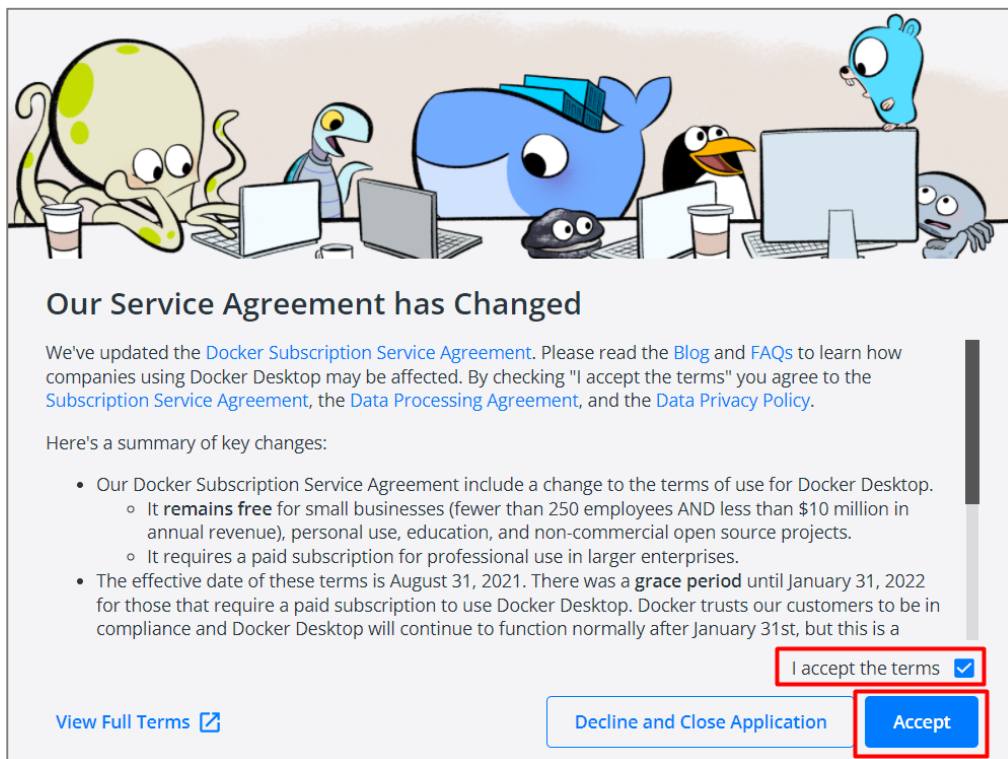
The installation could take couple of minutes:



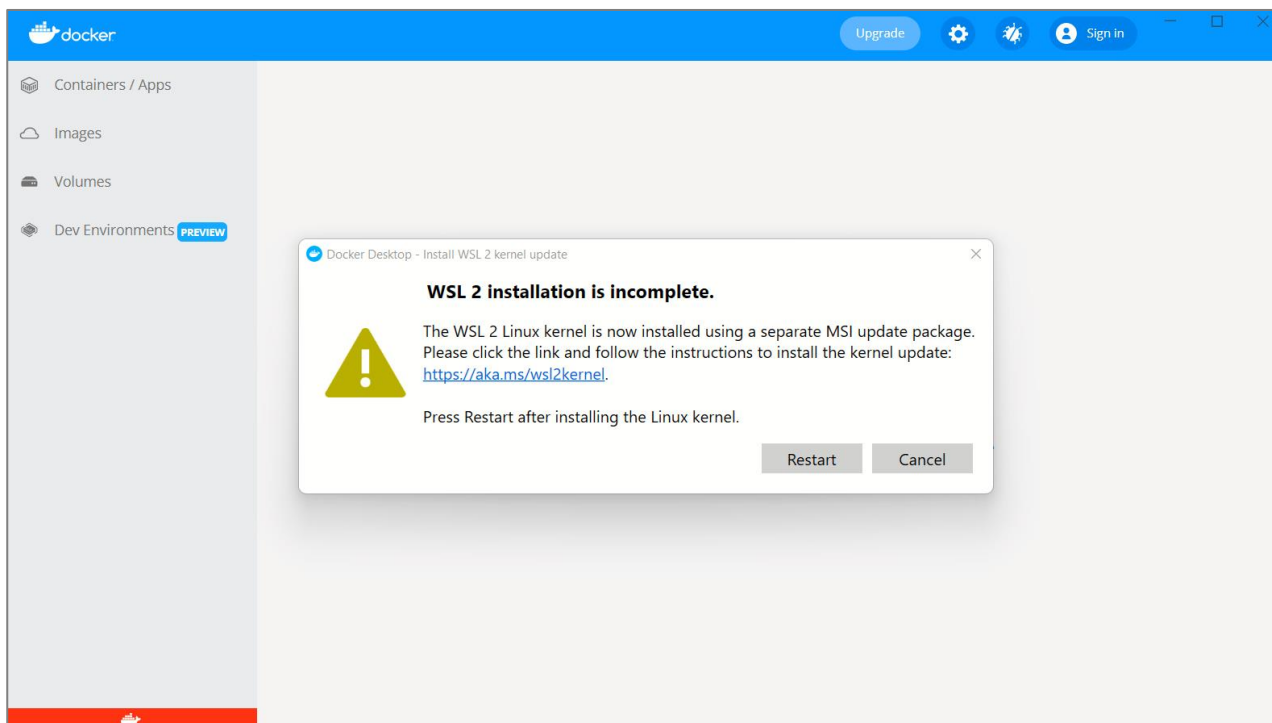
When the installation is successful, click **Close** to complete the installation process:



