

Dell PowerEdge Systems Running VMware vSphere Getting Started Guide



Notes, Cautions, and Warnings

 **NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your computer.

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 **WARNING:** A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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Getting started with VMware vSphere

This document helps you in setting up your Dell PowerEdge system running VMware vSphere for the first time.

 **NOTE:** If you had ordered VMware ESXi with your PowerEdge system, it is preinstalled on your system. The ESXi installer media is required for reinstallation. If you did not order ESXi with your system, you can order the Internal Dual SD Module kit (for supported PowerEdge systems) at dell.com, and download the ESXi installation media from dell.com/support.

Downloading the ESXi installer media

You can download the Dell-customized ESXi installer image from dell.com/support. To create the ESXi installer media:

1. Go to dell.com/support.
2. Enter your PowerEdge Service Tag and click **Submit**.
See [Locating your system Service Tag](#).
3. Go to the **Drivers and Downloads** section.
4. Select your operating system as **ESXi** and download the ISO image.

Configuring ESXi on the PowerEdge system

1. Set up your PowerEdge system.
For more information, see the Getting Started Guide and the Rack Installation Instructions that shipped with your system.
2. Connect the network cables to the appropriate Network Daughter Card (NDC)/ LAN On Motherboard (LOM) Network Interface Card (NIC) connectors.
For a four-port LOM, connect the VMware management network cable to LOM1 port, the virtual machine network cable to LOM2 port and LOM3 port, and the optional storage network cable to LOM four- port.
For a two-port LOM, connect the VMware management network cable to LOM1 port and the virtual machine network cable to LOM2 port.
3. Turn on the system.
The ESXi console loads.
4. Press F2 at ESXi console to configure the software.
Configuring the software includes changing the root password and setting a static IP address.

 **NOTE:** By default, the system obtains an IP address using the dynamic host configuration protocol.

5. Select **Configure Password** from the main menu to change the root password.

The root password manages the system on a one-to-one basis.

6. Select **Configure Management Network** → **IP Configuration** → **Set static IP address and network configuration** to configure a static IP address.

 **NOTE:** Record the host IP address.

If you purchased the ESXi hypervisor-based vSphere Standard, Enterprise, Enterprise Plus, Essentials Plus software, or Acceleration kits from Dell, you must have received the Partner Activation Code certificate with the server. To use the ESXi software and receive subscription services, follow the instructions in your Partner Activation Code certificate with the server.

 **NOTE:** By using the VMware software, you are agreeing to the VMware End User License Agreement (EULA) at vmware.com/downloads/eula. For more information about license keys and VMware software licensing configuration, see the VMware documentation at vmware.com/support/pubs.

Documentation matrix

The documentation matrix provides information about documents that you can refer to, for setting up and managing your system.

| To... | Refer to... |
|--|---|
| Know the resolutions for known errors and defects | VMware vSphere On Dell PowerEdge Systems Release Notes at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| Deploy ESXi on PowerEdge systems. It also includes information on downloading and installing ESXi, the latest patches, and licensing | VMware ESXi 6 Installation information Guide at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| See the support matrix for VMotion for VMware vSphere on PowerEdge systems | VMware ESXi 6 vMotion Support for Dell PowerEdge Systems at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| See the support matrix for Dell hardware and software running ESX/ESXi | VMware vSphere 6 on Dell PowerEdge Systems Compatibility Matrix at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| Know the basic configuration information for running ESXi on the PowerEdge system | Dell PowerEdge Systems Running VMware vSphere Getting Started Guide at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| See Dell customized image details | ESXi 6.x Dell Image Customization Information at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| Deploy VMware Virtual SAN on Dell PowerEdge Servers | VMware Virtual SAN Product Information Guide at dell.com/virtualizationsolutions |
| Get an overview of the Dell Systems Management offerings | Dell OpenManage Systems Management Overview Guide at dell.com/openmanagemanuals |
| Know the Dell PowerEdge system features, remove and install system components, and troubleshoot components | Owner's Manual at dell.com/poweredgemanuals |

| To... | Refer to... |
|---|--|
| Know the Dell PowerVault system features, remove and install system components, and troubleshoot components | Owner's Manual at dell.com/powervaultmanuals |

Getting help

Contacting Dell

Dell provides several online and telephone-based support and service options. If you do not have an active Internet connection, you can find contact information on your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or Dell product catalog. Availability varies by country and product, and some services may not be available in your area. To contact Dell for sales, technical support, or customer-service issues:

1. Go to **dell.com/support**.
2. Select your country from the drop-down menu on the bottom right corner of the page.
3. For customized support:
 - a. Enter your system Service Tag in the **Enter your Service Tag** field.
 - b. Click **Submit**.
4. For general support:
 - a. Select your product category.
 - b. Select your product segment.
 - c. Select your product.

The support page that lists the various support categories is displayed.

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Locating your system Service Tag

Your system is identified by a unique Express Service Code and Service Tag number. The Express Service Code and Service Tag are found on the front of the system by pulling out the information tag. Alternatively, the information may be on a sticker on the chassis of the system. This information is used by Dell to route support calls to the appropriate personnel.