Lab - Create a Virtual Install of Windows 10 Pro Using VirtualBox

Overview

This lab will allow users to create a Windows 10 host to test their Server 2012, 2016, or 2019 network. This VM can be used for testing file and printing access, IIS and FTP, and other Microsoft domain roles and services. It makes no difference what you use your Windows 10 machine for.

If you experience slowness and sluggish issues with your VM's try the following:

> 1. Try freeing up your resources by disabling your security suite on the host and not using the machine while your VM's are running.
>
> 2. If you have 4 GB of RAM on the host, you can allocate 2 GB for the VM's. The RAM is only being utilized when the VM's are up and running.
>
> 3. Use the defragmentation utility built into VirtualBox under storage in the VM's settings. This usually improves performance.
>
> 4. Be sure to shut down your VMs as you would your host machine using the start button and then shut down. Do not just power off you're your VirtualBox Player with the VM running! This is no different than pulling the power cable out of the wall used to power your host machine.

Overview

**Download the Windows 10 ISO Image**

Option 1

The HeiDoc.net **Microsoft Windows and Office ISO Download Tool** allows an easy and comfortable way to download genuine Windows 8.1 and Windows 10 disk images (ISO) directly from Microsoft's servers, as well as Office 2013, Office 2016, and Office for Mac.

Microsoft provided disk images for many of their products through their subcontractor "Digital River" in the past. These downloads were pulled in early 2014. Afterward, Microsoft made a limited selection of downloads available on their TechBench site. This tool accesses that TechBench site and unlocks many hidden download files on it.
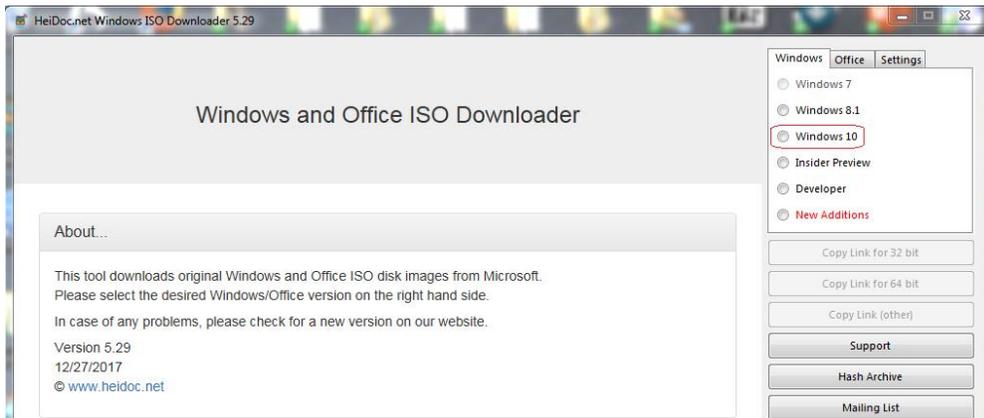
Download Microsoft Windows and Office ISO Download Tool here.

The ISO downloader tool is a self-running executable and does not need to be installed. Once you have the tool downloaded, x2 click it to open.
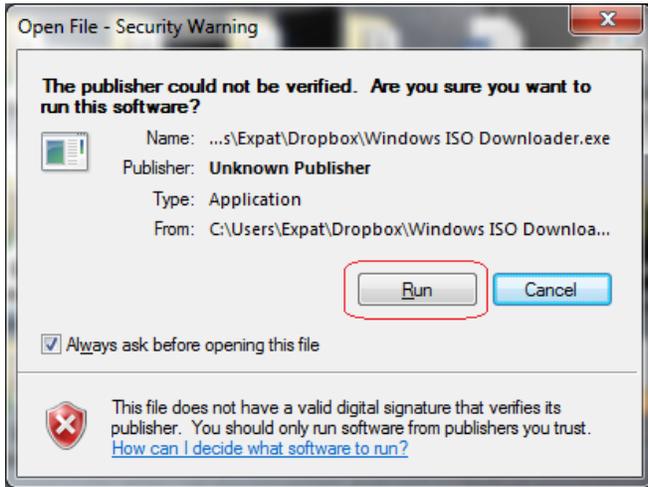
Use the following set of images to help guide your download.

On the About page, choose Windows 8.1 or Windows 10 as your download. (Windows 7) does not work.

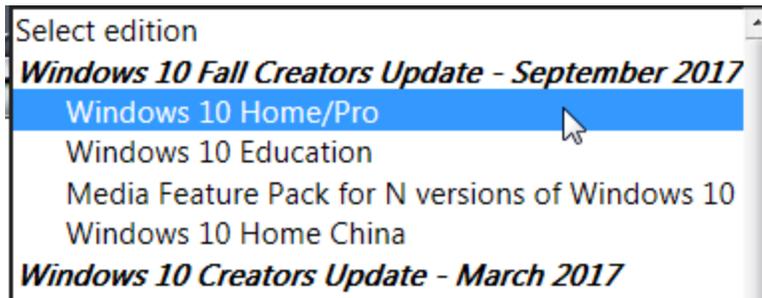On the next page, select your edition.

From the very top, choose the Windows 10 Home/Pro edition.

Select edition

Windows 10 Fall Creators Update - September 2017
Windows 10 Home/Pro
Windows 10 Education
Media Feature Pack for N versions of Windows 10
Windows 10 Home China
Windows 10 Creators Update - March 2017

Confirm

Select edition

Windows 10 Home/Pro

Confirm

Select a product language and confirm.

Select the product language

You'll need to choose the same language when you install Windows.
To see what language you're currently using, go to **Time and language** in PC settings or **Region** in Control Panel.

English

Confirm

Select your version based on your hardware type.

3

Downloads

Choose a link below to begin the download. If not sure which one to choose then refer to **FAQ**.

Windows 10 English

64-bit Download

32-bit Download

Your download begins. Please save it to a location preferably away from your C:\ drive.
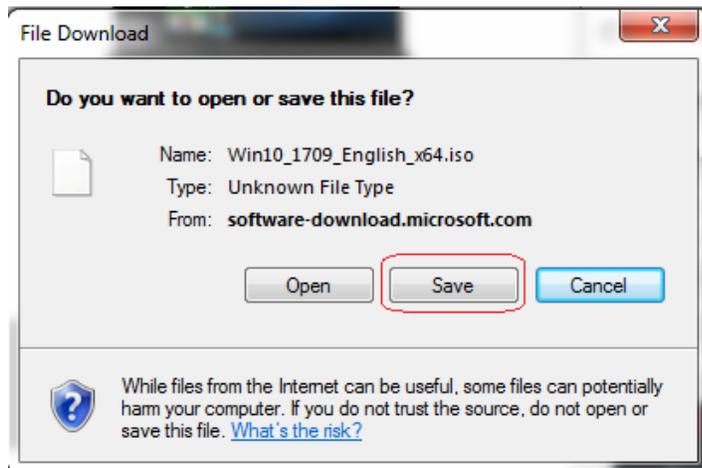
Save the ISO to a location where you can easily retrieve it. I recommend saving all your ISO images to a separate partition, an external drive, or using a free online storage solution such as Google Drive or DropBox.

In this example, I am saving the Windows 10 ISO download to the cloud using my Dropbox account, where I have a folder called ISO images.

Option 2

Download a Microsoft evaluation ISO image of Windows 10 Enterprise, good for 90 days.

Microsoft Evaluation Center

Just follow the prompts.

Option 3

Download an OVA image of Windows 10 Enterprise for import into VirtualBox, good for 90 Days.

Download a virtual machine

After 90 days, you can recharge Windows 10 for another 90 days by opening a command prompt as administrator and typing, **`slmgr -rearm`**.

