

Getting Started Guide

VMware Player 3.0

This document supports the version of each product listed and supports all subsequent versions until the document is replaced by a new edition. To check for more recent editions of this document, see <http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs>.

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vmware[®]

You can find the most up-to-date technical documentation on the VMware Web site at:

<http://www.vmware.com/support/>

The VMware Web site also provides the latest product updates.

If you have comments about this documentation, submit your feedback to:

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VMware, Inc.
3401 Hillview Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94304
www.vmware.com

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About This Book

This preface provides information about the *VMware Player Getting Started Guide* and links to VMware® educational resources.

Intended Audience

This book is intended for anyone who wants to install and use VMware Player 3.0. VMware Player 3.0 users include anyone who wants to create and run virtual machines or virtual appliances. You can download and safely run prebuilt application environments provided by software vendors or colleagues.

Document Feedback

VMware welcomes your suggestions for improving our documentation. If you have comments, send your feedback to docfeedback@vmware.com.

Education Resources

The following Education resources are available to you. To access the current version of this book and other books, go to <http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs>.

VMware Professional Services

VMware Education Services courses offer extensive hands-on labs, case study examples, and course materials designed to be used as on-the-job reference tools. Courses are available onsite, in the classroom, and live online. For onsite pilot programs and implementation best practices, VMware Consulting Services provides offerings to help you assess, plan, build, and manage your virtual environment. To access information about education classes, certification programs, and consulting services, go to: <http://www.vmware.com/services/>.

What Is VMware Player?

VMware Player is a desktop application that lets you create, configure, and run virtual machines.

With VMware Player you can use the following features:

- Create virtual machines that can run on a Windows or Linux PC.
- Run virtual machines, making it easy to take advantage of the security, flexibility, and portability of virtual machines.
- Access all of the host machine hardware devices, such as USB drives, from the virtual machine.

The terms host and guest describe physical and virtual machines:

Host	The physical computer on which you install the VMware Player software is called the host machine, and its operating system is called the host operating system.
Guest	The operating system running inside a virtual machine is called a guest operating system. The virtual machine is called the guest.

VMware Player provides an intuitive user interface for creating virtual machines or running preconfigured virtual machines created with VMware Workstation, ESX Server, VMware Server, VMware Fusion, and GSX Server. On Windows host machines, you can use VMware Player to open and run Microsoft Virtual PC and Microsoft Virtual Server virtual machines, and Symantec Backup Exec System Recovery, formerly LiveState Recovery, system images. VMware Player also lets you download virtual appliances and access Open Virtualization Format (OVF) and Open Virtual Appliance (OVA) files. For information about VMware Player see the compatible virtual machines and system images topic.

VMware Player makes VMware virtual machines accessible to colleagues, partners, customers, and clients, regardless of whether they have purchased VMware products. Anyone who downloads VMware Player can open and run compatible virtual machines.

NOTE Use of VMware Player is subject to the VMware Player end-user license terms. VMware provides no support for VMware Player. You can download VMware Player from the VMware Web site.

You can also download virtual appliances to use with VMware Player from the Virtual Appliance Marketplace from the VMware Web site.

For self-help resources, see the VMware Player FAQ under the VMware Desktop Virtualization Products section of the VMware Web site. You can also participate in the VMware Player Discussion Forum under the VMware Technology Network (VMTN) section of the VMware Web site. The forum enables VMTN members to exchange information, questions, and comments regarding VMware products, services, and product support issues.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- [“What You Can Do with VMware Player,”](#) on page 8
- [“Features in VMware Player,”](#) on page 8

What You Can Do with VMware Player

VMware Player allows you to perform various tasks in a virtual machine. You can create and run virtual machines, use and evaluate prebuilt applications, simplify software distribution, and collaborate with colleagues.

Create and Run Virtual Machines

Create a virtual machine to configure and test desktops and servers as virtual machines before deploying them to production. You can test new multitier applications, application updates, and operating system patches on a single PC. You can host legacy applications within virtual machines, facilitating operating system migrations and eliminating the need to port legacy applications.