Docker Desktop does **NOT start automatically** after installation. To start Docker Desktop **double-click on the "Docker Desktop" icon**. First, it will display the **Docker Subscription Service Agreement** window. Read the terms and click the checkbox to indicate that you accept the updated terms and then click **Accept** to continue:



Docker Desktop starts after you accept the terms. You may see **the following pop-up message:**



If you do - **click on the link**, do **NOT** close the pop-up message, and install the **Subsystem for Linux** update:

Filter by title

WSL Documentation

> Overview

> Install

Install WSL

Manual install steps for older versions

Install on Windows Server

> Tutorials

> Concepts

> How-to

Frequently Asked Questions

Troubleshooting

Release Notes

Step 4 - Download the Linux kernel update package

1. Download the latest package:

- WSL2 Linux kernel update package for x64 machines

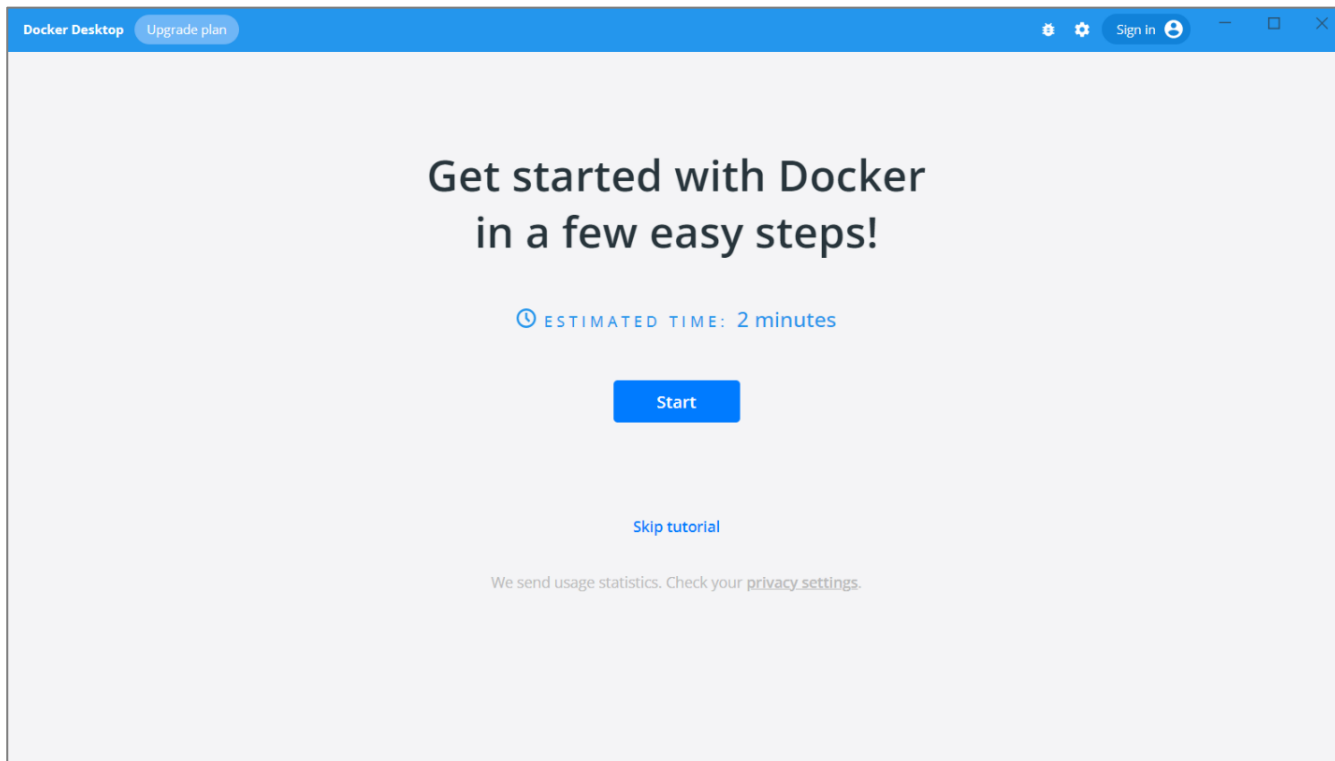
Note

If you're using an ARM64 machine, please download the [ARM64 package](#) instead. If you're not sure what kind of machine you have, open Command Prompt or PowerShell and enter: `systeminfo | find "System Type"`. **Caveat:** On non-English Windows versions, you might have to modify the search text, translating the "System Type" string. You may also need to escape the quotations for the find command. For example, in German `systeminfo | find "Systemtyp"`.

In this article

- Step 1 - Enable the Windows Subsystem for Linux
- Step 2 - Check requirements for running WSL 2
- Step 3 - Enable Virtual Machine feature
- Step 4 - Download the Linux kernel update package**
- Step 5 - Set WSL 2 as your default version
- Step 6 - Install your Linux distribution of choice
- Troubleshooting installation
- Downloading distributions
- Install Windows Terminal (optional)

If you installed it **correctly**, you should see the following window:



Congratulations! You are now successfully running Docker Desktop on Windows.

Download Docker Desktop on Mac

First, you will need to open the docker documentation <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/>.

Choose **"Mac"** from the menu on the left side of the screen. Before installing make sure that your machine **matches the needed requirements** to use Docker Desktop.