**Creating a Virtual Install of Windows 10**

Begin the Lab!

Once you have downloaded VirtualBox, you can browse to the saved download location and run the installer. In this lab, I demonstrate installing VirtualBox, Version 6.0, but regardless of the version, the installation wizard remains intuitive.

Download the latest version of VirtualBox using this link: VirtualBox Download

On the opening screen, click next.
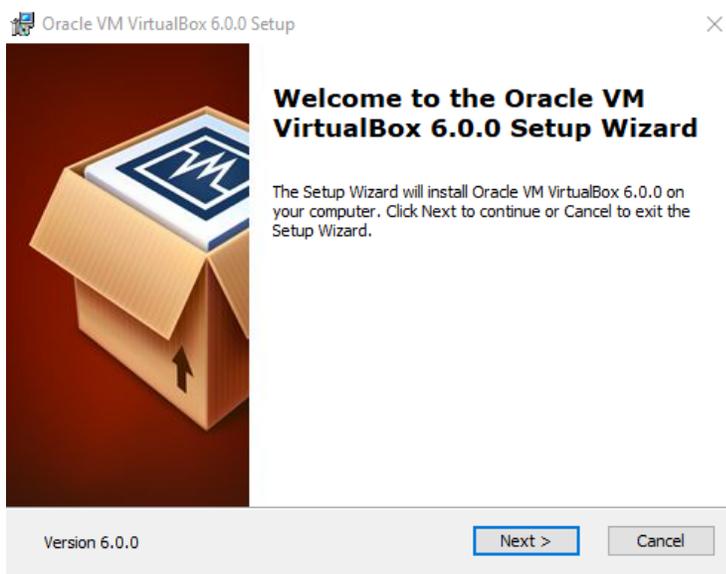
On the next screen, accept the defaults and click next.
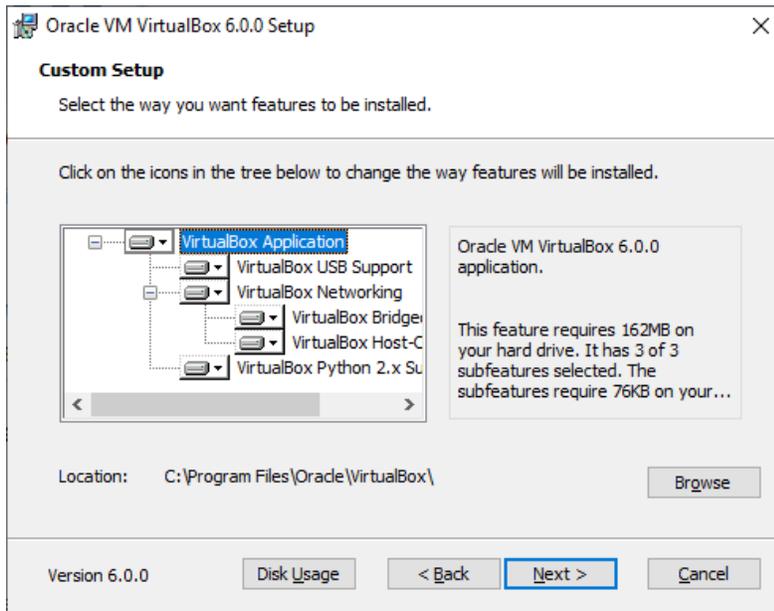
On the next screen, accept the defaults and click next.
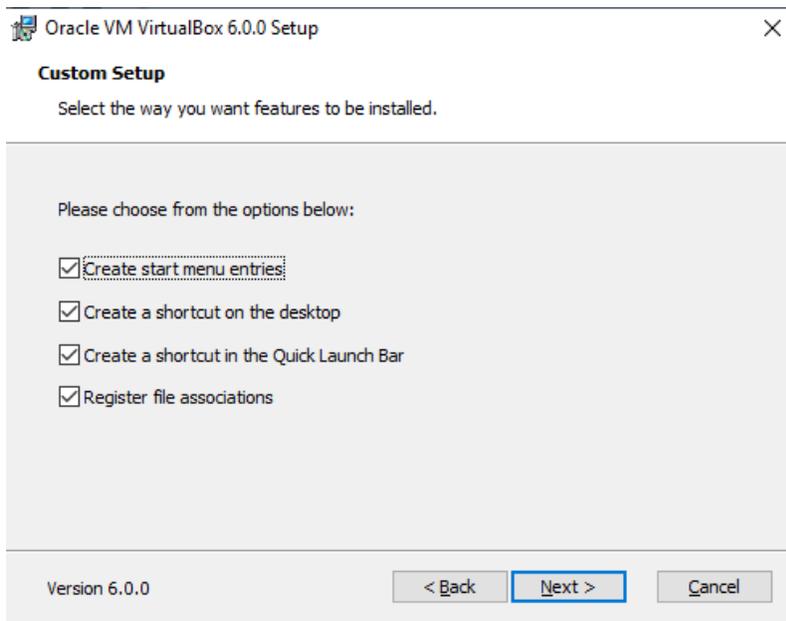
On the next screen, accept the warning and click Yes.

On the Ready to Install screen, click the install button.
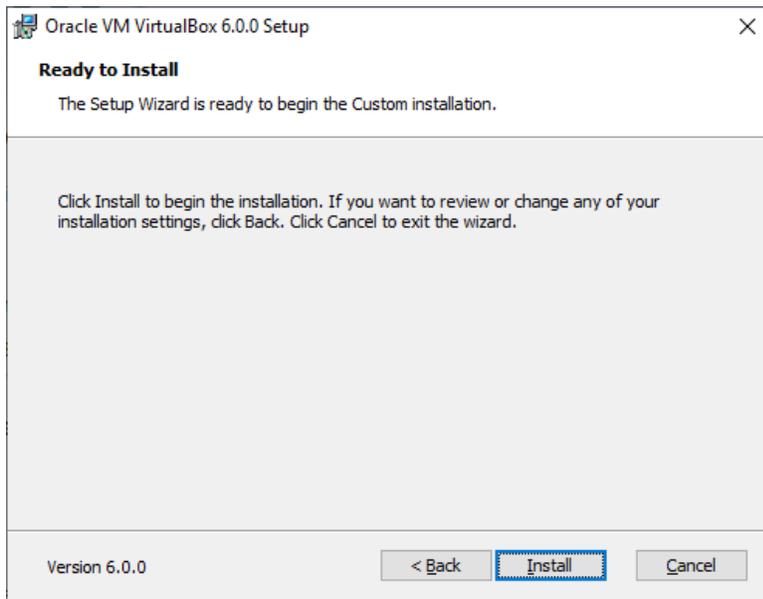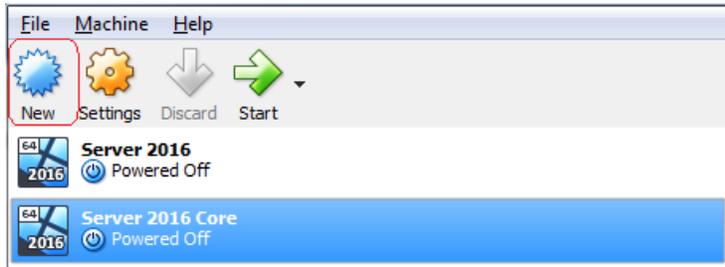

