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Parallels Software International, Inc.

# Parallels Desktop for Mac

## Quick Start Guide



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## CHAPTER 1

# Introduction

In this chapter we'll talk about the virtual machine technology that is used by Parallels Desktop and will familiarize you with the main characteristics of a virtual machine created by Parallels Desktop.

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## Key Terms and Technologies

In hopes of making your experience as effortless as possible, we've designed Parallels Desktop to be extremely user-friendly, even if you're a computer "newbie." This section highlights some of the terms you'll need to know as you work your way through this guide.

**Virtual machine (VM):** The whole point of Parallels Desktop is simulating other computers running inside your Mac. This computer-within-your Mac has its own operating system, its own software suite, and its own "screen."

You might call it a PC simulator, an imitation PC, or a mock computer. But in the computer-science industry, it has a standard name: a virtual machine. Every time you start up Parallels Desktop for Mac, you're actually turning on a virtual machine running Windows or any other operating system you want to use.

Each virtual machine behaves as though it's running on a PC with these components:

- an Intel Pentium processor;
- a generic motherboard compatible with Intel i815 chipset;
- up to 1500 MB of memory;
- monitor with VESA 3.0 support. After creating a virtual machine, the monitor resolution will be either 640x480 or 1024x768 (VGA and SVGA). Later you will have the opportunity to either install Parallels Tools with a video driver in Windows, or set your own screen resolution;
- a floppy drive (mapped to an image file);
- up to four IDE disk drives. These can be either virtual hard drives (from 20 MB up to 128 GB each, in the form of hard drive image files) or CD/DVD-ROM drives (mapped to an either actual drives or image files);
- Ethernet network card compatible with RTL8029;
- Wi-Fi wireless networking card (like AirPort);
- up to four serial (COM) ports (mapped to a socket or to output file);
- up to three bi-directional parallel (LPT) ports (mapped to output file);
- a standard PC keyboard;
- a PS/2 scroll-wheel mouse.

A virtual machine lets you do tricks like these:

- Simultaneously run multiple operating systems (OSes) and their programs on a single computer.
- Create numerous virtual machines, each with a full set of standard virtual hardware. Operating systems and applications are isolated inside these virtual machines and share physical hardware components with the real computer.
- Switch between operating systems without having to restart the Mac.
- Simplify your computer setup, combining them into one. The result: reduced hardware costs, lower operating expenses, and increased productivity.

**Primary Operating System (Primary OS):** This is the operating system that loads when you hit the power button on your computer. In your case, it's Mac OS X.

**Guest Operating System (Guest OS):** This is the reason you bought Parallels Desktop: it's a second, different operating system that you can run simultaneously. The guest OS on your Mac might be Windows XP, or Linux, or any of several other operating systems—and they can all be running simultaneously in different windows!

**Hard Disk Image:** Just as a virtual machine is a simulated PC, a hard disk image is a simulated hard drive. It's actually just a file (of a size you can specify) on your real hard drive, but it looks to the virtual machine like its own actual drive.

**ISO Image:** A file that contains the entire contents of a CD-ROM disc or DVD, commonly used to install a guest operating system in a VM.

**FDD Image:** A file that contains the contents of a floppy disk, used to install specific guest operating systems, such as OS/2.

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# Supported Guest Operating Systems

The current version of Parallels Desktop officially supports the following guest operating systems:

## Microsoft Windows Guest Operating Systems:

- Windows 2003 Standard Edition SP0
- Windows 2003 Standard Edition SP1
- Windows 2003 Enterprise Edition SP0
- Windows 2003 Enterprise Edition SP1
- Windows 2003 Web Edition SP0
- Windows 2003 Web Edition SP1
- Windows XP SP2 Professional
- Windows XP SP2 Home
- Windows XP SP1 Professional
- Windows XP SP1 Home
- Windows XP SP0 Professional
- Windows XP SP0 Home
- Windows 2000 Professional Edition SP4
- Windows 2000 Server SP4
- Windows 2000 Advanced Server SP4
- Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP6
- Windows NT Server 4.0 SP6
- Windows ME
- Windows 98
- Windows 95
- Windows 3.11
- Windows 3.1

## Linux Guest Operating Systems:

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS4
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux AS4
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux WS3
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES4
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux ES3
- Red Hat Linux 9
- Red Hat Linux 8
- Red Hat Linux 7.3

- Debian Linux 3.1
- Fedora Core Linux 4
- Fedora Core Linux 3
- SUSE Linux 10
- SUSE Linux 9.3
- SUSE Linux 9.2
- SUSE Linux 9.1
- SUSE Linux 9.0
- Mandriva Linux 10.1
- Mandriva Linux 10
- Mandriva Linux 9.2

**FreeBSD Guest Operating Systems:**

- FreeBSD 5.4
- FreeBSD 5.3
- FreeBSD 4.5
- FreeBSD 4.1

**OS/2 and eComStation Guest Operating Systems:**

- OS/2 warp 4.5
- OS/2 warp 4
- OS/2 warp 3
- eComStation 1.2
- eComStation 1.1

**Sun Solaris Guest Operating Systems:**

- Solaris 10
- Solaris 9

**MS-DOS Guest Operating Systems:**

- MS-DOS 6.22

## CHAPTER 2

# Installing Parallels Desktop

In this chapter you'll learn how to install Parallels Desktop on your Mac.

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## System Requirements

Parallels Desktop requires a Mac that contains an Intel processor, such as a 2006-model iMac, Mac Mini, or MacBook Pro laptop. It doesn't work on older Mac models.

Your Mac should be running Mac OS X 10.4.6 or higher. To check your version of Mac OS X, go to the **Apple** menu in the menu bar, and choose **About This Mac**.

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## Installing Parallels Desktop

Now that you're past the geek-speak, you're ready to install Parallels Desktop!

To install Parallels Desktop:

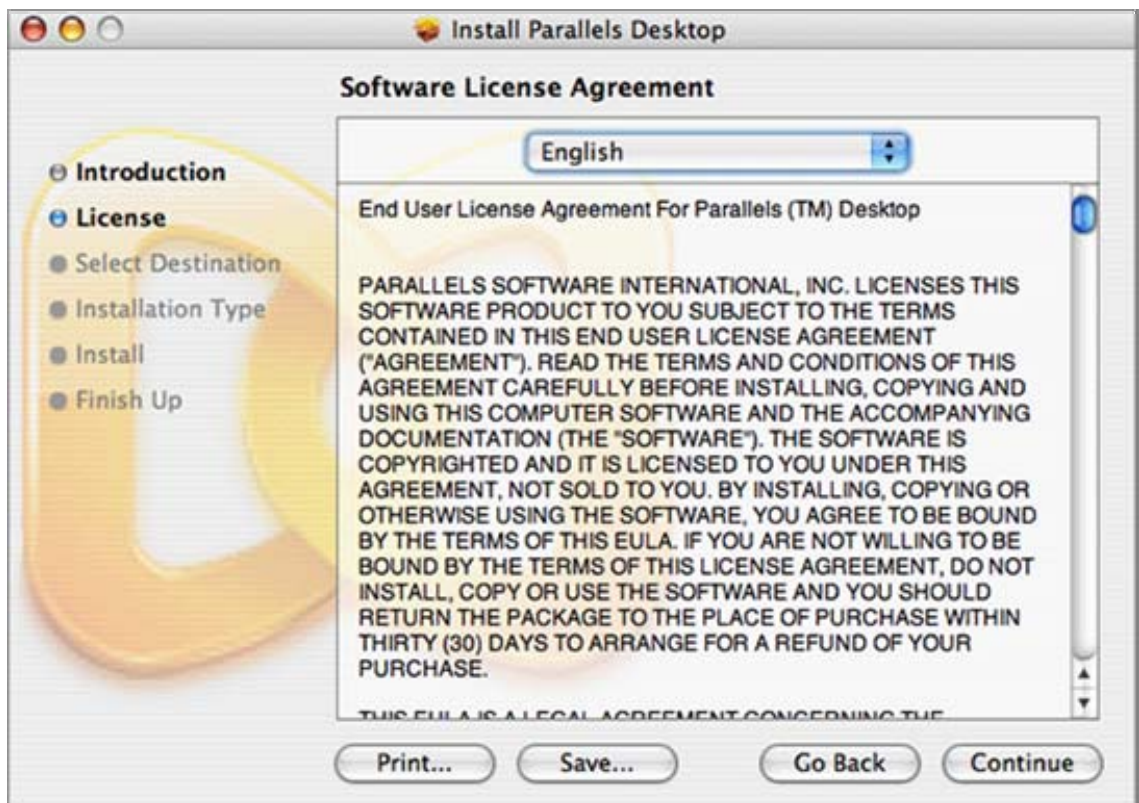
- 1 First, download the Parallels Desktop installation file from Parallels site.
  - To download a trial version, visit the Parallels Download Center at <http://www.parallels.com/en/download>.
  - To buy the full commercial version, visit the Parallels Buy Online page at <http://www.parallels.com/en/buyonline>.  
Select the Parallels Mac OS X package for downloading.
- 2 When the software is finished downloading, double-click the `Parallels-Desktop-XXXX-Mac.dmg` file on your desktop. In the Parallels Desktop window, double-click the `Parallels-Desktop.pkg` icon to start installing.



- 3 On the Introduction screen, click Continue, shown here.



- 4 On the Software License Agreement screen, use the scroll bar to read the entire agreement. Then click Continue.



In the pop-up dialog box, click **Agree** to continue installing.

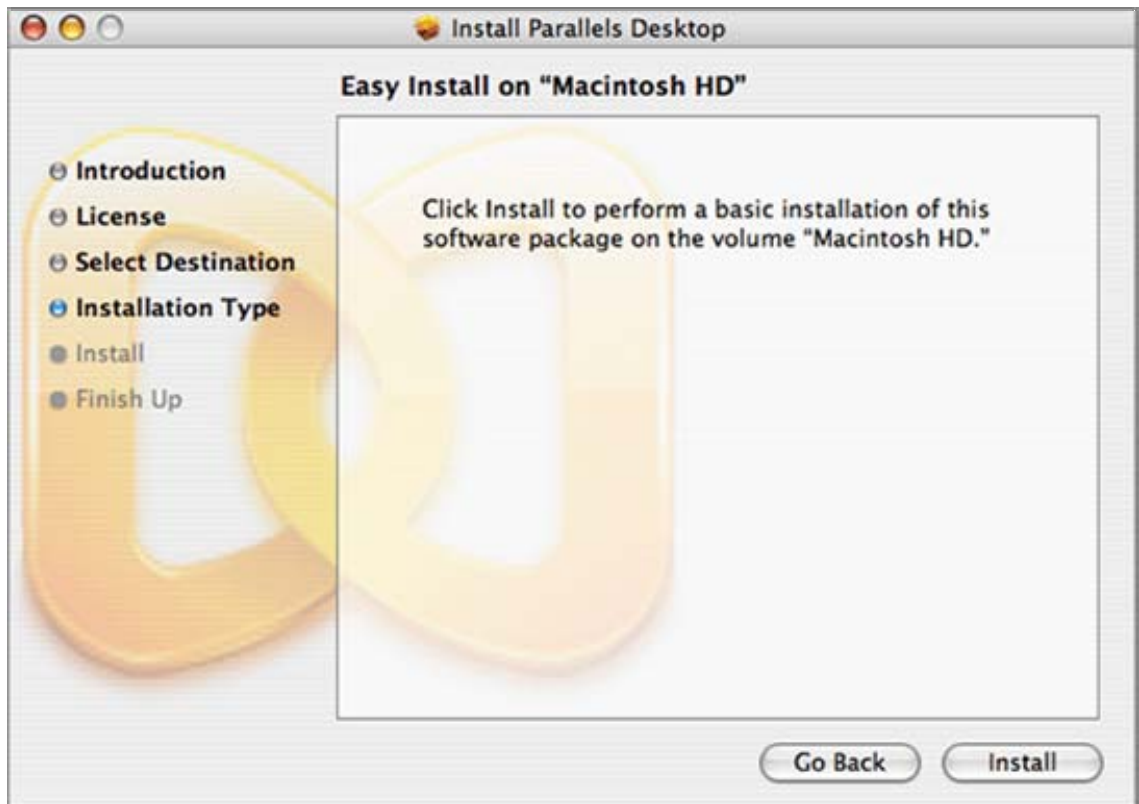


- 5 Next you'll see the **Select a Destination** screen. Specify which hard drive you want to use as Parallels Desktop's home (if, in fact, you have more than one), and then click **Continue**.

