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How to add an XP Mode Virtual Machine to Windows 10 (or 8) using Hyper-V

How to add an XP Mode Virtual Machine to Windows 10 (or 8) using Hyper-V

by Mihai Neacsu on 15 October 2014 - 976812 views

Support for Windows XP has ended, and, although unofficial service packs exist, a better and safer idea would be to run XP as a virtual machine under your current OS if you still need to do some testing under XP.

If you have an XP Setup ISO or an XP installation disc, creating a virtual machine running XP is much easier, but if you don't, you can follow the tutorial below to install XP Mode under Windows 10. It works for Windows 8/8.1 Pro as well.

Notes

a) The resulting virtual machine will run XP **non-activated**, without a license key, and you can use it for 30 days before it locks down. After the 30 days run out, you can re-create the virtual machine once again and use it for another 30 days, and so on. This is definitely not convenient for continuous use but will due just fine for testing old software or malware, for example. Alternatively, if you have an old XP license lying around, you c

b) If your Windows 8/8.1 or 10 does not include Hyper-V (test that by doing step 4 below — the Home editions for instance don't include Hyper-V), then you won't be able to do this tutorial. You can still create an XP virtual machine using VMWare Player or VirtualBox, by following this tutorial: "How to test Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista, XP for Free, Legally".

XP Mode was introduced for Windows 7 (Professional, Enterprise, or Ultimate) users as a way to run software designed for XP in Windows 7. For Windows 7 users, installing the XP Mode is easy: download XP mode, run the installer, done. Since Windows 8 or 10 does not support XP Mode, we'll need to extract the virtual hard drive in XP Mode and run it as a virtual machine. Here's what you need to do:

1. Download XP Mode
2. Install 7-zip
3. Extract VirtualXPVHD from the XP Mode file
4. Enable Hyper-V
5. Create a Virtual Machine running VirtualXPVHD
6. Run the virtual machine
7. Rejoice
8. Or not, and make the internet connection work on the XP VM

1. Download the XP Mode from Microsoft

XP Mode is available for download directly from Microsoft: **Download Here**. Clicking the red download button on that page will give you the choice in the image below.

The difference between WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe and WindowsXPMode_N_en-us.exe is that the version with N in it does not contain Windows Media Player. Choose the one you want, click Next and continue with the download.

Alternatively, you can download WindowsXPMode_N_en-us.exe from **Developer Link 3** on this page on Download3k.

2. Install 7-zip

Note: If you are unable to do step 2 and 3 below, using 7-zip, then you can try a different compression utility, such as WinRar, WinZip, Bandizip (one of our favorites here at Download3k), etc. This problem has been pointed out a few times in the comments section.

Download 7-zip (Download3k mirror) and install it. It's important to install the 32-bit (also called x86) version of 7-zip for a 32-bit operating system and the 64-bit (also called x64) version for a 64-bit OS, since the x64 version won't work on x86 and the x86 version won't run with context menu on x64 machines. We'll need context menu for 7-zip to make extracting easier.

Skip to Step 3 if you know what type of system you're in.

If you are not sure if you have a x86 or x64 operating system installed, you can find this out in several ways. Here are 2:

a) Press **Win+X** (this opens the Power User Menu) and select System. Look under **System > System type** for the OS type you have installed.

or

b) Click **Start** (or press the Win key) and type **PC Info**. Look under **System type** and find out the type of OS you're running.

Now that you know what type of OS you have installed, download and install the corresponding version of 7-zip.

3. Use 7-zip to extract its contents

a) Right-click the file downloaded at Step 1 above and select **7-zip** > **Extract Here** or **Extract to "WindowsXPMode_en-us"** (or the filename you downloaded)
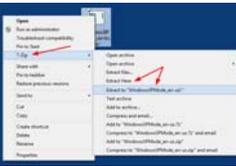
b) After extraction, browse to **Sources** and notice the **xpm** file. **Right click** on xpm and choose **7-zip** > **Open archive**.

Quick tip: If you don't see the Sources folder at this time, go back one step and from the same 7-zip right-click context menu, choose open archive as CAB, instead of extracting to "WindowsXPMode_en-us", then pick up from there.