For example, if you use MacOS 10.15+ you could **directly** download and install Docker Desktop:

The screenshot shows the Docker Docs website for the 'Install Docker Desktop for Mac' page. The left sidebar has a red box around 'Install Docker Desktop for Mac'. The main content area is titled 'System requirements' and includes a note about macOS version 10.15 or newer. A red box highlights the 'Mac with Intel chip' section, which lists requirements like 4 GB of RAM and VirtualBox compatibility. The right sidebar shows a list of links, with 'System requirements' highlighted.

System requirements

Your Mac must meet the following requirements to install Docker Desktop successfully.

Mac with Intel chip Mac with Apple silicon

Mac with Intel chip

- **macOS must be version 10.15 or newer.** That is, Catalina, Big Sur, or Monterey. We recommend upgrading to the latest version of macOS.

If you experience any issues after upgrading your macOS to version 10.15, you must install the latest version of Docker Desktop to be compatible with this version of macOS.

Note

Docker supports Docker Desktop on the most recent versions of macOS. That is, the current release of macOS and the previous two releases. As new major versions of macOS are made generally available, Docker stops supporting the oldest version and supports the newest version of macOS (in addition to the previous two releases). Docker Desktop currently supports macOS Catalina, macOS Big Sur, and macOS Monterey.

- At least 4 GB of RAM.
- VirtualBox prior to version 4.3.30 must not be installed as it is not compatible with Docker Desktop.

Install and run Docker Desktop on Mac

Download the **Docker Desktop Installer**:

The screenshot shows the Docker Docs website for the 'Install Docker Desktop on Mac' page. The left sidebar has a red box around 'Install Docker Desktop for Mac'. The main content area is titled 'Install Docker Desktop on Mac' and includes a section for 'Download Docker Desktop for Mac' with buttons for 'Mac with Intel chip' and 'Mac with Apple chip'. A red box highlights these buttons. The right sidebar shows a list of links, with 'System requirements' highlighted.