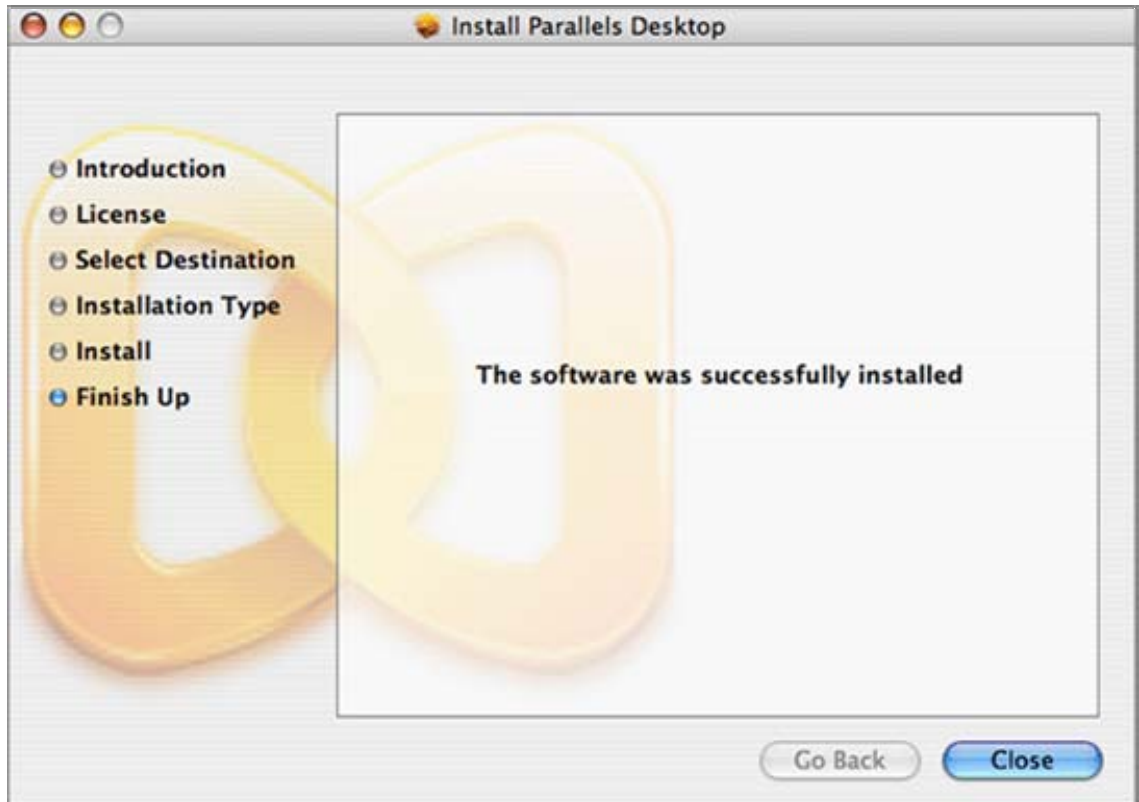


- 6 Finally, click **Install** to start the Parallels Desktop installation.

**Note:** Of course, you can return to the previous steps by clicking the **Go Back** button at any time.



- 7 When Parallels Desktop installation is complete, you see this dialog box. Click Close. You're ready to enter the Parallels dimension!




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## CHAPTER 3

# Starting Parallels Desktop

To start Parallels Desktop:

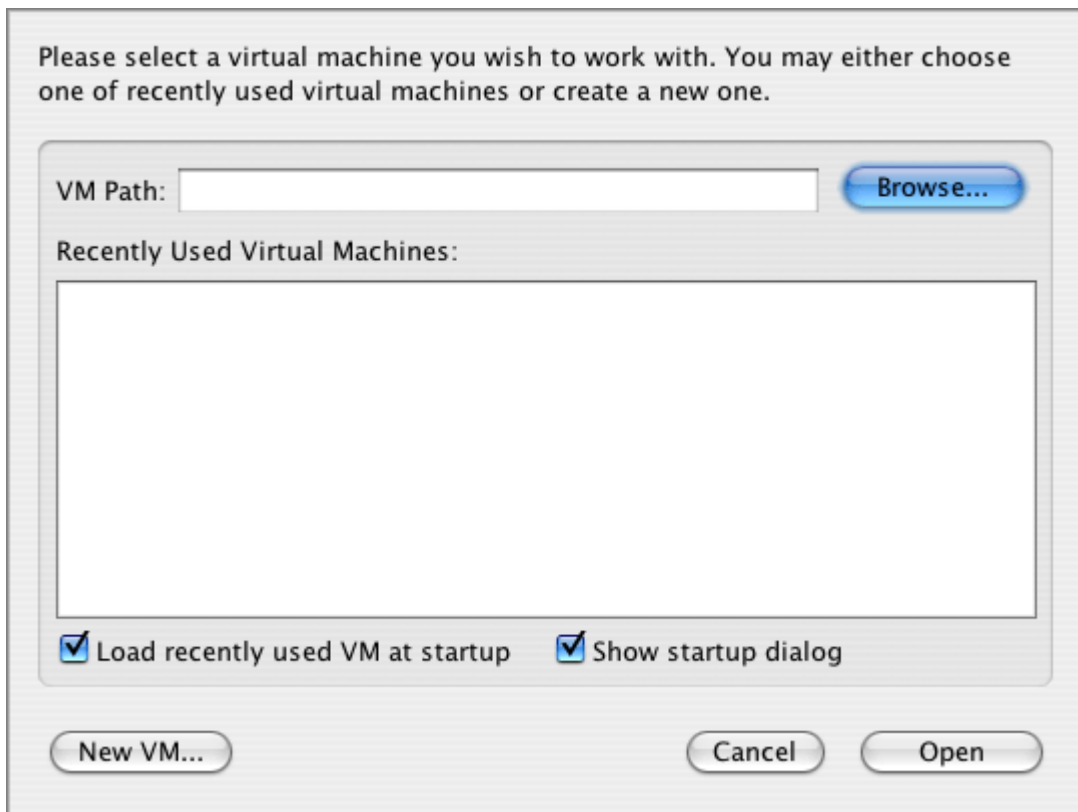
- In the Finder, open your Applications folder, and then double click on the orange Parallels icon .

To save yourself from having to burrow into Applications every time you want to run the program, consider dragging its icon onto your Dock.