Notice the VirtualXPVHD file.

c) **Extract** it to a location of your choice. **Rename** it to **VirtualXPVHD.vhd**.

d) **Clean up**. You can go ahead and delete the file downloaded in Step 1 and all the other files extracted from it, except for VirtualXPVHD.vhd.

In order to use the .vhd image in a virtual machine, you can either use VirtualBox or the built-in Windows Virtualization called Hyper-V. Since VirtualBox is currently experiencing some bugs under Windows 10, we'll cover the Hyper-V method below.

4. Activate Hyper-V on your Windows 10

By default, Windows 10, just as Windows 8 did, comes with a few features disabled, including the Hyper-V technology.

a) In order to enable Hyper-V, you need to go to **Win+X** (opens the power user menu) > **Control Panel > Programs > Turn Windows features on or off**, under Programs and Features.
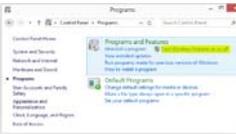
Alternatively, you can open the Run command (**Win+R**) or do a search (**Win+S**) and enter **optionalfeatures**, then hit **Enter**.

b) This will open a new window where you must tick the box near **Hyper-V**, as shown in the image below, then click **OK**.

You will be prompted to restart. Do so. Upon re-entering Windows, Hyper-V will be enabled. The image above shows the Hyper-V options under Windows 8.1 - it looks similar in Windows 10.

If some of your Hyper-V options are grayed out, you should restart, enter BIOS and enable virtualization there first. BIOS menus are different from manufacturer to manufacturer, so you should search for settings regarding Virtualization, Data Execution Prevention (DEP), and SLAT. Enable them and restart.

If you don't see **Hyper-V Platform** or it appears grayed out in the 'Windows Features' window above, then you won't be able to create a virtual machine using Hyper-V.

Tip: check Hyper-V hardware compatibility by opening up PowerShell or Command Prompt (cmd.exe) and entering **systeminfo.exe**. It should list, under Hyper-V Requirements:

VM Monitor Mode Extensions: **Yes**
Virtualization Enabled In Firmware: **Yes**
Second Level Address Translation: **Yes**
Data Execution Prevention Available: **Yes**

5. Create a virtual machine for XP Mode in Hyper-V Manager

a) Open Hyper-V Manager by clicking **Start** (or press the Win key) and type **Hyper-V Manager**, then **Enter**.

Alternatively, you can open Start or Run (Win+R) and enter Virtmgmt.msc, then Enter.

b) Make sure your local virtualization server is selected.
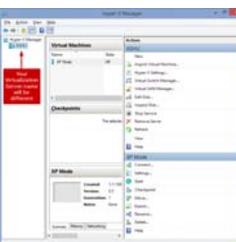
If the left pane shows no Hyper-V servers (your local host computer) to connect to, then select the "Hyper-V Manager" in the left pane, click "Connect to server" on the right pane, select "Local computer" in the dialog that follows and click "OK".

c) **Optional**: If you need an internet connection for your virtual machine, you need to setup a virtual switch by going to **Action > Virtual Switch Manager**, in the Hyper-V Manager window.

Here you can create an External Virtual Switch, linked to your physical network card. Make sure the box **Allow management operating system to share this network adapter** is checked.

- **Share**
-
-
-
-
-
- Up

This default type of network connection does not work for XP and Vista so, if at the end of the tutorial you still don't have an internet connection for your XP VM, see the troubleshooting part.

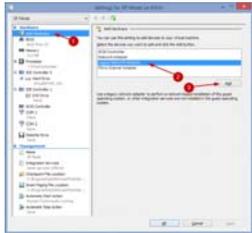d) Click **Action > New > Virtual Machine**. This will open an wizard.

e) Click Next and, in the next window, **specify a name** for your server.

f) In the next window, select **Generation 1**. (Generation 2 is only used for Windows 8 64-bit or newer and Windows Server 2012 or newer guest operating systems)

g) Specify an amount of **RAM** in the next window. 512 MB or 1024 MB should do it.

h) In the next window you can **configure networking**. If you need to use internet, you must redo the procedure from step a) and don't skip step c). If you don't need internet for your XP VM, press **Next**.

i) Select **Use an existing virtual hard disk** and browse for the **VirtualXPVHD.vhd** file from Step 3, as shown below. The Location path will vary in your case.

j) Click **Next** for Summary, than **Finish**.