Install Docker Desktop on Mac

Estimated reading time: 7 minutes

Update to the Docker Desktop terms

Commercial use of Docker Desktop in larger enterprises (more than 250 employees OR more than \$10 million USD in annual revenue) now requires a paid subscription.

Welcome to Docker Desktop for Mac. This page contains information about Docker Desktop for Mac system requirements, download URLs, instructions to install and update Docker Desktop for Mac.

Download Docker Desktop for Mac

[Mac with Intel chip](#) [Mac with Apple chip](#)

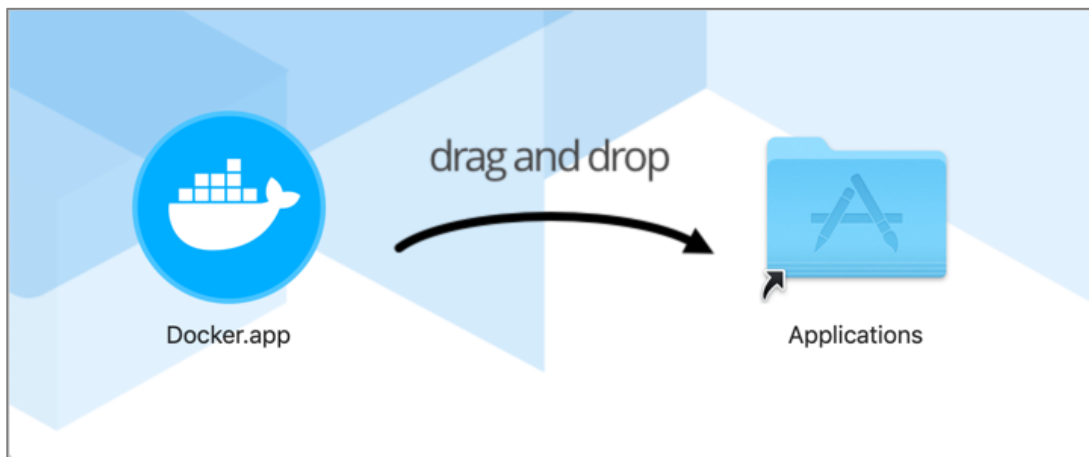
For checksums, see [Release notes](#)

System requirements

Your Mac must meet the following requirements to install Docker Desktop successfully.

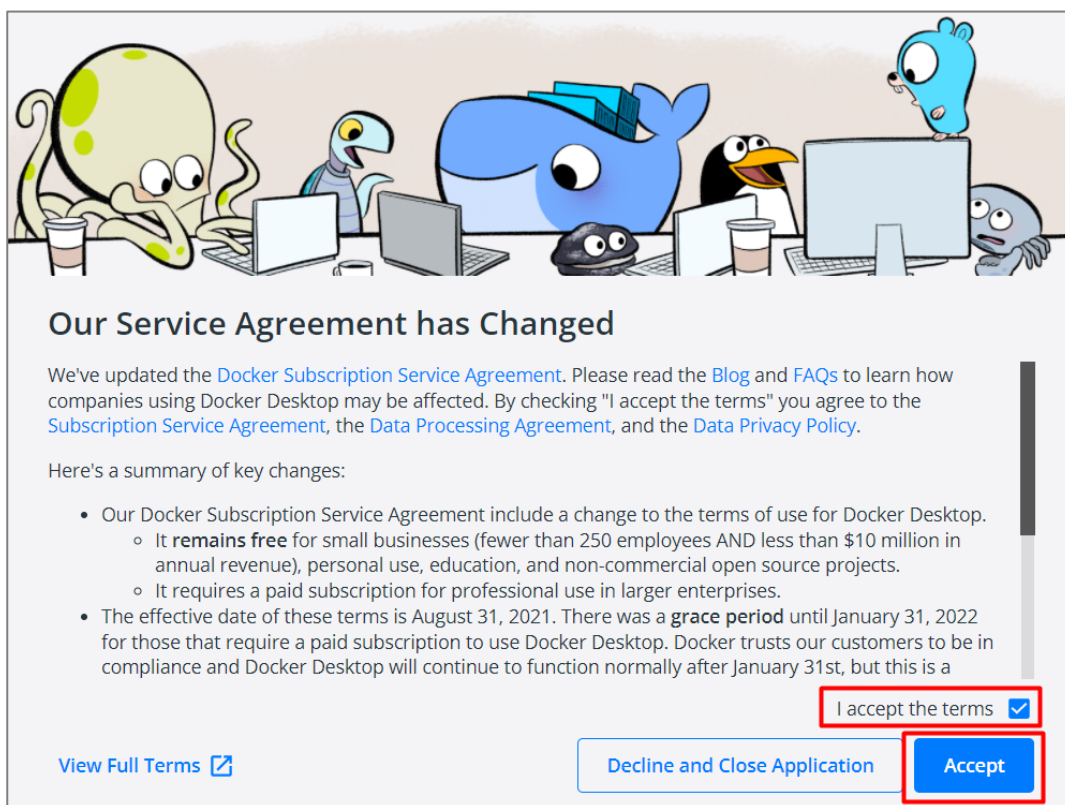
Mac with Intel chip Mac with Apple silicon