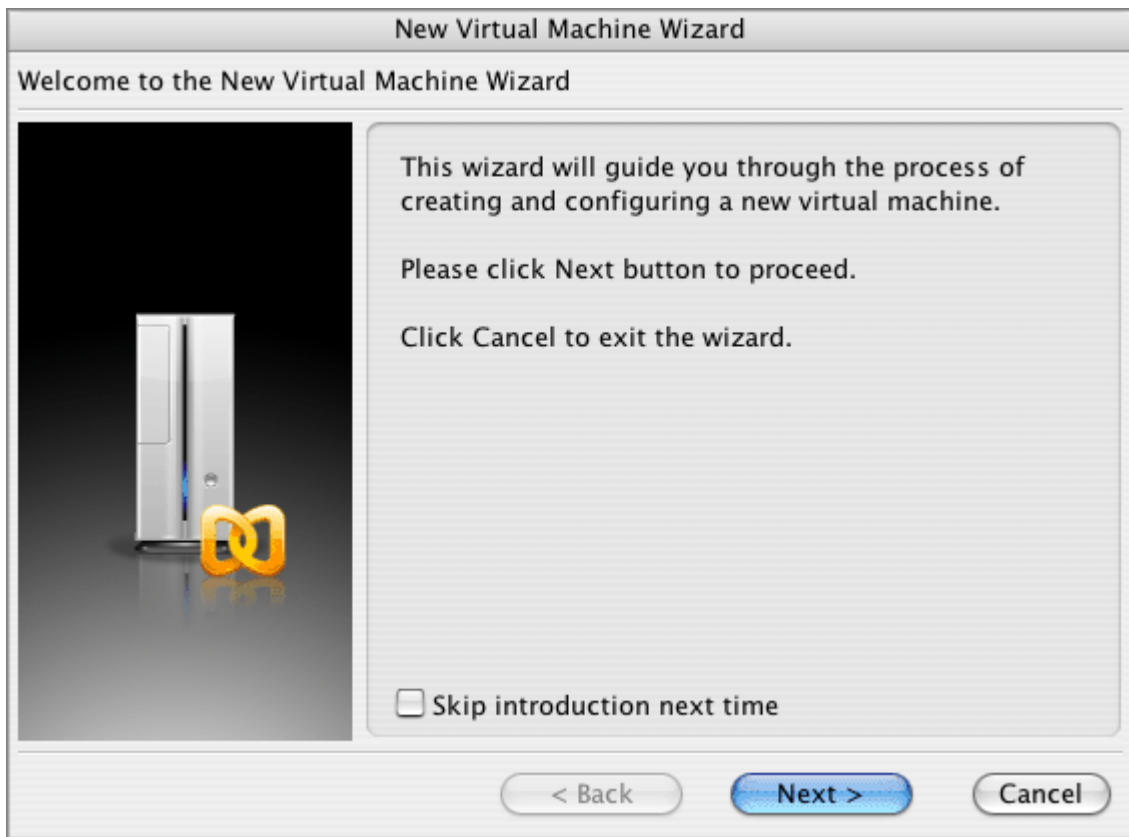
## CHAPTER 4

# Creating a Virtual Machine

When you start Parallels Desktop for the first time, the following dialog box appears.



Click the **New VM** button. Now the New Virtual Machine Wizard appears — a series of screens that will help you build and configure a virtual machine — appears.



Click the Next button.



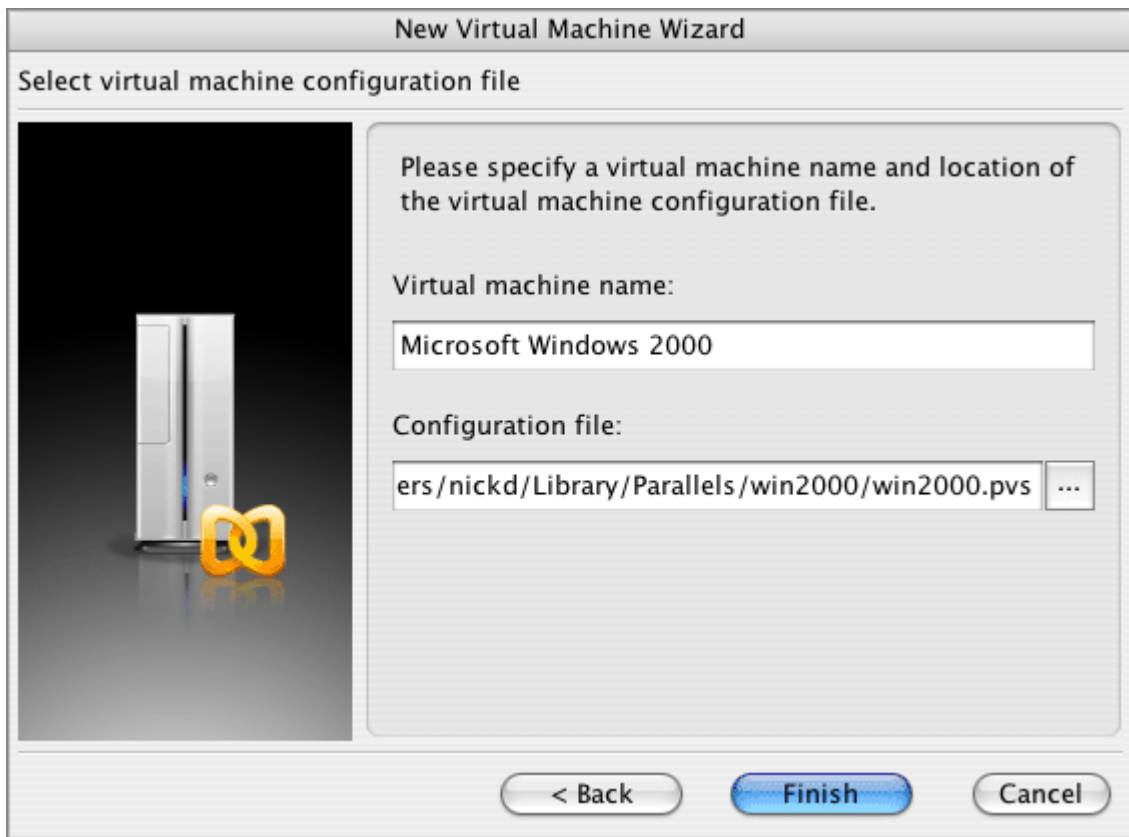
You'll notice the first option, **Create a typical VM**, is selected. We highly recommend that you leave this selection untouched, especially if you are new to virtualization; it's the easiest way to create a new virtual machine. Click **Next**.





On the next screen, you specify what guest operating system you'll be running on your virtual machine. Choose the operating system from the first pop-up menu (for example, Windows), and then choose the version from the second one (Windows 3.1, Windows 95, Windows XP, or whatever).

After specifying the guest OS, click Next.



In this final step, you're asked to name your virtual machine. The name doesn't really matter unless you plan to create several VMs running the same operating system; in that case, you'll want to give them distinct names ("Windows XP for Games" and "Windows XP for Work", for example).

This dialog box also lets you specify where you want to store the files that make up your virtual machine. Unless you indicate otherwise, the wizard will name the VM after the guest OS you've specified and store it in the Parallels folder. (You can change this default folder in Parallels Desktop's Preferences dialog box. For more information, consult the full *Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide* by choosing **Help->Contents**.)

Click **Finish** to begin creating the virtual machine.

## CHAPTER 5

# Activating Parallels Desktop

You need to get an activation key and activate your copy of Parallels Desktop with it to be able to run and use the virtual machine you've just built as well as other virtual machines in future.

## Getting an Activation Key

If you already have an activation key, skip this section and proceed to [Activating Your Copy of Parallels Desktop](#) below in this topic.

To get an evaluation key:

- 1 Click **Help** in the menu and select **Activate Product**. This opens the **Activate Product** screen.
- 2 In the **Activate Product** screen, click the “obtain a free trial activation key” link in the **License Information** text to open the **User Registration Form**.
- 3 In the **User Registration Form**, specify your e-mail address and your name. Entering the name of your company is optional. Specify if you want news from Parallels to be sent to you through e-mail. We suggest allowing us to e-mail you in order for you to be informed of free software updates, new releases, and other Parallels-related news.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "User Registration Form". At the top, there are two tabs: "Required information" (which is selected) and "Optional information". Below the tabs, there is a paragraph of text: "Please fill registration form and click **Register** in order to receive a free trial activation key by e-mail. Alternatively click **Register On Site** if you prefer to register via our Web site." The form is divided into two sections: "Login Information" and "Personal Information". Under "Login Information", there is a label "E-mail \*:" followed by a text input field. Under "Personal Information", there are two labels: "User Name \*:" followed by a text input field, and "Company Name:" followed by a text input field. At the bottom of the form, there is a checked checkbox with the text "I want to receive news from Parallels to my e-mail". At the very bottom of the dialog box, there are three buttons: "Register On Site", "Cancel", and "Register".