Your XP Virtual Machine is now created.

6. Run the virtual machine

You need to connect to your newly created XP virtual machine and start it. There are several ways to do that.

a) One way is to click **Connect** under your XP VM, in the right Actions column, as shown below.

b) In the new window that opens, click the green **Start** button. See the image below for clarification.

c) The first time you start the VM, it will do the last steps of a regular XP installation. It won't go through the full XP installation, but you'll still need to agree to Terms, pick a computer name, set time and date, language and, after a final reboot, it will prompt you to configure updates.

That's it. If everything went ok, you should now have a working XP Virtual Machine inside your Windows 10 (or 8).

Alternatively, you can read this guide "How to test Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista, XP for Free, Legally" and see if it suits your needs better.

Later edit to cover network connectivity troubleshooting:

Make the Internet work on the XP Virtual Machine

If the internet connection is not working on your newly created XP Virtual Machine, here's what you can try:

1. Turn off the XP Virtual Machine.
2. Open its settings window. You can do this in several ways:
   - a) From the Hyper-V Manager, select the XP Virtual Machine and, in the right hand pane, click Settings.

- b) If the XP VM window is active, you can click File > Settings.

3. In the Settings window, simply Add Hardware > Legacy Network Adapter. The Add Hardware option is the first one in the Settings window.

4. Make sure the Legacy Network Adapter is set to use the previously created Virtual Switch (External).

5. Click Apply/OK and start the XP VM again.

It should result in a quick driver install in the VM and, afterwards, the network should work inside the VM.

#windows #windows 10 #windows xp #windows 8 #how tos #virtual machine #hyperv

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| VirtualBox 5.1.18... | Windows To Go... | Windows 10, 8, 7... | the Windows 10... |

Comments (154)

kshu on 5 Feb 2017
Report

@strykow, try this http://www.techrepublic.com/blog/windows-and-office/make-usb-devices-accessible-to-a-windows-xp-virtual-machine/.

It basically shows you how to connect to the VM via remote desktop connection instead of the regular hyper-v way. When connected with a remote desktop connection, you can use local resources as well, such as printers and USB.

You may not even need to go that far for what you need. Simply creating a shared folder between the VM and the host might work.

strykow on 3 Feb 2017
Report

Hi, can I access USB drives this way? Cheers

djov on 20 Dec 2016
Report

So, I believe I've resolved an old issue which was "What do I do when XP expires on my Hyper-V VM?". I have source files I need and don't want to lose. Once XP expires, you're toast and you can't get to them and need to re-install XP. If t his happens to you the files are accessible by right-clicking on the VHD file and copying them to another drive. Unfortunately you still need to re-install XP but at least you don't lose your data.
https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/kb/2724115

chesterschuler on 15 Sep 2016
Report

After completing all of the steps through #5 the manage -HyperV window indicated that no virtual window was found. What should I do?

1967beaumont on 20 Aug 2016
Report

Find an old version of xp online. Mine activated no problem. If anyone can figure out why there's no sound or proper video drivers please post.
Show more comments

djov on 18 Aug 2016
Report

Still no luck getting XP activated, phone support for XP activation has been discontinued. When I attempt to activate on the XP VM I get "Online activation can not be completed at this time.". I'll report back if figure it out. Thanks.

kshu on 17 Aug 2016
Report

I have not tried to activate XP recently so I can't advise you on this one. If you do manage to activate it, I'd appreciate a follow-up here, with your recent experience.

djov on 16 Aug 2016
Report

So, although I now have connectivity to the internet I'm unable to activate Windows XP. I select "Activate Windows" from the Start Menu but after some time it says it can't connect to the Activate Server. I wonder if this feature is still enabled? It appears that someone attempted to activate their license not that long ago but I also see your comment about needing to reinstall Windows XP every 60 days when it expires. Perhaps I need to call Microsoft Support as someone else tried. I have a valid license but just can't get a prompt to enter it on my VM.

djov on 16 Aug 2016
Report

Excellent suggestion. I do get a response when I ping google.com and other sites. I brought up the browser this morning in the XP VM and discovered that it had upgraded to IE 8 (I had automatic updates turned on). I'm now able to reach Google, though it's slow. Thanks for your help!