Use and Evaluate Prebuilt Applications

Download and safely run prebuilt application environments on virtual machines that are available from the Virtual Appliance Marketplace section on the VMware Web site. The Virtual Appliance Marketplace includes virtual machines from leading software vendors, including Oracle, Red Hat, Novell, BEA, SpikeSource, IBM, and MySQL, as well as virtual machines that are preconfigured with popular open source software.

Transform Software Distribution

Simplify software distribution by shipping preconfigured software on virtual machines. Customers can experience the benefits of your products immediately, without setup hassles. VMware Player is ideal for shipping evaluation copies or beta software. You can package complex, sophisticated applications, complete with a full working environment, on a virtual machine that anyone who downloads VMware Player can use.

Collaborate with Colleagues

VMware Player makes it easy for support, development, and QA to share customer scenarios in virtual machines.

Features in VMware Player

VMware Player is a desktop application for creating and running virtual machines.

VMware Player includes the following new features:

- **Create Virtual Machine with Easy Install** - Create a virtual machine and install any supported guest operating system with Easy Install.
- **New User Interface** - New virtual machine library interface is now available. The interface to create virtual machines and edit virtual machine settings is also available.
- **Aero Glass Support** - New Windows Display Driver Model (WDDM) graphics driver available by default for Windows Vista and Windows 7 provides support for the Windows Aero user interface. The WDDM driver also includes support for OpenGL 1.4 and Shader Model 3.0. VMware recommends that you use the graphics hardware NVIDIA GeForce 8800 and ATI Radeon HD 2600 with Aero.
- **3D Graphics Improvements** - OpenGL 2.1 and Shader Model 3.0 support is available for Windows XP virtual machines. The XPDM graphics driver works with Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7. However, only Windows XP virtual machines install the graphics driver by default.
- **Multiple display Support** - Virtual machines can now take advantage of multiple monitors.

- Advanced Linux Sound Architecture (ALSA) - ALSA is available in VMware Player to improve the audio in virtual machines running on a Linux host.
- Drag and Drop Enhancements - Ability to drag and drop images, formatted text email attachments, and zip folders is available for both Windows and Linux hosts. The enhancements add support for new file types and extends the existing ability to drag and drop certain file types to a broader set of guest and host operating systems.
- Virtual Printing - Support for virtual printing allows users to print from virtual machines without mapping network printers or installing printer drivers in the virtual machine. If virtual printing is enabled in the virtual machine setting, all of the printers installed on the host operating system are available in the guest operating system.
- On-Demand VMware Tools Download - VMware Tools integrates the guest operating system with the host operating system through drag and drop, cut and paste, time synchronization, and features like Unity. The latest version of VMware Tools is dynamically downloaded during the creation of virtual machines.
- VIX API for VMware Player - Software vendors can use the VIX functionality to add their own interface to the VMware Player menu bar. VIX API documentation and additional information is available on the VMware Web site.

For more instructions about how to use these features, select **Help > Help Topics** to view the online help provided in VMware Player.

Host System Requirements for VMware Player

2

Your computer must have the compatible hardware to install VMware Player.

The minimum host system requirements for installing and using VMware Player are:

- Standard x86-compatible or x86-64 with Intel VT or AMD-V compatible PC
- Processor speed – 1.3GHz or faster
- Memory – Minimum 1GB is required, however VMware recommends to have 2GB and above available memory. You must have enough memory to run the host operating system, the guest operating system for every virtual machine, and for applications on the host and guest. For more information about memory requirements, see your guest operating system documentation.
- Hard disk – At least 1GB free disk space is recommended for each guest operating system.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- [“Compatible Virtual Machines and System Images,”](#) on page 12
- [“Using Virtual Symmetric Multiprocessing,”](#) on page 12

Compatible Virtual Machines and System Images

VMware Player runs virtual machines and system images created with other VMware and non-VMware products.