The installation begins.
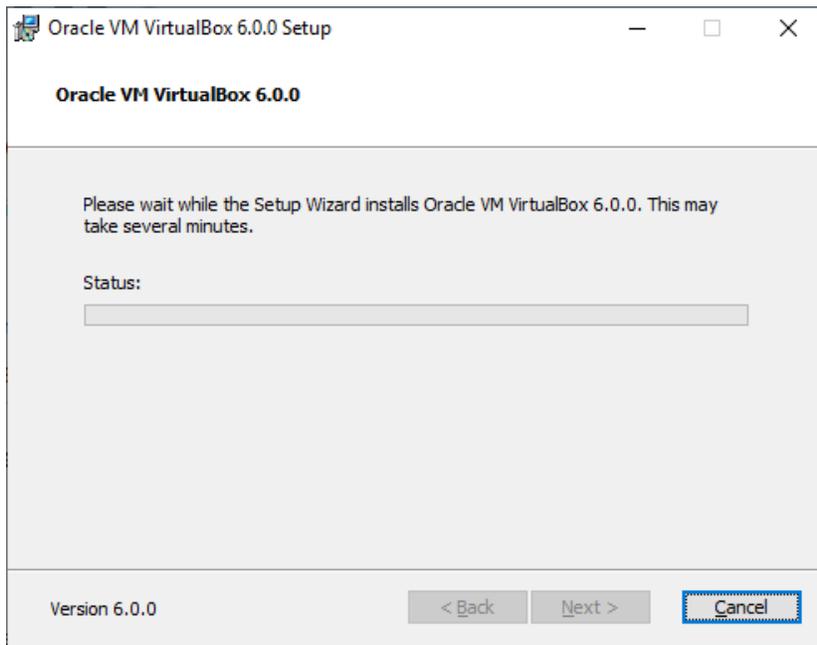
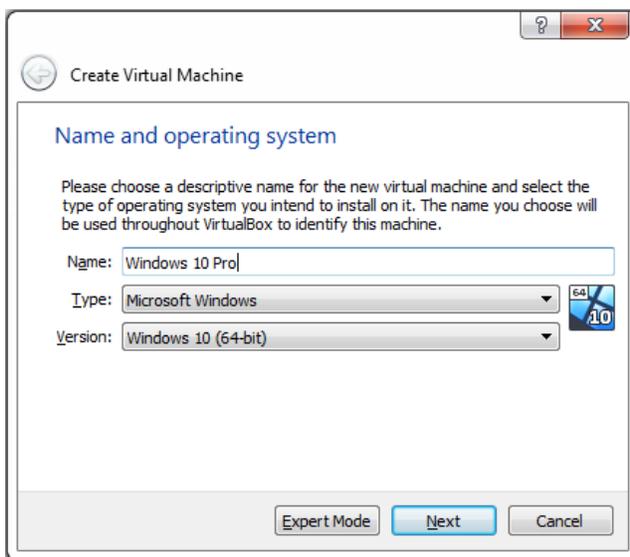On the finish screen, click the Finish button, and if prompted, restart your host machine.
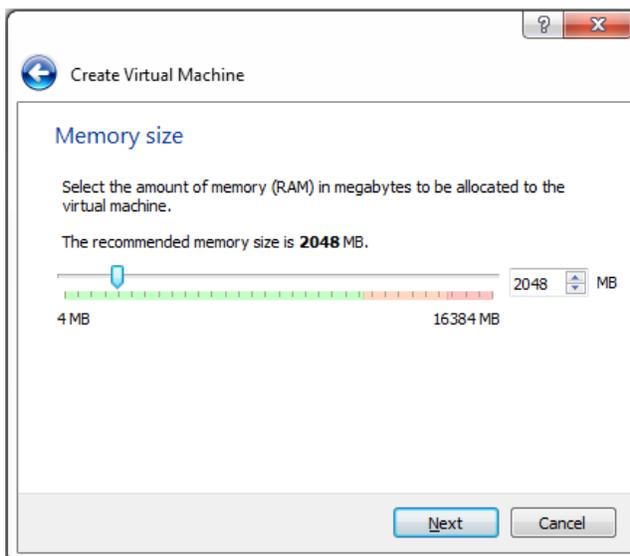

Open VirtualBox.

From the taskbar, click on the New button to open the Create a Virtual Machine Wizard.
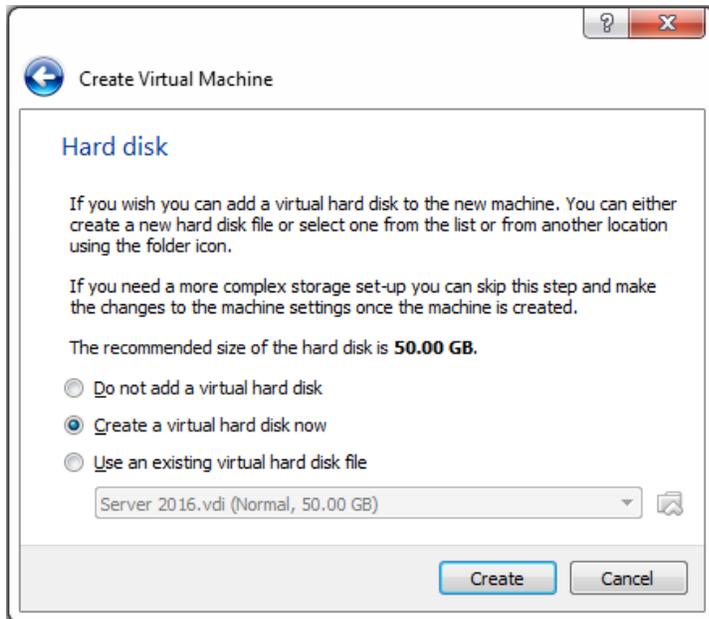
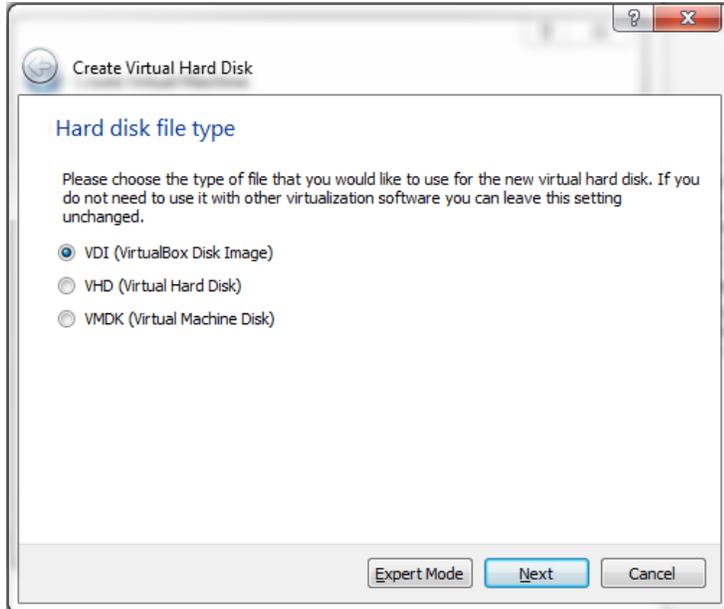The 'Create a Virtual Machine Wizard' opens. Give your new virtual machine a user-friendly name.
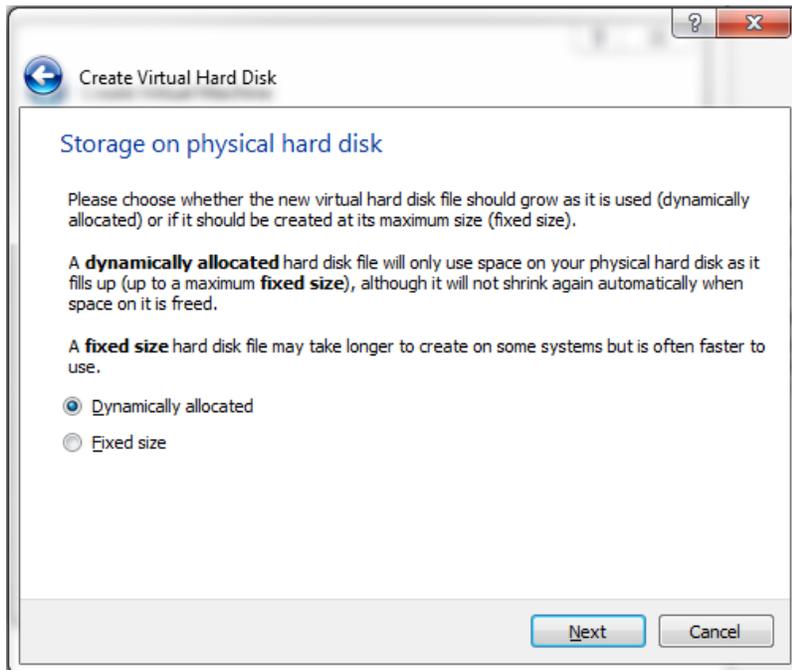

Accept the default size for the RAM.