- 4 Finally, click the **Register** button to send this information to the Parallels Team. You will then have a free trial activation key sent immediately to the e-mail address you provided.

If you'd prefer, you may register online at the Parallels website as well. Click the **Register On Site** button at any time to proceed to the online registration. You will receive a free trial activation key through e-mail after completing the online form.

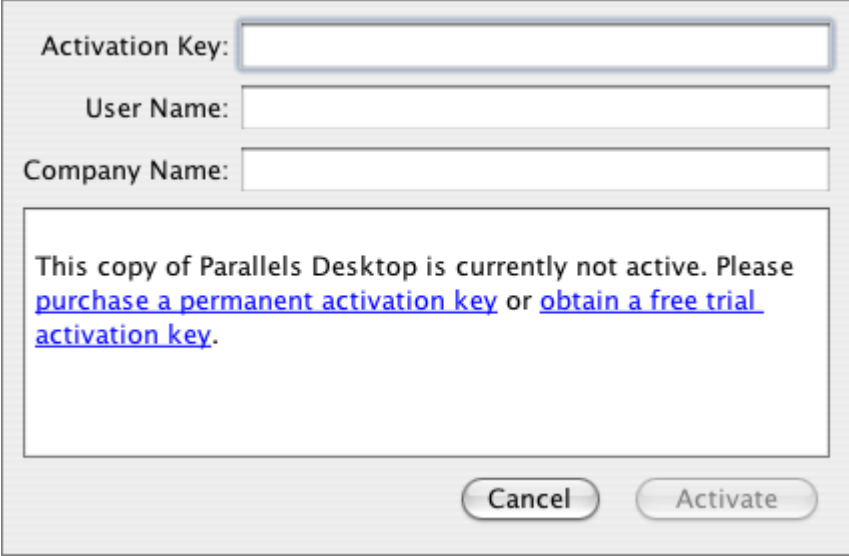
If your trial key has expired, or you're ready to start using Parallels Desktop with no time or feature restrictions, you'll need a permanent activation key. Here's how to get one:

- 1 Click **Help** in the menu and select **Activate Product**. This opens the **Activate Product** screen.
- 2 In the **Activate Product** screen, click the "purchase a permanent activation key" hyperlink in **License Information** text to open the Parallels Online Store and purchase a permanent activation key. It's just that simple.

## Activating Your Copy of Parallels Desktop

To activate Parallels Desktop, follow these easy steps:

- 1 Click **Help** in the Parallels Desktop menu and select **Activate Product**.
- 2 In the **Activate Product** window, fill in the following fields:
  - In the **Activation Key** field type the key provided for you. When you fill in this field, the **Activate** button becomes active.
  - Specify your name and name of your company in the **User Name** and **Company Name** fields. Both of these fields are optional.



Activation Key:

User Name:

Company Name:

This copy of Parallels Desktop is currently not active. Please [purchase a permanent activation key](#) or [obtain a free trial activation key](#).

After entering your activation key, click the **Activate** button. If you have entered a valid activation key, the following confirmation message will be displayed: "Parallels Desktop has been activated successfully. Thank you!" Now that your copy of Parallels Desktop is active, you can build, configure, and run virtual machines, congratulations!

## CHAPTER 6

# Installing a Guest Operating System

When it comes to installing the guest OS, you will have a few options. You can install directly from a CD or DVD, or install the OS from an image of any of these disks. CD/DVD disk images can be made using the Parallels Image Tool included in the Parallels Desktop distribution. See the *Using the Parallels Image Tool* chapter in *Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide*, which is accessible through the *Help->Contents* menu in the menu bar.


Some operating systems are installed from floppy disks. For these issues you may use installing from floppy disk images option. Information on creating floppy disk images is given in *Managing Virtual Machines->Using Virtual and Real Disks->Floppy Disk Images* in *Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide*.

**Here are the General Steps:**

- 1 Start Parallels Desktop by double clicking on our orange icon.
- 2 Either open a virtual machine you previously created or choose to create a new one.

To open the virtual machine you've just created, click **File** menu and select the name of the configuration file in the end of the list.

**To install from a physical CD/DVD or CD/DVD .iso image:**

- 1 In the Parallels Desktop window, click on the  **CD/DVD-ROM 1** in the **Resources** list. This opens the **Configuration Editor** window with **CD/DVD-ROM Options**.

Important: Make sure that the **Enabled** and the **Connect at startup** options are selected.

- 2 Connect the CD/DVD-ROM drive to the guest OS distribution. For this, do the following.

If you want to install from a real CD/DVD:

In the **CD/DVD-ROM Options** screen, click the **Use real CD/DVD-ROM** option and specify which real drive to connect to the virtual device in the **CD/DVD-ROM Drives** list.

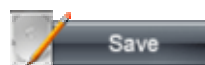
Now simply insert the CD/DVD disk with the operating system distribution into the appropriate drive of your computer.

If you're installing from an `.iso` image file:


In the **CD/DVD-ROM Options** screen, click the **Use image file** option and specify the path to the `.iso` distribution file in the **Image File** field.

- 3 In the **Connect to** list select **IDE 0:1**. This enables not just reading but installing guest OS from the selected CD/DVD-ROM drive.
- 4 Now that we've made all of these changes, it is essential that you save the virtual machine configuration. In order to do this:


Click **OK** on the **Configuration Editor** screen, then click the **Parallels Desktop** window or select **Save** in the **File** menu.



button in the

- 5 Now, start the virtual machine by clicking **Power On**  on the toolbar. Capture the input devices in the guest OS screen as we discuss in the chapter *Capturing and Releasing Keyboard and Mouse in a Virtual Machine* (page 25). All you have to do now is follow the installation instructions for the specific operating system. It's that easy!

**To install from a floppy disk image:**


- 1 In the Parallels Desktop window, click on the  **Floppy** in the **Resources** list. This opens the **Configuration Editor** window with **Floppy Options**.

Important: Make sure that the **Enabled** and the **Connect at startup** options are selected.

- 2 Connect the floppy drive with the guest OS distribution. For this specify the path to the `.fdd` (or another type) distribution file in the **Image File** field.
- 3 We must save the virtual machine configuration:

Click **OK** on the **Configuration Editor** screen, then click the **Save** button in the Parallels Desktop window or select **Save** in the **File** menu.



- 4 Start the virtual machine by clicking **Power On**  on the toolbar. Capture the input devices in the guest OS display as we discuss in the chapter *Capturing and Releasing Keyboard and Mouse in a Virtual Machine* (page 25). Follow the installation instructions for the specific operating system.