The following virtual machines and system images are compatible with VMware Player:

VMware Virtual Machines	VMware Player runs virtual machines created with VMware Workstation 4 and later, GSX Server 3.x, VMware Server, and ESX Server 2.5 and later. Workstation 4 virtual machines run in legacy mode. You must use another VMware product to upgrade virtual machines created in versions earlier than Workstation 4 before you can run them in VMware Player.
Microsoft Virtual PC and Virtual Server Virtual Machines	On Windows hosts, VMware Player can run Microsoft Virtual PC and Virtual Server virtual machines. When you open a Virtual PC virtual machine in VMware Player, VMware Player creates a VMware-compatible configuration file with a <code>.vmx</code> file extension, and preserves the original Virtual PC configuration file, with a <code>.vmc</code> file extension. You can save the VMware-compatible virtual machine without changing your original Virtual PC configuration file.
Symantec Backup Exec System Recovery System Images	On Windows hosts, VMware Player can run system images created with Symantec Backup Exec System Recovery, formerly Symantec LiveState Recovery. When you open a Backup Exec System Recovery system image in VMware Player, VMware Player creates a VMware-compatible configuration file (with a <code>.vmx</code> extension), and preserves the original Backup Exec System Recovery system image file with a <code>.sv2i</code> file extension.

Using Virtual Symmetric Multiprocessing

Virtual Symmetric Multiprocessing (SMP), you can assign up to four or more virtual processors to a virtual machine on any host machine that has four logical processors.

The following are all considered to have four or more logical processors:

- A multiprocessor host with four or more physical CPUs
- A single-processor host with a multicore CPU
- A single-processor host with hyperthreading enabled

NOTE On hyperthreaded uniprocessor hosts, performance of virtual machines with virtual SMP might be below normal.

With VMware Player you can power on and run multiple four-processor virtual machines concurrently.

Supported Host and Guest Operating Systems for VMware Player

3

You can check the supported host and guest operating systems list for virtual machines running in VMware Player to verify whether your computer operating system allows you to install VMware Player.

- [Supported Host Operating Systems](#) on page 13
VMware Player is available for Windows and Linux host operating systems.
- [Supported Guest Operating Systems](#) on page 16
VMware continually adds support for new guest operating systems and new versions and updates of currently supported operating systems.
- [Processor Support for 64-Bit Guest Operating Systems](#) on page 19
When you power on a virtual machine with a 64-bit guest operating system, VMware Player performs an internal check. If the host CPU is not a supported 64-bit processor, you cannot power on the virtual machine.

Supported Host Operating Systems

VMware Player is available for Windows and Linux host operating systems.

For installation, VMware Player requires approximately 250MB (Windows) or 200MB (Linux) free disk space. You can delete the installer after installation is complete to reclaim disk space.

Windows Host Operating Systems

VMware Player supports these Windows 32-bit and 64-bit host operating systems.

The [Table 3-1](#) lists the supported Windows 32-bit and 64-bit host operating systems.

Table 3-1. Windows Host Operating Systems

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
32-bit	Windows 7 Ultimate Edition Windows 7 Enterprise Edition Windows 7 Professional Windows 7 Home Premium Windows 7 Home Basic
	Windows Vista Enterprise Edition, SP1, SP2 Windows Vista Business Edition, SP1, SP2 Windows Vista Home Basic and Premium Editions, SP1, SP2 Windows Vista Ultimate Edition, SP1, SP2 Listed versions are also supported with no service pack.

Table 3-1. Windows Host Operating Systems (Continued)

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
	Windows Server 2008 Enterprise, SP1, R2 Windows Server 2008 Standard, SP1, R2
	Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition with SP1, R2, SP2 Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition with SP1, R2, SP2 Windows Server 2003 Small Business Edition with SP1, R2, SP2
	Windows XP Home Edition with SP2 or later service pack Windows XP Professional with SP2 or later service pack
64-bit	Windows 7 Ultimate Edition Windows 7 Enterprise Edition Windows 7 Business Windows 7 Home Premium Windows 7 Home Basic
	Windows Vista Enterprise Edition, SP1, SP2 Windows Vista Business Edition, SP1, SP2 Windows Vista Home Basic and Premium Editions, SP1, SP2 Windows Vista Ultimate Edition, SP1, SP2 Listed versions are also supported with no service pack.
	Windows Server 2008 Enterprise, SP1, R2 Windows Server 2008 Standard, SP1, R2
	Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition with SP1, R2, SP2 Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition with SP1, R2, SP2 Windows Server 2003 Small Business Edition with SP1, R2, SP2
	Windows XP Professional x64 Edition with SP1 or later service pack

Linux Host Operating Systems

VMware Player supports these Linux 32-bit and 64-bit distributions and kernels for the host operating systems. VMware Player might not run on systems that do not meet these requirements.