Accept the default to, Create a Virtual Hard Disk Now. Click on Create.
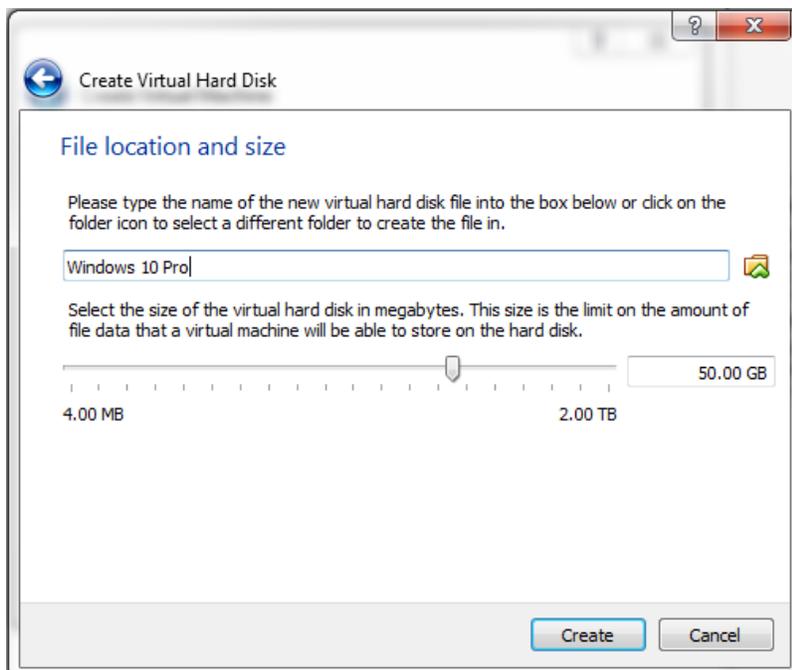

On the next screen, accept the default for using the VDI disk file type.
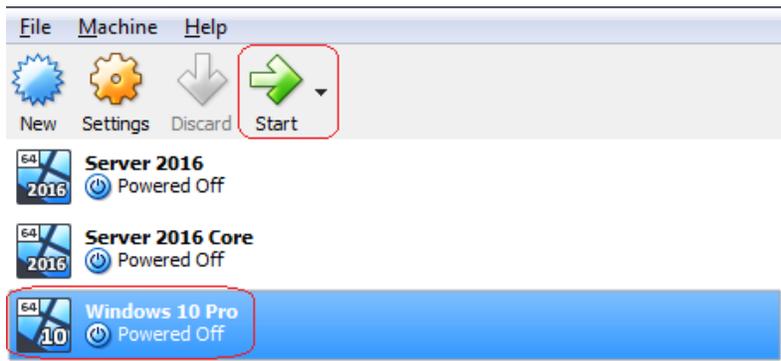

Accept the default to use a dynamic storage disk.

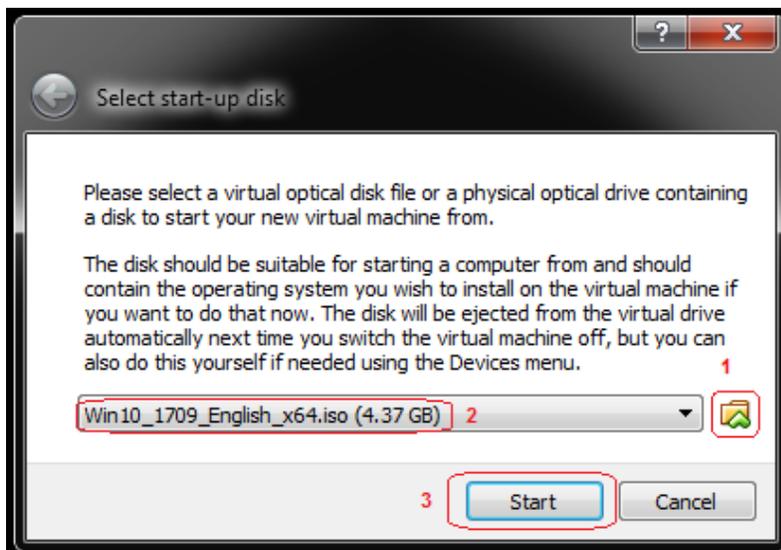On the next screen, accept the default disk size of 50 GB. Click Create.

Back at the VirtualBox management console from the left Windowpane, find your newly created Windows 10 machine, highlight and from the taskbar, click the green start arrow.
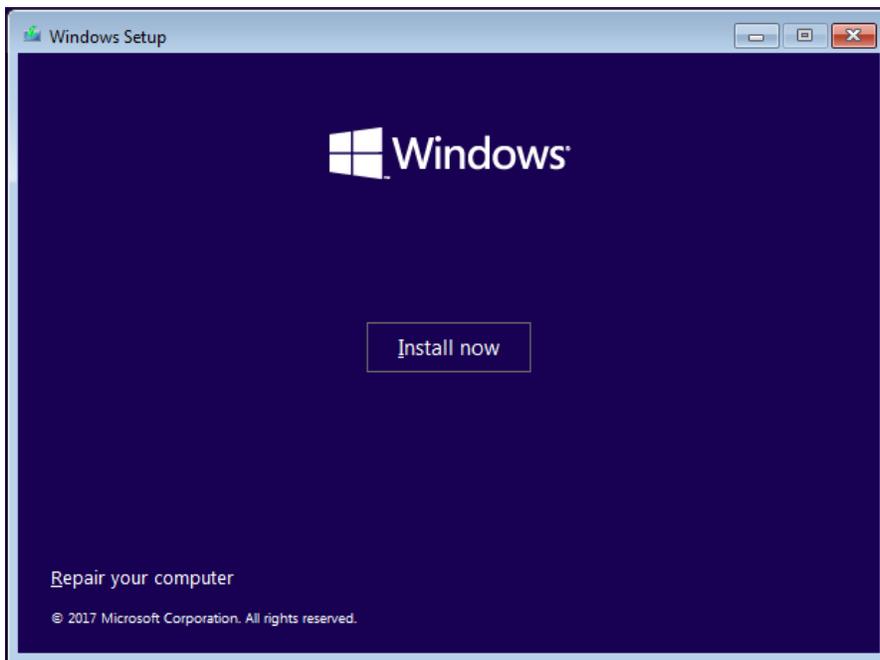
On the next windows