## CHAPTER 7

# Parallels Tools

Although Parallels Desktop lets your guest OS access your Mac's video card, network cards, and other hardware, it also simulates its own set of PC hardware (Key Terms and Technologies (page 4) topic).

If you've installed Windows (except 3.1), Solaris, OS/2, or eComStation, Parallels provides special add-ons called Parallels Tools that improve some hardware components and add helpful extra features. For example, they let you:

- use higher resolution and color depth for the guest OS monitor,
- use the cursor in the guest OS without pressing a special key combination,
- share the same clipboard between your guest OS and Mac OS X, so that you can exchange text and pictures,
- improve network connections and sound quality.

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**Note:** In a Solaris guest OS, a network driver is required to support networking in a virtual machine.

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Parallels Tools can be easily installed manually after completing the guest OS installation.

Installing Parallels Tools in a Windows guest OS is described below. For other guest OSes, please refer to the Creating Virtual Machine->Installing Parallels Tools section of the Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide, which is available through the Help->Contents menu in the menu bar.

## Installing Parallels Tools in Windows

To install Parallels Tools in a Windows guest OS, do the following:

- 1 First, boot your guest OS and log in. In order to install tools properly, do not begin the installation until the OS completes its startup and you are logged in.
- 2 Select **Install Parallels Tools** in the Parallels Desktop VM menu.
- 3 You are warned about the necessity of having your guest OS fully started and logging in: "You can install the Parallels Tools only if the guest operating system is running and you are logged in. If you are not logged in now, select **Cancel** and run Parallels Tools installation later." If you are logged in, click **OK** to start installing.
- 4 The Parallels Tools Setup wizard starts and greets you. Click **Next** to move to the **Choose Destination Location** screen. If you do not like the default directory, select another one using the **Change** button. Then click **Next**.
- 5 On the **Setup Type** screen you should choose between the *complete* setup and a *custom* one. The complete setup installs all of the tools available for your guest OS. If you select custom setup, the **Select Components** screen asks you to select the desired tools from the tools available for your guest OS.

- 6 Choose the program folder on the **Select Program Folder** screen, then the **Check Setup Information** screen displays the options selected. If they are correct, click **Next** to begin the installation.
- 7 After the wizard copies the tools, the **Installation Completed** screen asks if you want to restart the computer now. In all Windows guest OSes, except 98 and NT, you must restart the virtual machine after this setup procedure. Click **Finish**, and your virtual machine will be restarted and ready for work with the tools installed.

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**Note:** In Windows 98 and Windows NT some drivers require additional steps to perform after this setup. Please refer to the **Creating Virtual Machine->Installing Parallels Tools** section of the **Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide**, which is available through **Help->Contents** in the menu bar.

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### Troubleshooting When Installing Tools

Parallels Tools installation is invoked by the Windows AUTORUN feature for the CD/DVD-ROM drive. It is enabled by default, however if you have disabled it manually, nothing happens after you select the **Install Parallels Tools** command. (In either case, the `vmtools.iso` CD image will be connected to the virtual machine CD-ROM drive, however it is not visible to the user.) To solve this problem do one of the following:

- Enable the AUTORUN function for the CD-ROM drive in your Windows guest OS.
- Start the tools installation manually.  
Open the contents of the `vmtools.iso` in Windows Explorer, find `Pr1Tools.exe` file, and start it.



## CHAPTER 8

# Capturing and Releasing the Keyboard and the Mouse in a Virtual Machine

When you power up a virtual machine, you've got two computers running at once: your actual Mac, and the simulated PC that's running inside it. But you've got only one mouse and keyboard! How, then, is Parallels Desktop supposed to know when a certain mouse or keyboard activity is intended for Mac OS X, and when for the guest OS?

## The Automatic Handoff

One obvious answer is: Whenever the cursor is inside the guest OS window, then it belongs to that OS. When the cursor moves out of the guest window, it belongs to Mac OS X once again.

And indeed, that's exactly how things work if you've installed Parallels Tools as described in the previous chapter.

## The Manual Handoff

But Parallels Tools are not available for all guest operating systems; furthermore, some people may prefer to trigger the keyboard/mouse handoff manually. You can use any of three methods to make the virtual machine "capture" the keyboard and mouse:

- Click anywhere inside the virtual machine window.
- Select **Capture Input** in the VM menu.
- Press **Command+I** on your keyboard.

Once the guest OS captures your cursor, you can't move it outside of the Parallels Desktop window until you release it.

To release the keyboard and mouse to Mac OS X:

- Press the keyboard shortcut for releasing your keyboard/mouse. The factory setting is **Ctrl+Option(Alt)**, but you can change this key combo in **Parallels Desktop->Preferences->Hot Keys**.


The keyboard and the mouse will be released immediately.

## CHAPTER 9

# Starting, Stopping, and Resetting a Virtual Machine

## Starting a Virtual Machine

Once you've set up a virtual machine and installed a guest OS, Parallels Desktop is ready for work whenever you are.


Just click the **Power On**  button on the Parallels Desktop toolbar (or choose **VM->Power On**). The virtual machine switches on, its control panel opens in the Parallels Desktop window, and the guest OS "boots up," looking just as it would on a real PC.

Note that the virtual machine can only be powered on if your copy of Parallels Desktop has been activated with a permanent or trial activation key. If your copy is not activated, the "This copy of the Parallels Desktop is currently unregistered" warning will appear. If this is the case, you will need to go back and activate your copy (see the *Activating Parallels Desktop* chapter at page 19).

## Stopping a Virtual Machine

You shut down your virtual machine just as you would on a real PC. For example, if you're running Windows, you click the **Start** button and click **Shut Down**.

If, for some reason, you can't stop the guest OS this way, you may use the Parallels Desktop controls to do so, like this:

- Click the **Power Off**  button on the Parallels Desktop toolbar
- Choose **VM->Power Off** in menu.

## Resetting a Virtual Machine

You should always restart a guest OS using its built-in Restart command. For example, in Windows, click **Start**, then **Shut Down**, then **Restart**.

If that doesn't work, for some reason, only then should you use the Parallels Desktop controls, using one of the following options:

- Click the **Reset** button on the Parallels Desktop toolbar (or select **VM->Reset**).
- Select **Send Ctrl+Option+Del** in the **VM** menu (or press **Ctrl+Option(Alt)+Del** while the keyboard is captured inside a virtual machine window).


## CHAPTER 10

# Running a Virtual Machine in Fullscreen Mode

In order to make a virtual machine feel even more like a regular computer, you may sometimes want to expand the guest OS screen so that instead of huddling in a window, it occupies your entire monitor, edge to edge.

In this Fullscreen mode, Mac OS X and all of its programs are hidden. The Parallels Desktop menu, toolbar, and status bar will be hidden as well.

If you want to run the virtual machine in fullscreen mode, make sure it's already running. Then do one of these three things:

- click the Fullscreen Mode  toolbar button,
- select **View->Fullscreen** in the menu,
- press `Option(Alt)+Enter` on your keyboard.