kshu on 16 Aug 2016
Report

What happens when you open a CMD and ping google.com or other sites?

djov on 15 Aug 2016
Report

Thanks for confirming your process kshu. I deleted the legacy adapter and created it again selecting my wireless network. When I restarted my XP VM I do get www.msn.com by default with the latest news. I can also browse for www.microsoft.com but most of the graphics did not load, just a bunch of text links like "Home" and "Store Home" along the left side of the page. It fails on www.google.com and other popular sites. I turned off the firewall and it didn't help. Same problem with the console or remote desktop. Seems like some soft of security issue on the VM?

kshu on 15 Aug 2016
Report

Hi djov. I made no changes to TCM. I kept everything default and I only created a virtual switch with the following options: external network and "allow management etc". Then added a legacy network adapter using that network switch. And it worked. I have not tried this in a while, but I doubt it won't work due to changes in the latest Win 10 update.

djov on 11 Aug 2016
Report

kshu. Great article, thanks for all your help. Sadly, I have one big problem yet, no internet on my VM running XP Pro. I've tried the steps above, "Make the internet work on the XP virtual machine.", but no connectivity. I'm running Windows 10 and work wireless from home. I have XP running, it generates a valid IP and I can connect to it via Remote Desktop. However, no internet. Are there any IP changes I need to make to TCP on the VM?

danstocd on 4 Aug 2016
Report

Just a heads-up, I have lots (OK, 4) old XP Home licenses, but this requires an XP Pro license. It defaults to using my old Windows 7 license, but I contacted Microsoft, and they said I can't use that license because it's already in use for my Win7 -> Win 10 installation.

kshu on 1 Aug 2016
Report

kathyd, try this https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/kb/328874
Show more comments

kathyd on 31 Jul 2016
Report

thank you, Kshu. I waited (for an hour) and the xp activation never popped up. so I did the other thing very carefully and I get the message that "windows cannot find..."
I have rechecked what I typed several times. any other way?

kshu on 31 Jul 2016
Report

Hi tkkathyd. If you wait a few minutes, the XP activation pop-up in the bottom right system tray will pop up. If not, you can go to Start > Run, then type "%SYSTEMROOT%\system32\oobe\msoobe.exe /A", without the quotes. You will get a message telling you if XP is activated or not. If XP is not activated, you can continue with entering the product key.

kathyd on 28 Jul 2016
Report

hi, I have followed your instructions and have XP now loaded and working properly in the Hyper drive on Windows 10. Now I have found my old XP product key and want to install it before the deadline. I can't find where to do that. I am not very "techie", so if you could dumb down any instructions, I would appreciate it.

rpcode on 23 Jun 2016
Report

I have an Epson Perfection 3200 Photo flatbed scanner, whose control panel software only works under Windows XP. I built my 64-bit PC with Windows 7 Professional, which could not run the Epson software, even in compatibility mode, but I was able to install the emulator (VirtualPC and WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe) and it worked fine that way. Incidentally, I didn't have the 30-day registration limit, either. Life was nice. Then, Microsoft released Windows 10, and I'm pretty much obligated to move to the new OS (I'm of that sad species known as IT support). Of course, VirtualPC didn't migrate over to Windows 10, and I couldn't find an equivalent arrangement using Hyper-V. The instructions on this article are the closest I've found, even after asking on the Microsoft forum. I installed Windows XP on Hyper-V using the same WindowsXPMode_en-us file that I used for Windows 7, per the instructions in this article. Of course, now I have a 30-day registration notice.

I installed my Epson software, but I cannot get the VM to see my USB devices (such as my scanner). I have the option to use Enhanced Mode when available, but it is grayed out in this case. I found a Microsoft page that says to use VMConnect, but I can't find the "Show Options" button that it shows in its illustration.

https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn282274%28v=ws.11%29.aspx?f=255&MSPPError=-2147217396

Does anyone have any suggestions how I could get my VM machine to see my USB scanner?

Thank you.

kshu on 5 Jun 2016
Report

Well, a checkpoint does include the programs installed and all other changes done to the XP VM up to that point, but it does not freeze the 30 days activation period.

If you do activate the XP VM with your existing XP license, then you should be able to use it without having to reinstall it every other 30 days. Maybe also create a checkpoint for backup reasons.