1. Browse to the location of your saved Windows 10 ISO image.
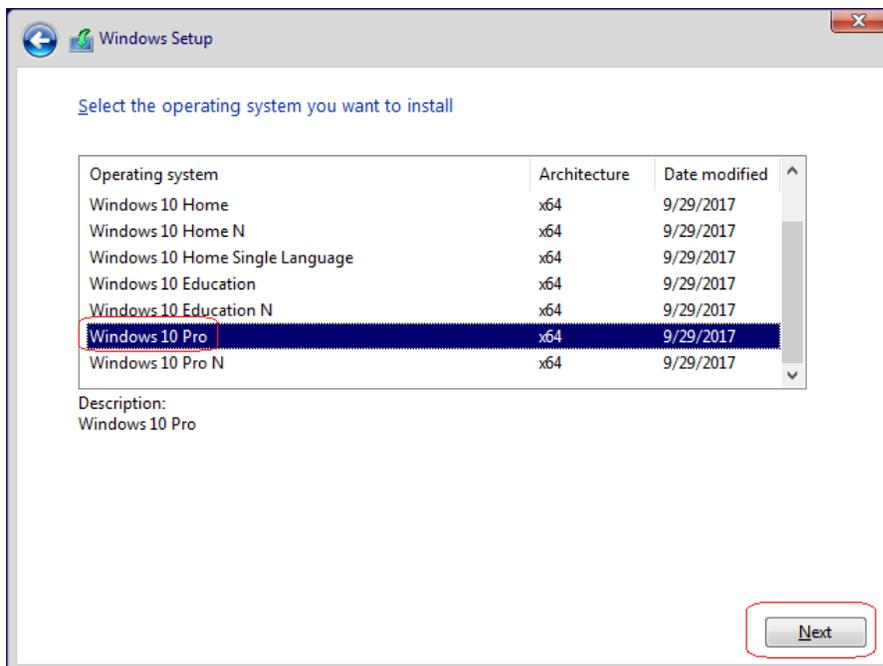
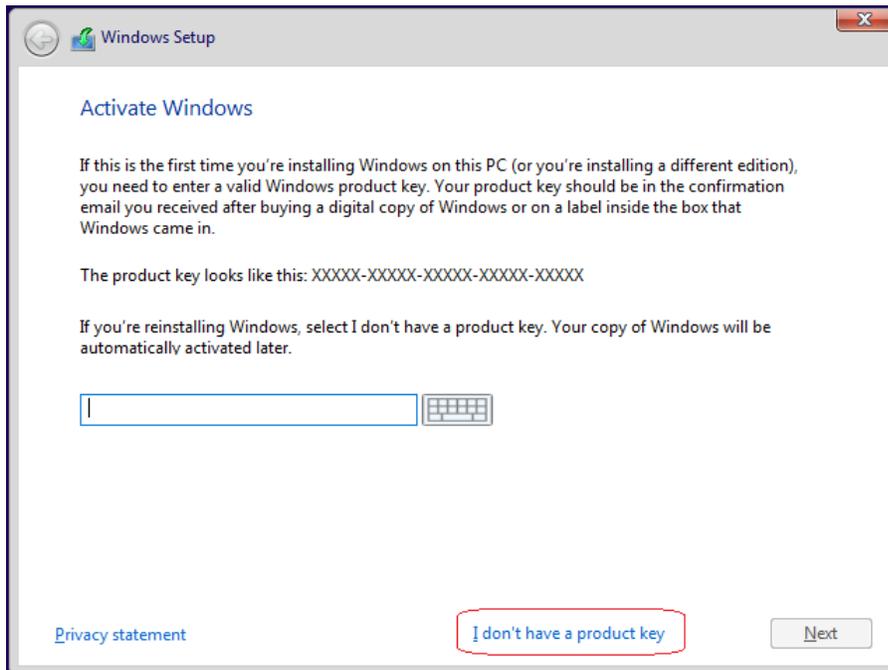2. Select the image.

3. Press the start button.

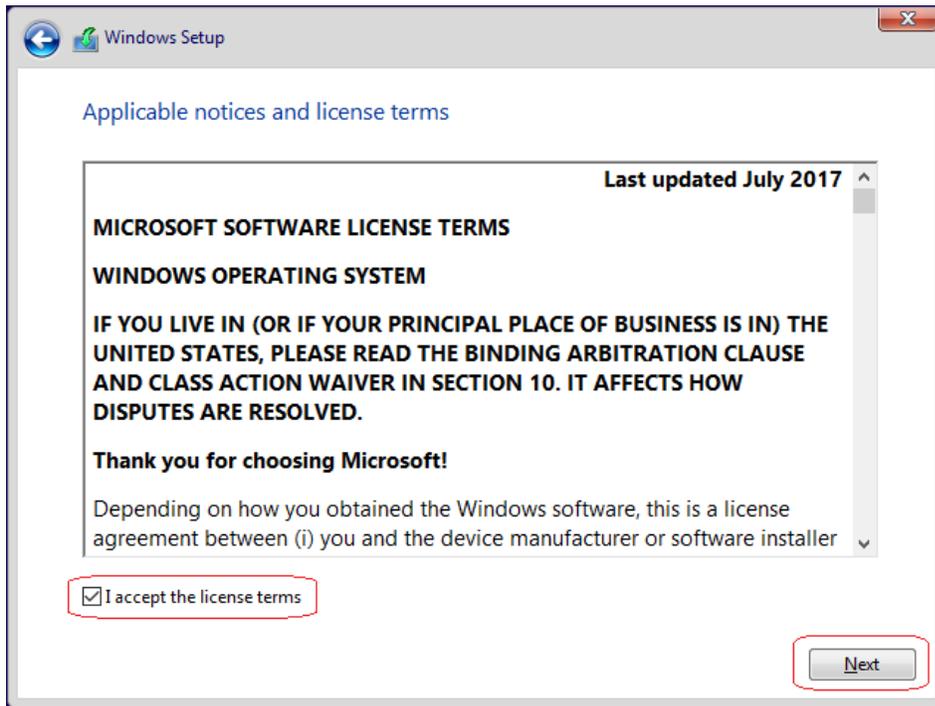The Windows 10 installation starts. Click next.

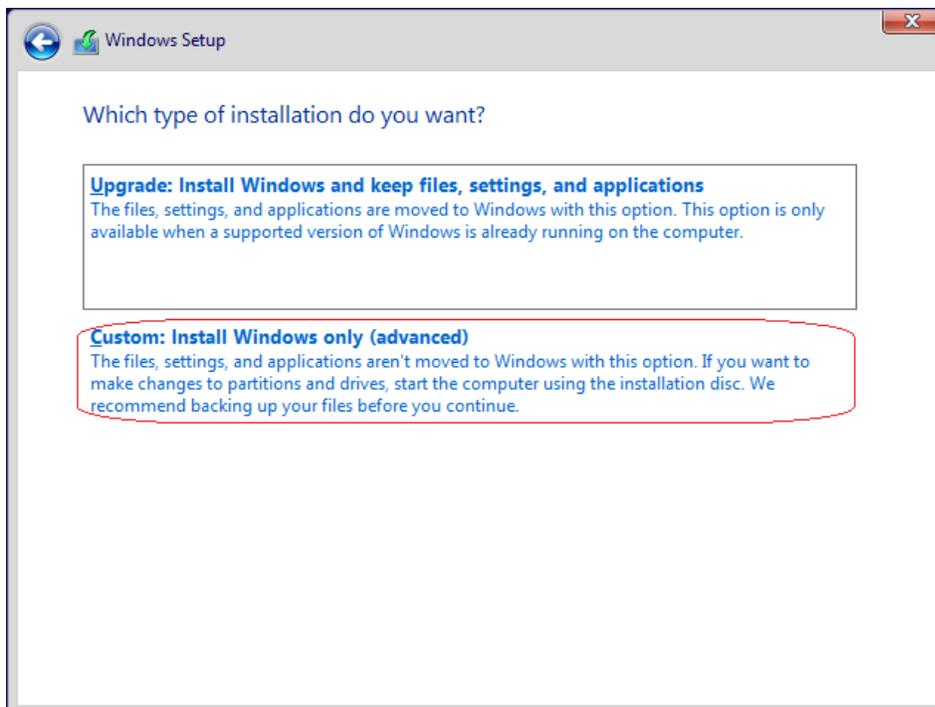On the next windows, click on the Install now button.