To shrink the virtual machine screen to the usual (windowed) mode:


- press `Ctrl+Option(Alt)` or `Option(Alt)+Enter` on your keyboard.

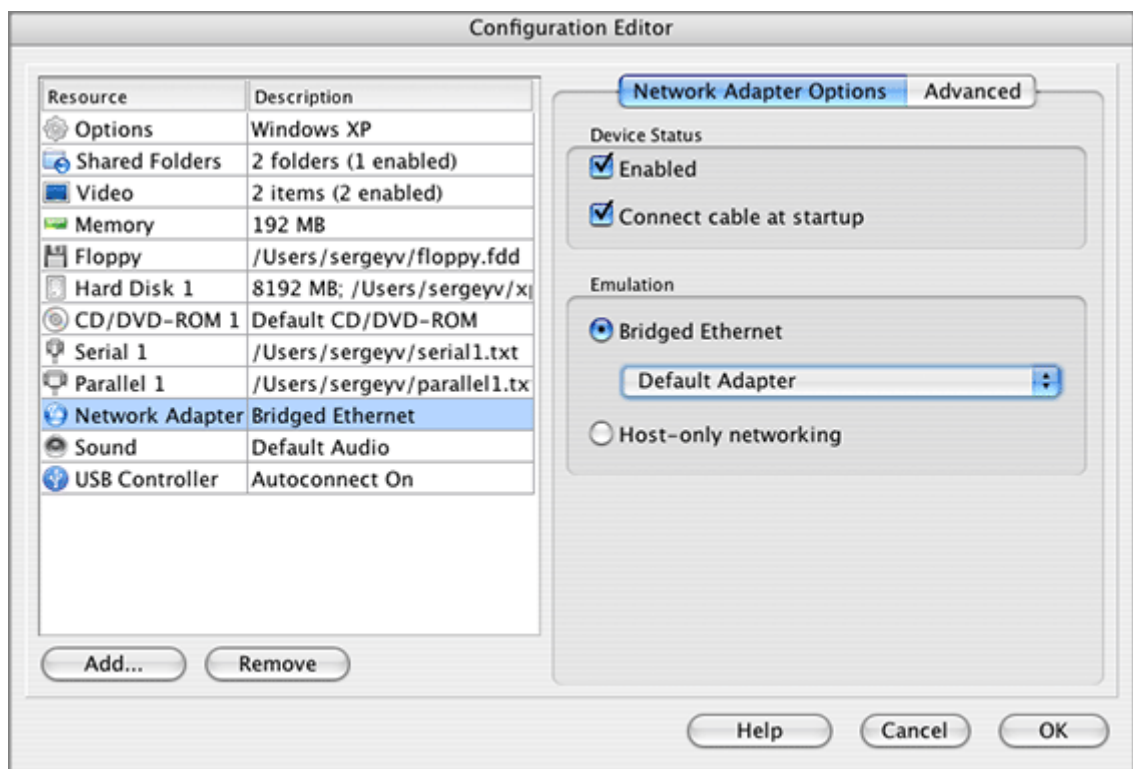
## CHAPTER 11


# Accessing the Internet


If you want to access the Internet in a virtual machine, start by making sure your Mac can itself get online.

Then proceed like this:

- 1 If your virtual machine is currently running, turn it off (click its **Stop**  button). You can change a VM's configuration only when it's shut down.
- 2 In the Parallels Desktop window, click **Network Adapter** in the **Resources** list to open the **Configuration Editor** screen which contains the **Network Adapter Options**.



- 3 In **Network Adapter Options**, make sure that the **Enabled** and **Connect cable at startup** options are selected. In the **Emulation** group, select the **Bridged Ethernet** option and then choose a name of your network adapter in the list:
  - en0: Ethernet Adapter if you have a wired network connection,
  - en1: Airport/Wireless Adapter if you have a wireless connection,
  - or a specific adapter if you have a different one installed.
- 4 Next, click **OK** on the **Configuration Editor** screen, then click the  button in the Parallels Desktop window (or choose **File -> Save**).

- 5 Now, start the virtual machine by clicking **Power On**  on the toolbar. Capture the input devices in the guest OS screen (Capturing and Releasing Keyboard and Mouse in a Virtual Machine at page 25), if necessary.
- 6 Configure network options in your guest operating system, just as you would on a new PC.

Once you're connected to the Internet, you can use your virtual machine to access email, surf the web, chat, and more!

## CHAPTER 12


# Creating Shared Folders

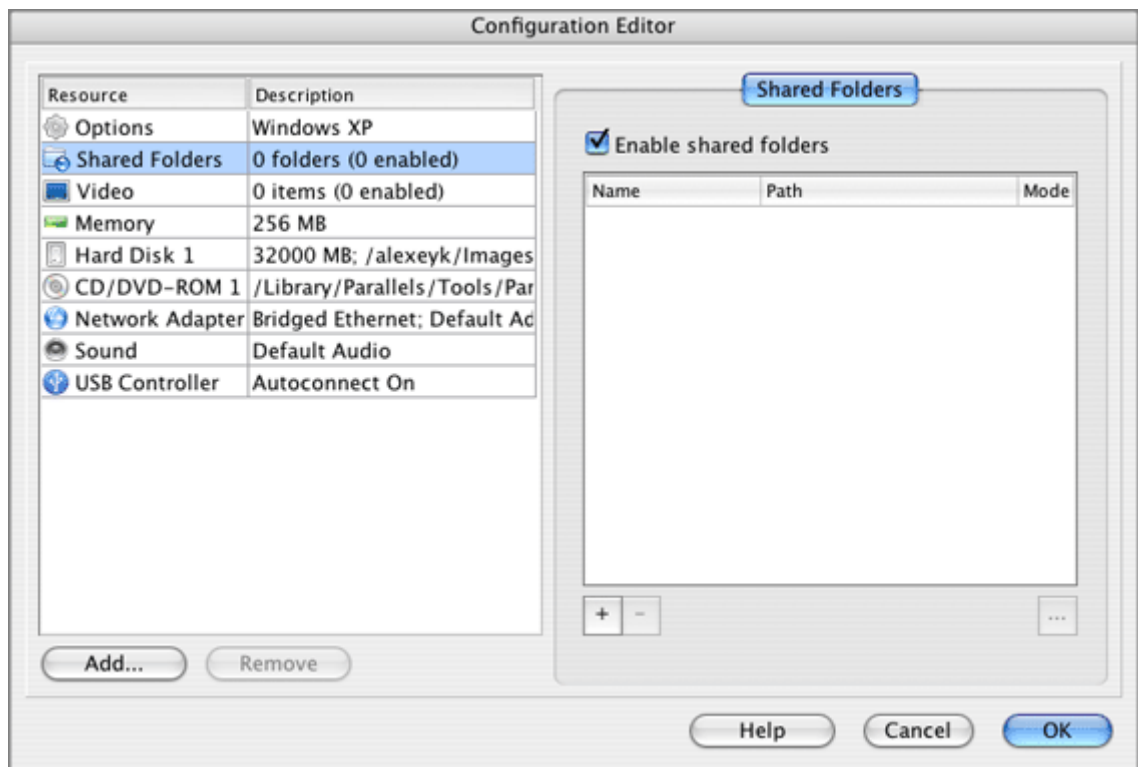
Having Parallels Tools installed lets you to transfer texts and small pictures between your Mac and virtual machine. To be able to exchange files you should setup shared folders. Shared folders are folders in your Mac file system that are visible to the guest OS also. In your Mac computer shared folders appear as usual folders, while in guest OS they are objects of the network neighborhood.