If you don't have an XP license key, you can re-arm the OS 4 times (120 days), logged in as administrator. In a command prompt, run C:\windows\system32\rundll32.exe syssetup,SetupOobeBnk. You won't get a confirmation message or anything. You can re-arm 4 times if the 30 days trial hasn't expired yet. If the 30 days period has expired, you can only re-arm 2 more times, and you must log in in Safe mode first.

More on the re-arm process:
- https://www.google.com/search?q=xp+rearm

svenf on 4 Jun 2016
Report

Hm, that surprises me, I wood have expected the checkpoint snapshots to include the software I installed on top of it (what about all those Windows updates, would those have to be re-installed as well..? There are still a good bunch of them based on MS's official XP Mode image).

Either way, I still had a version of XP on a older laptop in my garage; I could use its license to activate XP in my VM so fortunately I no longer have the silly 30 day problem.

Again thanks for your time a drink expertise!

kshu on 4 Jun 2016
Report

svenf, you'll need to reinstall the programs each time you rebuild the vm, but if you do find a workaround for this, please share it.

To make the process of recreating the VM easier, you can create one checkpoint before step 6 in the tutorial above, just before starting the Windows XP VM for the first time, and just use that checkpoint instead of a complete re-install of the VM.

About checkpoints:
- https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn818483(v=ws.11).aspx
- https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/virtualization/hyperv_on_windows/user_guide/checkpoints

svenf on 3 Jun 2016
Report

Hi Mihai, thank you so much for your effort to put together these instructions, everything works just fine for me on Win 10, including web access in XP. One question - your comment "re-create the virtual machine every 30 days" - do I need to re-download a fresh vhd file every time or can I just re-create a VM as described and point to the previously used image file (so that I don't need to reinstall the software I want to test every time that happen)?

kshu on 16 May 2016
Report

Glad to hear that, @alexfrantiuc. Regarding vm-host sharing, see a few comments below. You can basically try a regular shared folder via the local network. The XP vm and the host must be on the same workgroup.

alexfrantiuc on 13 May 2016
Report

Hi Mihai,
Thank you for the article, it worked from the first try. I have a small questions: How do I move files from my win 10 to the virtual XP? Or maybe there is a solution to connect my external hdd or the other partitions?
Show more comments

rtb on 3 May 2016
Report

The downloaded XP file in step 1 does not show 7-zip (V 15.14) when you right-click. It is a self-extracting .exe file.
When I click "open" or "run as admin" I get "Windows XP mode is only on WIN 7 operating system"

grizzledgeezer on 25 Apr 2016
Report

I have a notebook computer running W7p64 on which I've installed the VM and XP emulator. * This allows me to run software that accesses a serial port (in this case, a USB-to-serial adapter) so I can communicate with my Panasound system controller, LEGO ris tower, and obsolete Brother "PC" label-making machine.

If I install W10 over W7, what will happen? Will the VM be wiped out and have to be reinstalled? Or will it continue and the apps continue to operate?

Thanks.

* For some reason, my desktop -- also running W7p64 -- refuses to install the VM. This isn't a problem, though, because the ProBook 4530s, being portable, is a much more convenient platform for addressing the controller and tower.

virtualall on 10 Apr 2016
Report

Thanks again kshu. The shared folder works as you suggested (I don't know why I didn't think of it...) But I tried the link you suggested to get the RDC. Following the instructions it works but one way only. I need to repeat the process and see why theVM can see the host but not the other way around. Thanks again.

kshu on 7 Apr 2016
Report

@virtualall, try this http://www.techrepublic.com/blog/windows-and-office/make-usb-devices-accessible-to-a-windows-xp-virtual-machine/.

It basically shows you how to connect to the VM via remote desktop connection instead of the regular hyper-v way. When connected with a remote desktop connection, you can use local resources as well, such as printers and USB.

You may not even need to go that far for what you need. Simply creating a shared folder between the VM and the host might work.