Double-click **Docker.dmg** to open the installer, then **drag the Docker icon to the Applications folder**:

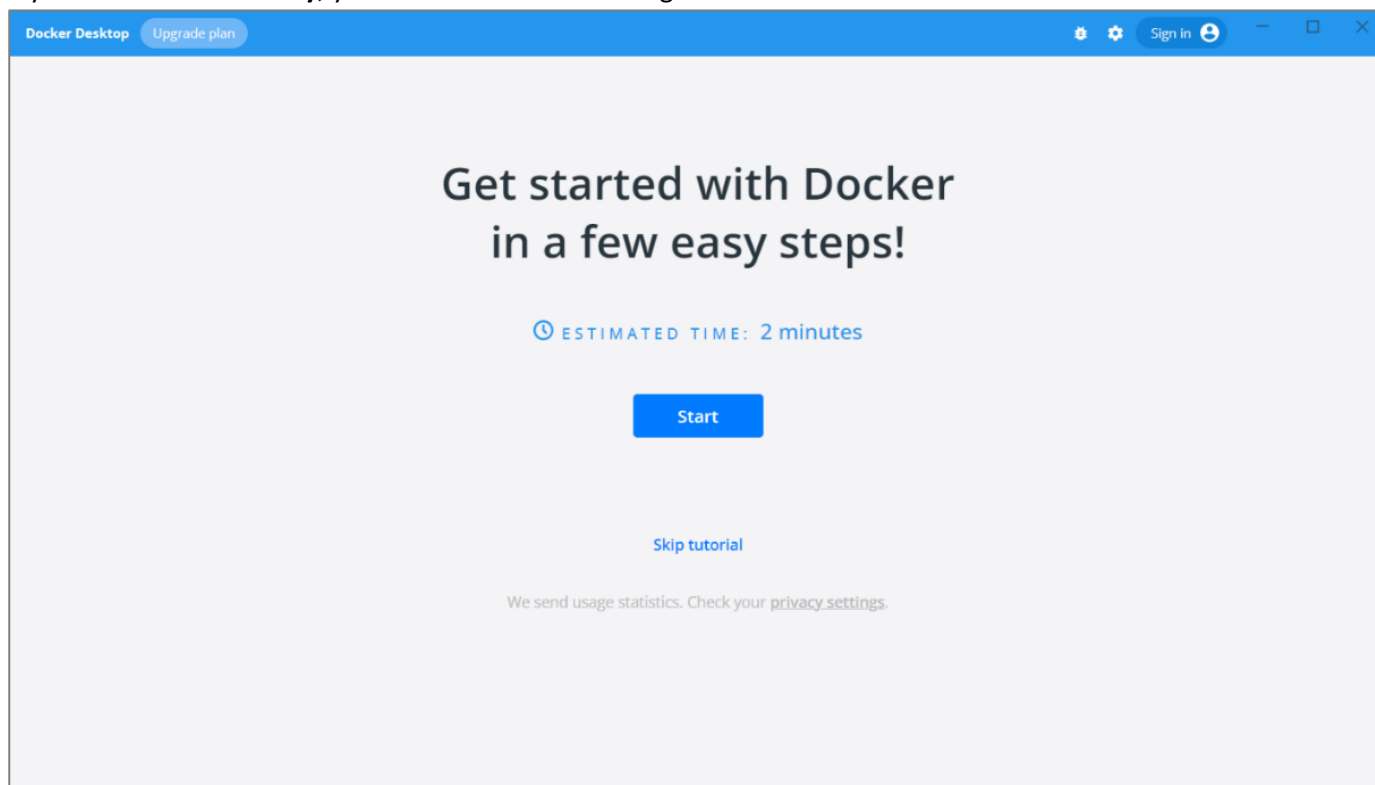


Double-click Docker.app in the Applications folder to start Docker.