As newer Linux kernels and distributions are released, VMware modifies and tests its products for stability and reliability on those host platforms. VMware makes every effort to add support for new kernels and distributions in a timely manner, but until a kernel or distribution is added to this list, its use with VMware products is not supported. Look for newer prebuilt modules in the download area of the VMware Web site. The [Table 3-2](#) lists the supported Linux 32-bit and 64-bit host operating systems.

Table 3-2. Linux Host Operating Systems

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
32-bit	Asianux Server 3
	CentOS 5.2 CentOS 5.1 CentOS 5.0
	Mandriva 2009 Mandriva 2008, 2008-1
	Oracle Enterprise Linux 5.2 Oracle Enterprise Linux 5.1 Oracle Enterprise Linux 5.0

Table 3-2. Linux Host Operating Systems (Continued)

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.3 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.2 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.1 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.0 WS, AS, ES
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.8 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.7 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.6 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.5 (formerly 4.0 Update 5) WS, AS, ES
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11 SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10, SP1, SP2 SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 11 SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 10, SP1, SP2 Listed versions are also supported with no service pack.
	openSUSE 11 openSUSE 11.1 openSUSE 11.2 openSUSE 10.3 openSUSE 10.2
	Ubuntu Linux 9.04 Ubuntu Linux 8.10 Ubuntu Linux 8.04 Ubuntu Linux 8.04.1, 8.04.2, 8.04.3 Ubuntu Linux 6.06
64-bit	Asianux Server 3
	CentOS 5.2 CentOS 5.1 CentOS 5.0
	Mandriva 2009 Mandriva 2008, 2008-1 Note: On 64-bit Mandriva hosts, some 32-bit compatibility libraries are required. Specifically, 32-bit <code>glibc</code> , <code>X11</code> , and <code>libXtst.so</code> are required.
	Oracle Enterprise Linux 5.2 Oracle Enterprise Linux 5.1 Oracle Enterprise Linux 5.0
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.3 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.2 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.1 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.0 WS, AS, ES
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.8 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.7 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.6 WS, AS, ES Red Hat Enterprise Linux 4.5 (formerly 4.0 Update 5) WS, AS, ES
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11 SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10, SP1, SP2 SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 11 SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 10, SP1, SP2 Listed versions are also supported with no service pack.

Table 3-2. Linux Host Operating Systems (Continued)

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10, SP1 SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 9, SP1, SP2, SP3, SP4 SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 10, SP1, SP2 Listed versions are also supported with no service pack.
	openSUSE 11 openSUSE 11.1 openSUSE 11.2 openSUSE 10.3 openSUSE 10.2
	Ubuntu Linux 9.04 Ubuntu Linux 8.10 Ubuntu Linux 8.04 Ubuntu Linux 8.04.1, 8.04.2, 8.04.3 Ubuntu Linux 6.06 NOTE On 64-bit Ubuntu 6.x hosts, some 32-bit compatibility libraries are required. Specifically, 32-bit glibc and X11 are required.

Supported Guest Operating Systems

VMware continually adds support for new guest operating systems and new versions and updates of currently supported operating systems.

For guest operating system support, known issues, and installation instructions, see the online *VMware Compatibility Guide*. Go to the VMware Web site and select **Resources > Compatibility Guides**, and click the **View the Guest/Host OS tab on the VMware Compatibility Guide Web site** link. To access the *VMware Guest Operating System Installation Guide*, click the **Guest Operating System Installation Guide** in the right-hand pane. VMware Player is not listed in the guide, but the information for VMware Workstation 7.0 is applicable to VMware Player 3.0. Operating systems that are not listed are not supported for use in a virtual machine. The [Table 3-3](#) lists the supported guest operating systems.