On the Activate Windows screen, you can click the link entitled, "I do not have a product key."
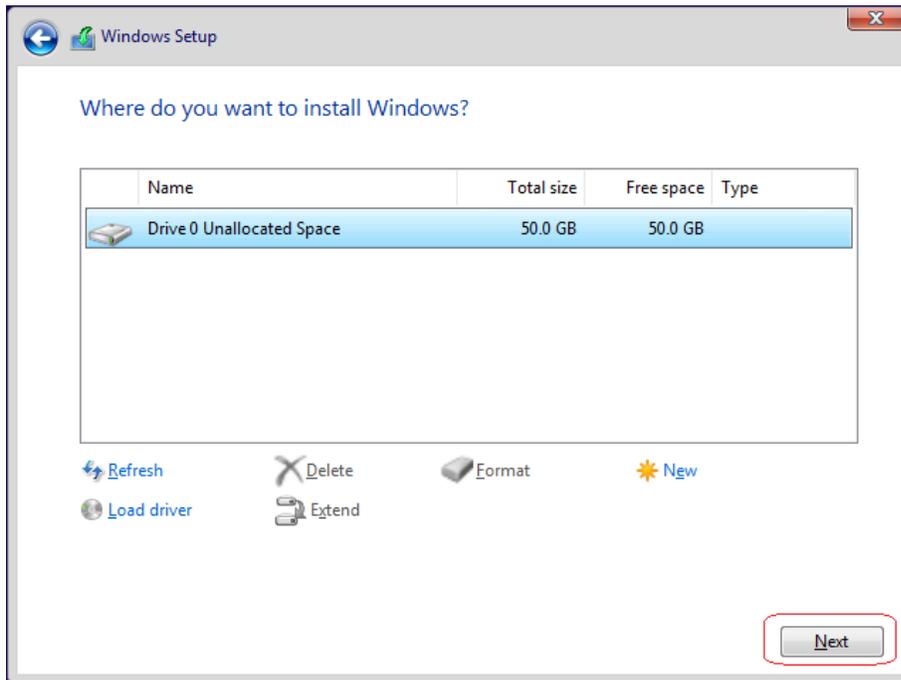
On the license screen, check the to accept the terms. Click Next.

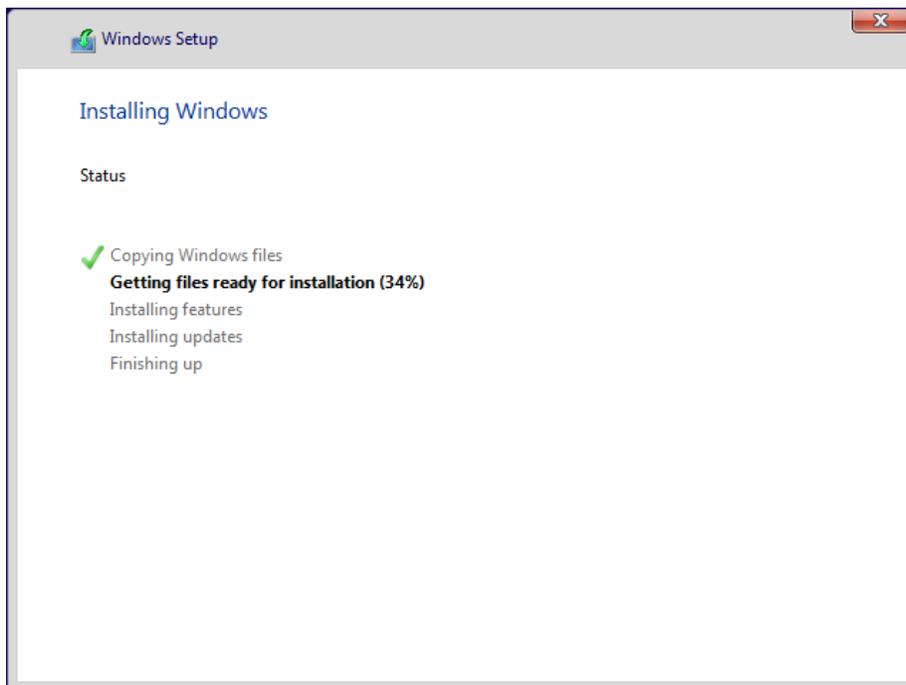On the next screen click on the option marked Custom.

On the next Window, you only need to click on the Next button.

The installation begins.

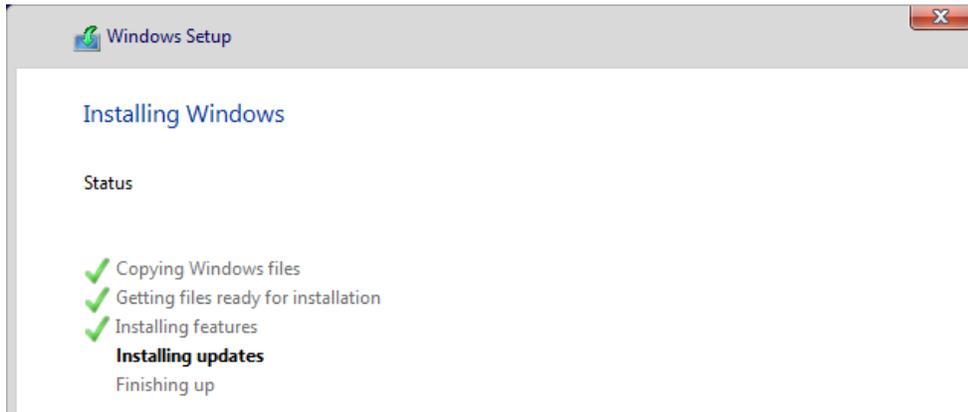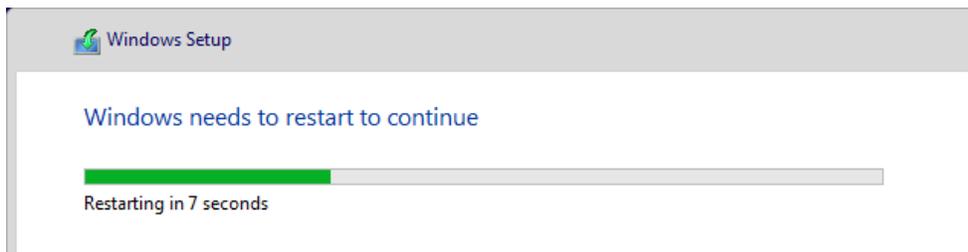Allow the install to proceed without any interruption.

This step will take some time to complete, relax, go for a walk, or watch some TV but allow the install to complete. The Easy Install feature of VMWare will do all the work.

Windows will restart .....

Windows will prepare for your first use and prepare your desktop.
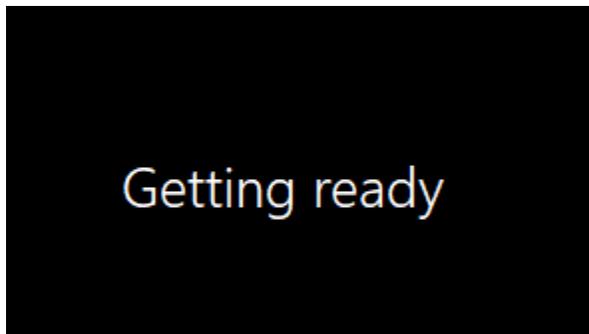
Windows will restart one more time.... wait for the desktop or log in.