First, it will display the **Docker Subscription Service Agreement** window. Read the terms and click the checkbox to indicate that you accept the updated terms and then click **Accept** to continue:



If you installed it **correctly**, you should see the following window:



Congratulations! You are now successfully running Docker Desktop on Mac.

Download Docker Desktop on Linux

First, you will need to open the docker documentation <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/>.

Choose "**Linux**" from the menu on the left side of the screen. Before installing make sure that your machine **matches the needed requirements** to use Docker Desktop.

For example, your Linux distribution should have 64-bit kernel and CPU support for virtualization, KVM virtualization support, and QEMU must be version 5.2 or newer:

System requirements

To install Docker Desktop successfully, your Linux host must meet the following requirements:

- 64-bit kernel and CPU support for virtualization
- KVM virtualization support. Follow the [KVM virtualization support instructions](#) to check if the KVM kernel modules are enabled and how to provide access to the kvm device.
- QEMU must be version 5.2 or newer.** We recommend upgrading to the latest version.
- systemd init system.
- Gnome or KDE Desktop environment. -For many Linux distros, the Gnome environment does not support tray icons. To add support for tray icons, you need to install a Gnome extension. For example, [AppIndicator](#).
- At least 4 GB of RAM.

Docker Desktop for Linux runs a Virtual Machine (VM). For more information on why, see [Why Docker Desktop for Linux runs a VM](#).

Note:

Docker does not provide support for running Docker Desktop in nested virtualization scenarios. We recommend that you run Docker Desktop for Linux natively on supported distributions.

Supported platforms

Docker provides `.deb` and `.rpm` packages from the following Linux distributions and architectures:

Platform	Architecture
x86_64	amd64

Download the correct package for your Linux distribution and install it with the corresponding package manager:

Install Docker Desktop on Linux

Estimated reading time: 11 minutes

Welcome to Docker Desktop for Linux. This page contains information about system requirements, download URLs, and instructions on how to install and update Docker Desktop for Linux.

Download Docker Desktop for Linux packages

DEB RPM

For checksums, see [Release notes](#)

System requirements

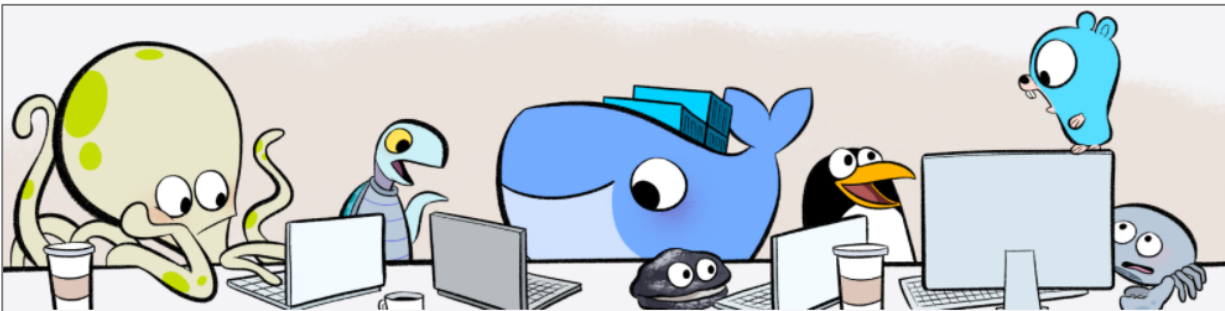
To install Docker Desktop successfully, your Linux host must meet the following requirements:

- 64-bit kernel and CPU support for virtualization
- KVM virtualization support. Follow the [KVM virtualization support instructions](#) to check if the KVM kernel modules are enabled and how to provide access to the kvm device.
- QEMU must be version 5.2 or newer.** We recommend upgrading to the latest version.
- systemd init system.

- More on how to install Docker Desktop on **Debian**: <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/linux/install/debian/>
- More on how to install Docker Desktop on **Fedora**: <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/linux/install/fedora/>
- More on how to install Docker Desktop on **Ubuntu**: <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/linux/install/ubuntu/>
- More on how to install Docker Desktop on **Arch**: <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/linux/install/archlinux/>

Open your Applications menu in Gnome/KDE Desktop and search for Docker Desktop. Then, select Docker Desktop to start Docker.