Table 3-3. Guest Operating Systems

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
Windows 32-bit	Windows 7 Ultimate Edition
	Windows 7 Enterprise Edition
	Windows 7 Professional
	Windows 7 Home Premium
	Windows 7 Home Basic
	Windows Vista Home Basic and Premium
	Windows Vista Business
	Windows Vista Enterprise
	Windows Vista Ultimate
	Windows Server 2008 Standard Edition without Hyper-V
	Windows Server 2008 Datacenter Edition without Hyper-V
	Windows Server 2008 Enterprise Edition without Hyper-V (Aero and 3-D effects not yet supported)
	Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition
Windows Server 2003 Small Business Edition	
Windows Server 2003 Web Edition	
Windows Server 2003 Enterprise	

Table 3-3. Guest Operating Systems (Continued)

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
	Windows XP Professional Windows XP Home Edition <hr/> Windows PE Windows RE <hr/> Windows 2000 Professional Windows 2000 Server Windows 2000 Advanced Server <hr/> Windows NT 4.0 Workstation with SP6 Windows NT 4.0 Server with SP6 Windows NT 4.0 Terminal Server Edition with SP6 <hr/> Windows Me <hr/> Windows 95 <hr/> Windows 3.1 (with Window for Workgroups)
Windows 64-bit	Windows 7 Ultimate Edition Windows 7 Enterprise Edition Windows 7 Business Windows 7 Home Premium Windows 7 Home Basic <hr/> Windows Vista Home Basic and Premium Windows Vista Business Windows Vista Enterprise Windows Vista Ultimate <hr/> Windows Server 2008 x64 Standard Ed. without Hyper-V Windows Server 2008 Datacenter x64 Ed. without Hyper-V Windows Server 2008 Enterprise x64 Ed. without Hyper-V (Aero and 3-D effects not yet supported) <hr/> Windows Server 2003 Standard Edition Windows Server 2003 Small Business Edition Windows Server 2003 Web Edition Windows Server 2003 Enterprise <hr/> Windows Server 2003 <hr/> Windows XP Professional <hr/> Windows PE <hr/> Windows RE
Linux 32-bit	Asianux Server <hr/> CentOS <hr/> Mandrake Linux Mandriva Linux Mandriva Corporate Desktop Mandriva Corporate Server <hr/> Novell Linux Desktop <hr/> Oracle Enterprise Linux

Table 3-3. Guest Operating Systems (Continued)

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
	Red Hat Linux
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Server (AS)
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Enterprise Server (ES)
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Desktop with or without the Workstation Option
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Platform
	SUSE Linux
	openSUSE Linux
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Server
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop
	Turbolinux Server
	Turbolinux Enterprise Server
	Turbolinux Workstation
	Turbolinux Desktop
	Ubuntu Linux
Linux 64-bit	Asianux Server
	CentOS
	Mandriva Linux
	Mandriva Corporate Desktop
	Mandriva Corporate Server
	Oracle Enterprise Linux
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Server (AS)
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Enterprise Server (ES)
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Desktop with or without the Workstation Option
	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Advanced Platform
	SUSE Linux
	openSUSE Linux
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Server
	SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop
	Turbolinux Server
	Ubuntu Linux
Novell NetWare 32-Bit	NetWare
Novell Open Enterprise Server 32-bit	Open Enterprise Server 32-bit
FreeBSD 32-bit	FreeBSD 32-bit
	NOTE If you use SCSI virtual disks larger than 2GB with FreeBSD 4.0–4.3, the guest operating system does not boot. For information about SCSI disks on FreeBSD 4.0–4.3, see the <i>VMware Guest Operating System Installation Guide</i> on the VMware Compatibility Guide Web site. Go to the VMware Web site and select Resources >> Compatibility Guides , and click the View the Guest/Host OS tab on the VMware Compatibility Guide Web site link.
FreeBSD 64-bit	FreeBSD 64-bit
Sun 32-bit	Solaris x86 32-bit
	Sun Java Desktop System (JDS)

Table 3-3. Guest Operating Systems (Continued)

Operating System Type	Operating System Edition
Sun 64-bit	Solaris x86 64-bit
Microsoft MS-DOS	MS-DOS

Processor Support for 64-Bit Guest Operating Systems

When you power on a virtual machine with a 64-bit guest operating system, VMware Player performs an internal check. If the host CPU is not a supported 64-bit processor, you cannot power on the virtual machine.