Using shared folders is possible for the following guest OSes:

- Window 2000/XP/2003.

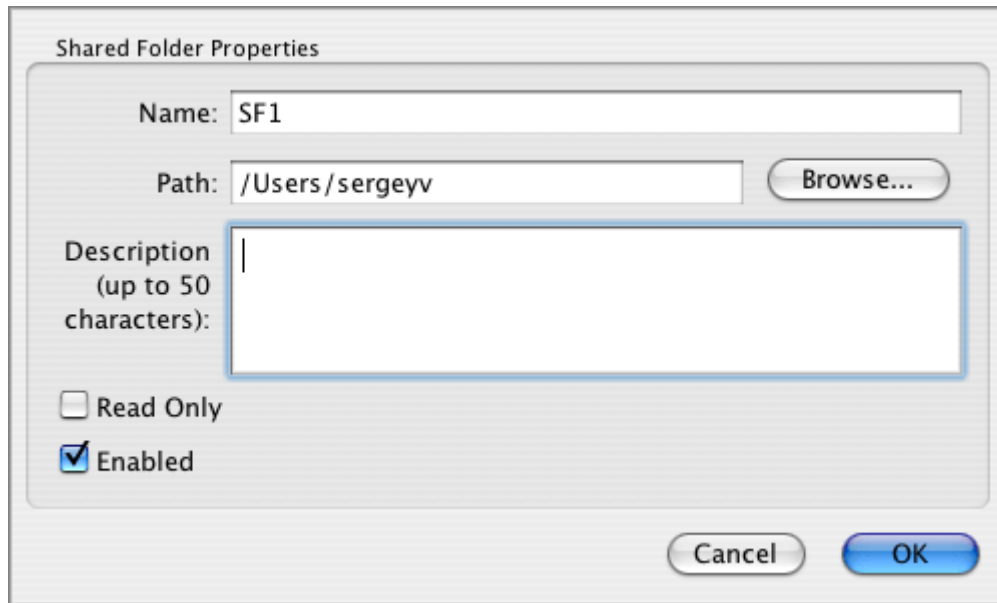
## Adding a Shared Folder

- 1 Open the virtual machine configuration, click the  button to open the Configuration Editor.
- 2 In the Configuration Editor, select the Shared Folders tab. Select the Enable shared folders option.




- 3 In the Shared Folders tab, click  button to open the Shared Folder Properties dialog box.
- 4 In the Shared Folder Properties dialog box:
  - specify a name for the folder which will appear in your guest OS in the Name field;

specify a folder in your Mac OS X file system that will be shared in the Path field;  
 if you want to restrict writing to this folder from inside the guest OS, select the Read Only check box. You will be able to save files to this folder in the primary OS only;  
 make sure the Enabled check box is selected;  
 and click OK.



5 Click OK in the Configuration Editor.

6 Click  to save the virtual machine configuration.

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**Note.** To view the content of shared folders in a virtual machine you should have Parallels Tools installed. Refer to the Parallels Tools (page 23) chapter.

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## Viewing Shared Folders

To view the contents of the shared folders in the guest OS:

- 1 Start the virtual machine.
- 2 Open Windows Explorer.
- 3 In the Explorer, select My Networks Places, then select Entire Network, and find the Parallels Shared Folders.
- 4 Click the Parallels Shared Folders to view the list of shared folders available in your virtual machine.

When working with a shared folder inside a virtual machine, keep in mind that the ability to save files into this folder depends on its Read Only setting.

# How to Build a Windows XP Virtual Machine

Many users are going to want to create a Windows XP virtual machine, and this section will give you a step-by-step description of how to do so. Here we go:

- 1 Start Parallels Desktop as we discussed in the Starting Parallels Desktop topic.
- 2 Create a virtual machine.



To initiate this process use either the  button or the File->New VM menu item. Follow the steps of the New Virtual Machine Wizard as described in the Creating a Virtual Machine section (page 14).

- 3 Now you're ready to install the Windows XP guest operating system:
  - Insert the installation CD or attach the ISO image file of the installation CD.
  - Power on the virtual machine. Installation starts.
  - Capture your mouse and keyboard inside the virtual machine as we discussed in Capturing and Releasing the Keyboard and the Mouse (page 25).
  - On the Welcome to Setup screen, press `Enter` on your keyboard.
  - The license agreement is displayed on the screen. To scroll down press the `Pagedown` key. Then press `Enter` to agree.
  - On the following screen, the Setup displays the hard disk available in the virtual machine. Press `ENTER` to setup Windows XP on this selected disk.
  - After this, you'll have to choose how to format your system volume. It is best to format the Windows XP system disk using NTFS, so select this type of file system and press `Enter`. You can choose either the normal or quick formatting method.
  - The virtual machine will restart automatically.
  - Next select your Regional and Language Options. Click `Next`.
  - The Your Product Key dialog box prompts you to enter the license key. Enter it (at this stage you cannot use the copy-paste method). Click `Next`.
  - On the Computer Name and Administrator Password dialog box enter a name for the virtual machine. Also, enter a password for the Administrator account. By default, the user name will be Administrator. Confirm the password and click `Next`.
  - On the Date and Time Settings dialog box, set the time zone and corresponding day and time. You can select the check box for **Automatically adjust the clock for daylight saving changes**.
  - On the Networking settings dialog box choose *Typical Settings* or *Custom Settings*.
  - After that, Setup adjusts the Display Settings for better image quality.



- Setup prompts you to create User accounts for each person who will use this virtual machine.

**4** Install Parallels Tools.

Refer to **Installing Parallels Tools in Windows** in the Parallels Tools topic (page 23) or to **Creating Virtual Machine->Installing Parallels Tools** section in the **Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide**.

**5** Configure the virtual machine for your needs.

Connect the virtual machine to the Internet or create a host-only (refer to the **Accessing the Internet** topic at page 28 or to the **Managing Virtual Machines->Networking in Virtual Machine** section in the **Parallels Desktop for Mac User Guide**).

To have your virtual machine communicate easily with Mac OS X create shared folders as discussed in the **Creating Shared Folders** topic at page 30.

After this, you'll be ready to install programs and applications in your new XP virtual machine. Enjoy the convenience of Windows and OS X side by side!

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