First, it will display the **Docker Subscription Service Agreement** window. Read the terms and click the checkbox to indicate that you accept the updated terms and then click **Accept** to continue:



Our Service Agreement has Changed

We've updated the [Docker Subscription Service Agreement](#). Please read the [Blog](#) and [FAQs](#) to learn how companies using Docker Desktop may be affected. By checking "I accept the terms" you agree to the [Subscription Service Agreement](#), the [Data Processing Agreement](#), and the [Data Privacy Policy](#).

Here's a summary of key changes:

- Our Docker Subscription Service Agreement include a change to the terms of use for Docker Desktop.
 - It **remains free** for small businesses (fewer than 250 employees AND less than \$10 million in annual revenue), personal use, education, and non-commercial open source projects.
 - It requires a paid subscription for professional use in larger enterprises.
- The effective date of these terms is August 31, 2021. There was a **grace period** until January 31, 2022 for those that require a paid subscription to use Docker Desktop. Docker trusts our customers to be in compliance and Docker Desktop will continue to function normally after January 31st, but this is a

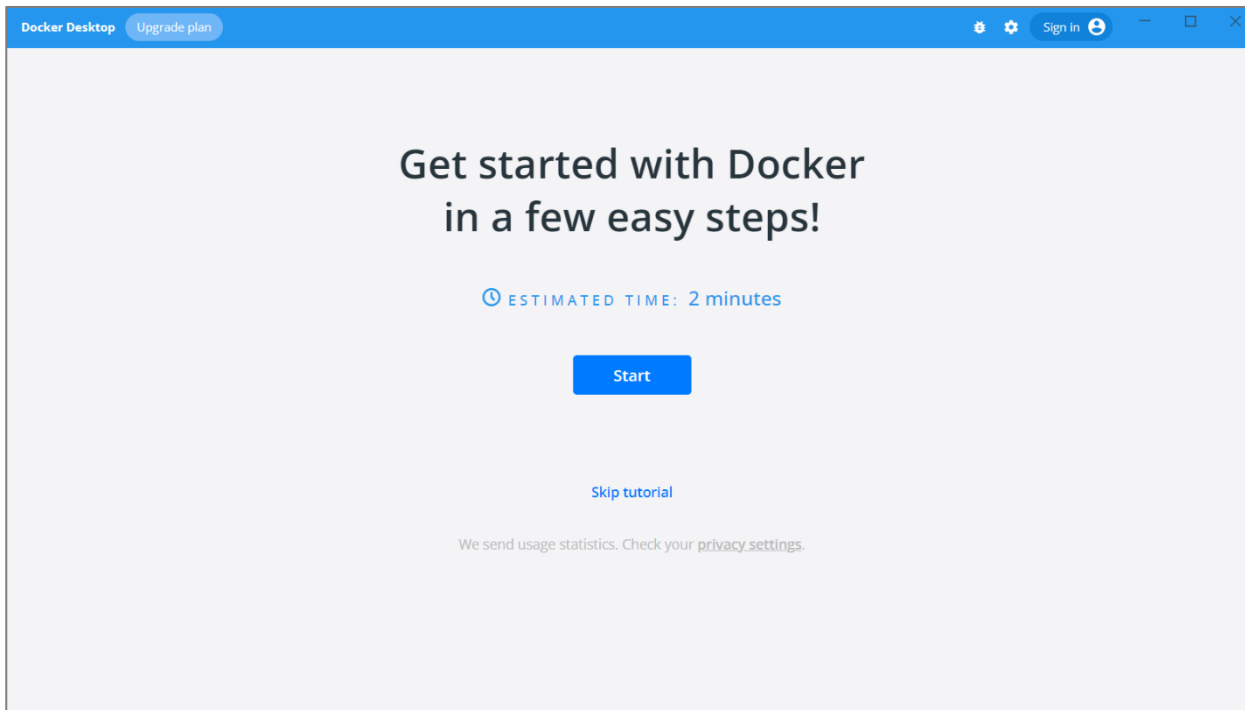
I accept the terms ☒

[View Full Terms](#)

[Decline and Close Application](#)

[Accept](#)

If you installed it **correctly**, you should see the following window:



Congratulations! You are now successfully running Docker Desktop on Linux.