Windows 10 continues with the building of the user's profile.

Windows 10 will restart one more time

The Windows 10 Interactive menu begins.
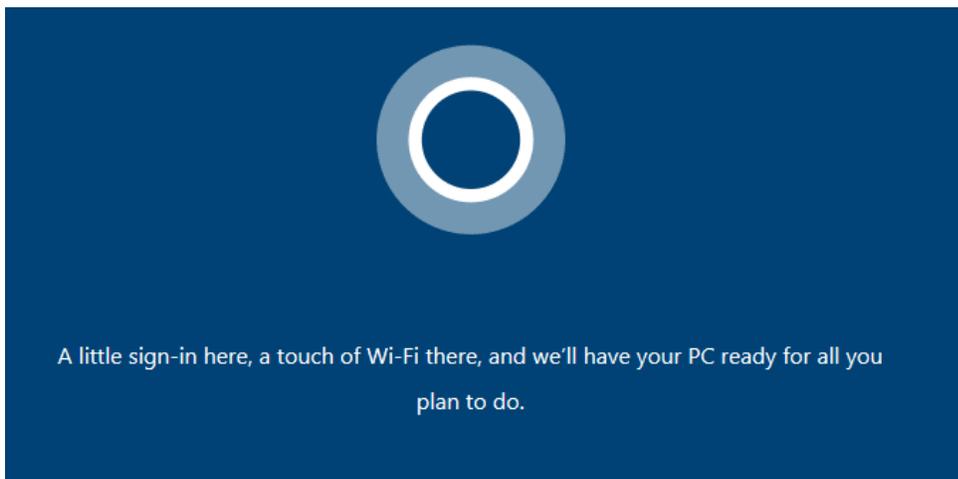
Set your region and click yes.

Let's start with region. Is this right?

U.S. Minor Outlying Islands

U.S. Virgin Islands

Uganda

Ukraine

United Arab Emirates

United Kingdom

United States

Select your keyboard layout and click yes.

Is this the right keyboard layout?

US

Canadian Multilingual Standard

English (India)

Irish

Scottish Gaelic

United Kingdom

United States-Dvorak

Want to add a second keyboard? Click skip.

Want to add a second keyboard layout?

You can connect to a network or select skip for now. Select, Skip for now.

Select your username and then click next.
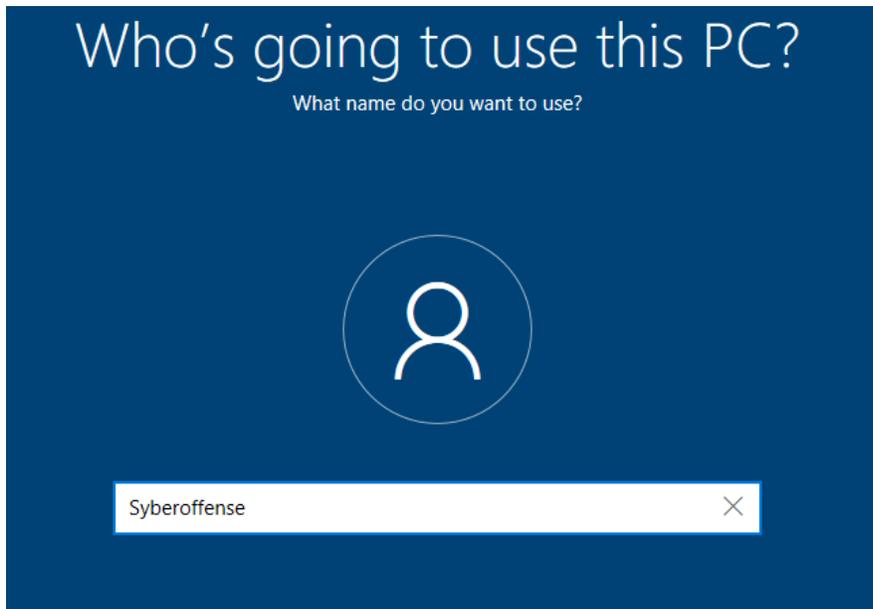
Who's going to use this PC?
What name do you want to use?

Syberoffense

Type in a password. Click Next.

Create a super memorable password
There's no way to retrieve a lost password for this kind of account, so make sure to pick something you'll be absolutely sure to remember.

Confirm your password.