VMware Player supports virtual machines with 64-bit guest operating systems, running on host machines with the following processors:

- Revision D or later of AMD Athlon 64, Opteron, Turion 64, and Sempron
- Intel Pentium 4 and Core 2 processors with EM64T and Intel Virtualization Technology

VMware also provides a standalone utility that you can use without VMware Player to perform the same check and determine whether your CPU is supported for VMware Player virtual machines with 64-bit guest operating systems. Download the 64-bit processor check utility from the downloads area of the VMware Web site.

Installing and Running VMware Player

The installation instructions for VMware Player require a product CD to install on Windows and Linux hosts.

If you do not have a product CD, download VMware Player from the VMware Web site.

If you are installing VMware Player from a CD and autorun is enabled, follow the prompts when you insert the CD in your CD-ROM drive.

If you are installing VMware Player from a CD and autorun is not enabled, double-click the `VMware-Player-
<xxxx>.exe` installer file in the Windows directory of the CD. In the filename, `<xxxx>` is a series of numbers representing the version and build numbers.

- [Install VMware Player on a Windows Host](#) on page 21
To begin creating and configuring virtual machines you must install VMware Player on your Windows host.
- [Install VMware Player on a Linux Host](#) on page 22
To begin creating and configuring virtual machines you must install VMware Player on your Linux host.
- [Start VMware Player](#) on page 23
To start VMware Player you must open the `.vmx` virtual machine configuration file.
- [Close VMware Player](#) on page 23
Close VMware Player before you shut down the host computer.

Install VMware Player on a Windows Host

To begin creating and configuring virtual machines you must install VMware Player on your Windows host.

If you downloaded the software, follow the installation procedure, but install from the directory where you saved the installer file, rather than the Windows directory on the CD.

Prerequisites

Make sure that your host and guest operating systems are supported. See [Chapter 3, “Supported Host and Guest Operating Systems for VMware Player,”](#) on page 13.

Procedure

- 1 On the Welcome page, click **Next**.
- 2 On the Destination Folder page, select the location for VMware Player files.
 - If you want VMware Player to be installed in the default location, click **Next**.
 - To choose an alternative location for VMware Player files, and click **Change**.
- 3 (Optional) Deselect any shortcuts on the Shortcuts page, and click **Next**.

- 4 Click **Continue** to begin the installation.
VMware Player and any shortcuts you selected are installed on your host machine.
- 5 Click **Finish**.

Install VMware Player on a Linux Host

To begin creating and configuring virtual machines you must install VMware Player on your Linux host.

If you downloaded the software, follow the installation procedure, but install from the directory where you saved the installer file, rather than the Linux directory on the CD.

NOTE If you do not enable host-only networking when you install VMware Player, you cannot allow a virtual machine to use bridged and host-only networking.

Prerequisites

Make sure that your host and guest operating systems are supported. See [Chapter 3, “Supported Host and Guest Operating Systems for VMware Player,”](#) on page 13.

Procedure

- 1 Log on to your Linux host with the user name you plan to use when you run VMware Player.
- 2 In the terminal window, become root user to perform the initial installation steps.

su or **sudo**

The command you use depends on your Linux distribution and configuration.

- 3 If you are installing from a downloaded file, mount the VMware Player CD-ROM.

- **VMware-Player-e.x.p-<xxxxxxxx>.i386.bundle**

- **VMware-Player-e.x.p-<xxxxxxxx>.x86_64.bundle**

VMware-Player-<version>-<xxxx>.<architecture>.bundle is the installation file. In the filename, **<xxxx-xxxx>** is a series of numbers representing the version and build numbers.

- 4 Run the bundle specifying the installation file:

```
sh VMware-Player-e.x.p-<xxxxxxxx>.<architecture>.bundle
```

- 5 Accept the EULA to continue.
- 6 (Optional) If the GUI based VMware Player installer fails, run the installation file with the **--console** command in your terminal.

Command-Line Installation Options

You can use command-line installation options to install VMware Player on a Linux host.

Command-Line Installation Options Reference

To use the options you must be logged in as root. After you finish the installation process, exit from the root account.

Table 4-1. List of Command-Line Installation Options

Command-Line Installation Option	Option Description
--gtk	Opens the GUI based VMware installer. This is the default option.
--console	Allows you to use the terminal for installation.