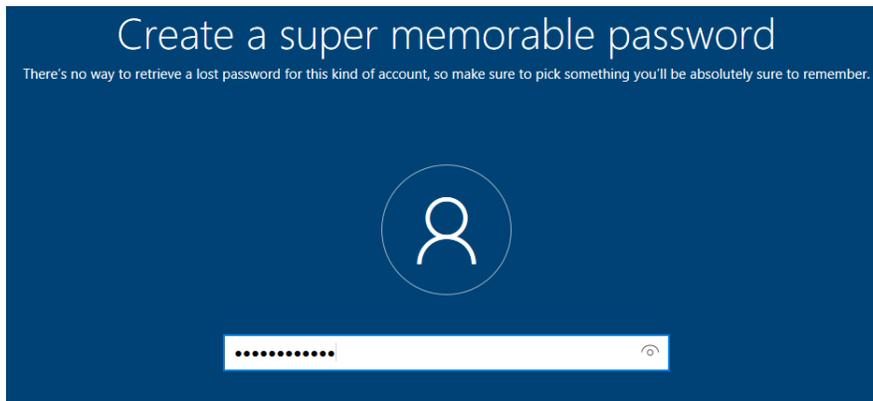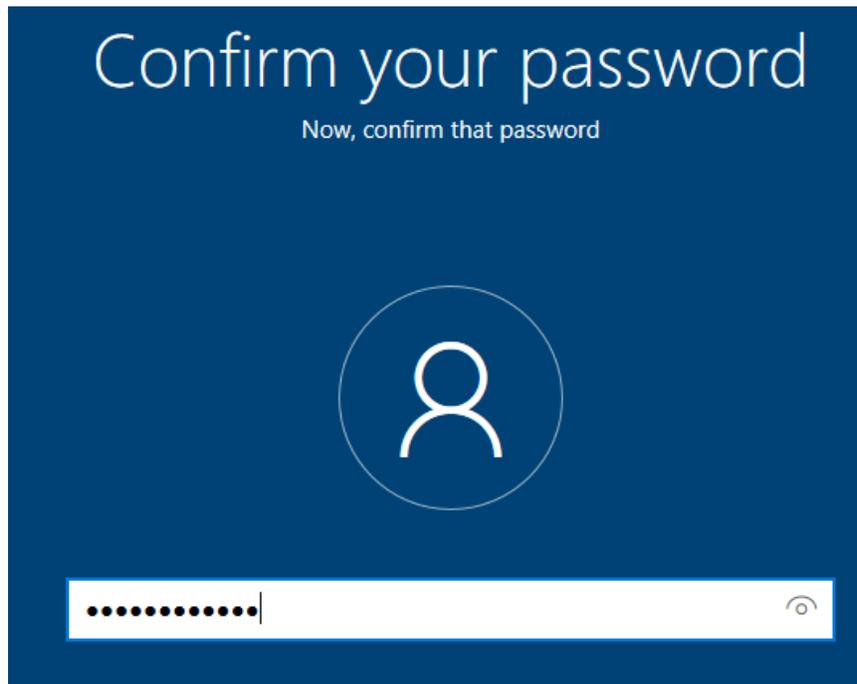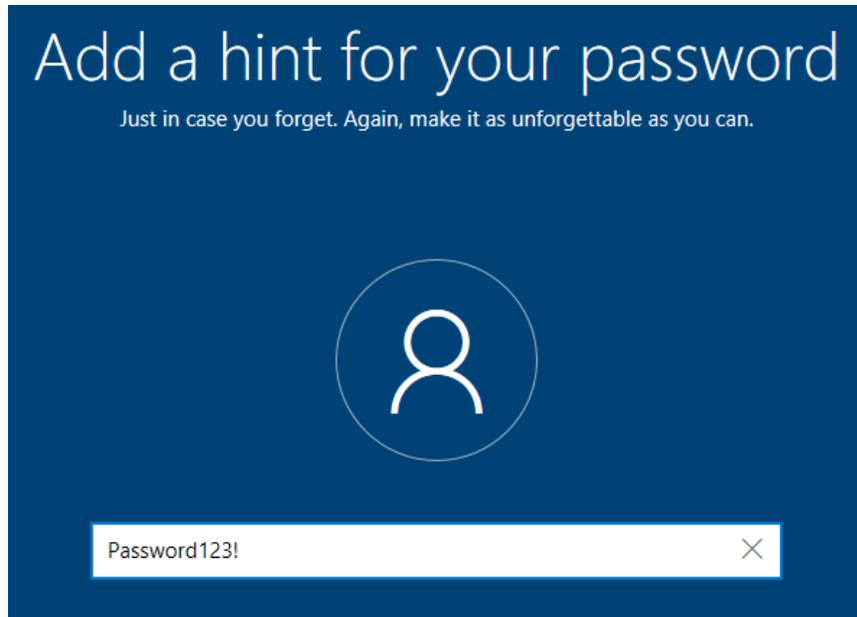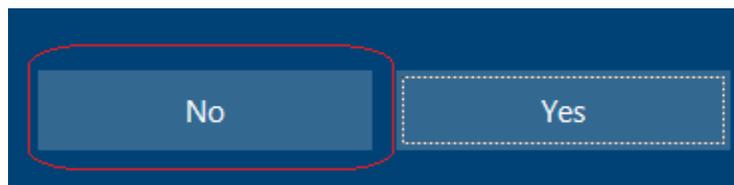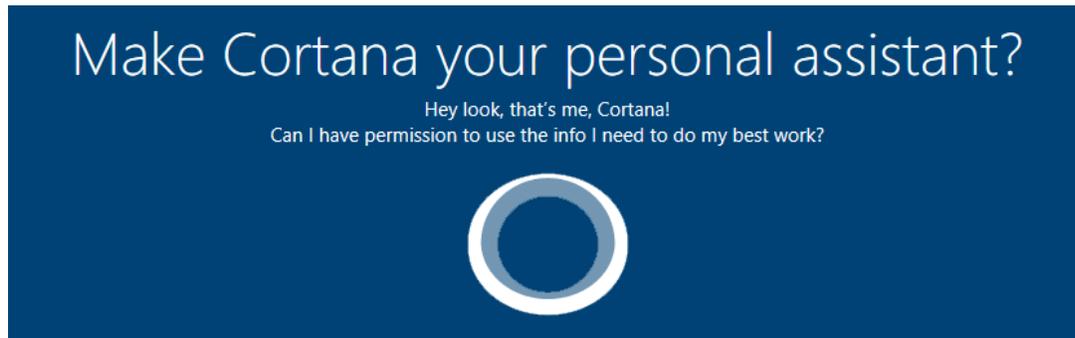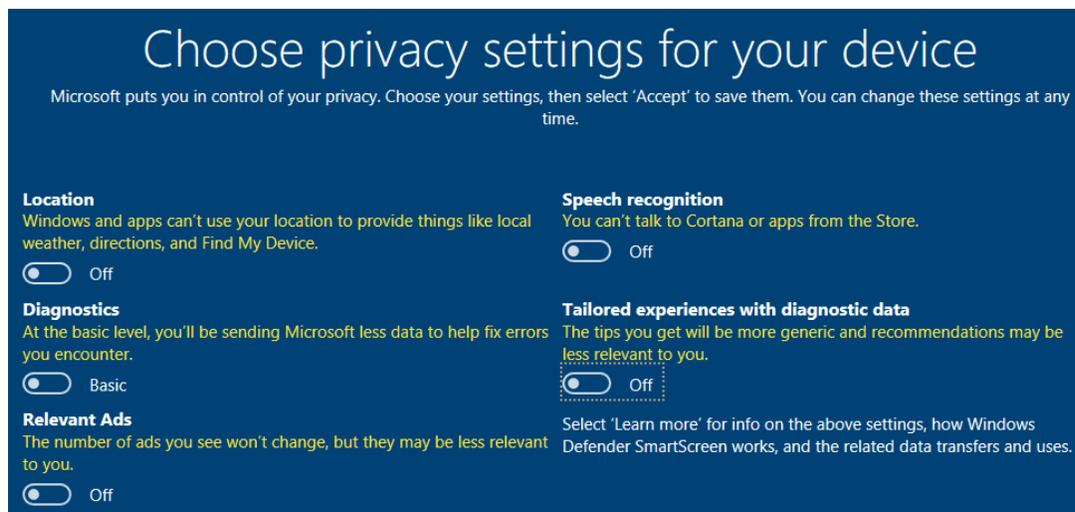Add a hint for your password. Click next.

Disable Cortana…or not.

Make Cortana your personal assistant?

Hey look, that's me, Cortana!
Can I have permission to use the info I need to do my best work?

| No | Yes |

Select your privacy settings. Click accept.

Choose privacy settings for your device

Microsoft puts you in control of your privacy. Choose your settings, then select 'Accept' to save them. You can change these settings at any time.

Location
Windows and apps can't use your location to provide things like local weather, directions, and Find My Device.
Off

Speech recognition
You can't talk to Cortana or apps from the Store.
Off

Diagnostics
At the basic level, you'll be sending Microsoft less data to help fix errors you encounter.
Basic

Tailored experiences with diagnostic data
The tips you get will be more generic and recommendations may be less relevant to you.
Off

Relevant Ads
The number of ads you see won't change, but they may be less relevant to you.
Off

Select 'Learn more' for info on the above settings, how Windows Defender SmartScreen works, and the related data transfers and uses.

At last!

We're getting everything ready for you

Once the desktop appears, you may be asked if you want Windows 10 to be discoverable by other devices. I always choose no, but you free to select yes.
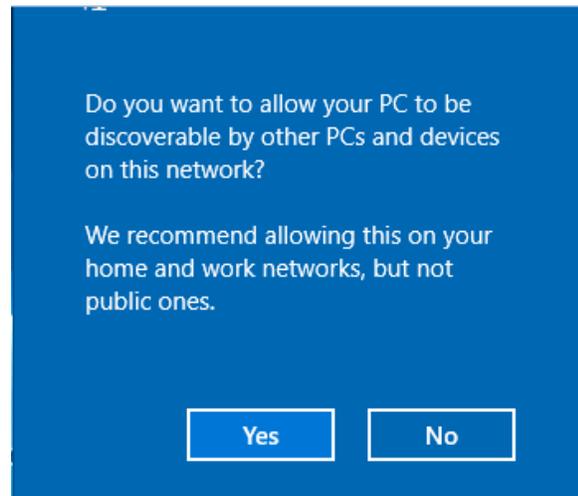
Your Windows 10 client is ready for prime time. In Section 3, we will optimize and add your Windows 10 client to your new Server 2012 or 2016 domain.

End of the lab!