Table 4-1. List of Command-Line Installation Options (Continued)

Command-Line Installation Option	Option Description
<code>--custom</code>	Shows all the installation questions. You can customize the installation directories, set or reset the Eclipse directories and hard limit for the number of open file descriptors.
<code>--regular</code>	Shows installation questions that have not been answered before or are required. This is the default option.
<code>--required</code>	Shows only the EULA, then proceeds to install Workstation.
<code>--ignore-errors</code> or <code>-I</code>	Allows the installation to continue even if there is an error in one of the installer scripts. However, the section that has an error does not complete, so the component may not be properly configured.

Start VMware Player

To start VMware Player you must open the `.vmx` virtual machine configuration file.

Procedure

- 1 Select **Start > Programs > VMware Player** in Windows or use the corresponding program menu in a Linux X windows session.
 - On Windows, type **vmplayer** from the **Start > Run** command menu. You can also type `<path>\vmplayer.exe` in the command interpreter, where `<path>` is the appropriate path on your system to the VMware Player executable file.
 - From the Linux command line, type `<path>/vmplayer`, where `<path>` is the appropriate path on your system to the VMware Player executable file. To run VMware Player process in the background, type `<path>/vmplayer &`.
- 2 On the VMware Player welcome page, select **Open a VM**.
- 3 Browse for the configuration file of the virtual machine to run.

You can also select a recently used virtual machine or download a virtual appliance from the Virtual Appliance Marketplace.

You can use the **Files of type** field to filter the files that are displayed when you browse.

VMware Player can open `.vmx` VMware configuration files, OVF, and OVA files. On Windows, VMware Player can open `.vnc` Microsoft Virtual PC and Virtual Server files and `.sv2i` Symantec Backup Exec System Recovery system images.

- 4 Select a `.vmx` virtual machine configuration file, and click **Open**.

Close VMware Player

Close VMware Player before you shut down the host computer.

On Linux, depending on the exit behavior preference settings, the virtual machine either suspends or shuts down and the VMware Player window closes.

For ACE instances, the options in the drop-down menu depend on which features the system administrator makes available.

Procedure

- On Windows, select **File > Exit**.
- On Linux, select an option based on the exit behavior settings.
 - Select **File > Power Off and Quit**.
 - Select **File > Suspend and Quit**.

Uninstalling VMware Player

The following sections describe how to uninstall VMware Player on Windows and Linux hosts.

- [Uninstall VMware Player on a Windows Host](#) on page 25
To install the latest version of VMware Player on a Windows host you must uninstall the previous version of the product.
- [Uninstall VMware Player on a Windows Vista or Windows 7 Host](#) on page 25
To install the latest version of VMware Player on a on a Widows Vista or Windows 7 host you must uninstall the previous version of the product.
- [Uninstall VMware Player on a Linux Host](#) on page 26
To install the latest version of VMware Player on a Linux host you must uninstall the previous version of the product.

Uninstall VMware Player on a Windows Host

To install the latest version of VMware Player on a Windows host you must uninstall the previous version of the product.

Procedure

- 1 Select **Start > Control Panel > Add or Remove Programs**.
- 2 Locate **VMware Player** in the list of currently installed programs and click **Remove**.
- 3 Follow the prompts to complete the uninstall.

Uninstall VMware Player on a Windows Vista or Windows 7 Host

To install the latest version of VMware Player on a on a Widows Vista or Windows 7 host you must uninstall the previous version of the product.

Procedure

- 1 Based on your host operating system, use one of the following methods to uninstall VMware Player:
 - On Windows Vista, select **Start > Control Panel > Programs and Features > Uninstall a program**.
 - On Windows 7, select **Start > Control Panel > Programs > Programs and Features > Uninstall a program**.
- 2 Right-click and select **Uninstall**.
A confirmation dialog box appears.
- 3 Select **Yes**.

Uninstall VMware Player on a Linux Host

To install the latest version of VMware Player on a Linux host you must uninstall the previous version of the product.

Procedure

- 1 Enter the `vmware-installer -u vmware-player` command to remove VMware Player from your system.
- 2 Select **Yes** or **No** to confirm whether you want to preserve or remove your configuration files.

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