Don't know about the frozen mouse problem, I haven't experienced that at all. Maybe reinstalling the mouse drivers would help.

jidemag24 on 4 Apr 2016
Report

kshu on 15 Mar 2016:
Unfortunately you were correct about re-using my Virtual PC/XP-Mode license #! It will not work. So following other comments I found, I called Microsoft! BIG WASTE OF TIME. First, I had hard time with the language barrier. Second they refused to understand my comments or replies to their statements! I tried hard to get them to explain why in Windows 7 Pro, I could install Virtual PC then get a free XP Mode license, but that license applied to me on the same PC would not be available on my upgrade to Windows 10! Anyhow, they continuously warned me about using XP because it is no longer supported by Microsoft for security updates. I informed them that did not matter to me as I did not use it on the internet, but only to run a database program with all my records and forms that the manufacturer stop supporting or upgrading after Win 95, but it would run on XP. I also informed them the program mfg site denoted to run the program in a VM! So now when I launch XP in Virtualbox, it tells it is not genuine! I do not really care if it is genuine, I got it from MS! So I launch Virtualbox, open my XP VHD, launch my program, use my thumb drive to access and update my database, print the needed forms , save, close and then back to Win 10.

virtualall on 1 Apr 2016
Report

Does anyone know how to access a USB storage drive from the XP Virtual Machine? The Device Manager in the System info does not show a tab for USB although the XP machine was created using the VirtualXPVHD.vhd file from the download link in the instructions above.

Thanks

Also, has anyone solved the frozen mouse problem yet?

kshu on 15 Mar 2016
Report

XP Mode comes with a pre-installed license key. Once you extracted the .vhd and ran it in Virtualbox, it became a regular XP virtual machine, not an XP Mode. Therefore I don't think the included license key will work here. If you talk to MS about this problem, I'm curious of what solution they will provide. If you don't mind sharing the experience afterwards, I'd appreciate it.

jidemag24 on 14 Mar 2016
Report

Thanks kshu; I still need to do more work but I did find after running "sysinfo.exe" that Virtualization Enabled in Firmware is NO. Maybe my AMD Athlon x3 processor or the ASUS motherboard do not support it! So this may stop me from using Hyper-V. But I did download Oracle Virtualbox, following the steps, then finding my original Virtual PC/XP Mode vhd, extracted '.CAB' the xpm, renamed with '.vhd'. Used it to launch XP in Virtualbox. Odd but even though it was the original vhd, it did not access any of the files I had on it when accessed in Win7/Virtual PC/XP-mode! Also odd is I also found the XP-mode license#. typed it in and it was not recognized! I guess I will call MS to get activated then. Any other thoughts or recommendations? Thank You

kshu on 12 Mar 2016
Report

Hi Jidemag24. If the old VHD is a file with the .vhd extension, then yes, you can probably use that .vhd file with this tutorial. You can skip steps 1-3.

jidemag24 on 10 Mar 2016
Report

I have been reading these comments and did not see one that details my concern. I have a Win7 Pro desktop that I have virtual PC /WinXP Mode running on. I now upgraded to Win X and then learn Virtual PC but no XP-mode link. I activated Hyper V and now can see my VHD from previous virtual setup.(my computer) Is there a way to use that VHD? Or do I still need to download the new "WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe"? If so what then should I do with that VHD "D:'? Delete it? Interesting that on the VHD can find the old XP games such as solitaire, pinball, minesweeper, etc. and that they will open and play, just cannot find the XP operation system!
Show more comments

gtytaar on 2 Mar 2016
Report

Hi Woody1996, this tutorial decompresses the entire content of the file downloadable from microsoft. Once downloades and decompressed with 7-file or WinRar (I've used WinRar as kurxos) you will find a folder. Inside this folder there is a subfolder called Sources that contains a file of 478955Kbytes called simply xpm. Right click and extract the content of this file on its same folder (xpm~).

Inside this xpm~ folder you will fins the 1.182.241Kbytes VirtualXPVHD file with no extension you must rename to VirtualXPVHD.vhd (simply adding the dot and the vhd extension).
Hope it will be useful for you, and finally you can enjoy Age of Empires again.

kurxos on 11 Feb 2016
Report

i recommand to use winrar for extracting file 7-zip didnt work for me !!! then you gonne see xpm file in source folder

woody1996 on 5 Feb 2016
Report

Someone please help me, i'm fairly new to computers and only bought one because i wanted to play age of empires, i am stuck on stage 3 where it says 'b) After extraction. browse to Sources and notice the xpm file. Right click on xpm and choose 7-zip > Open archive.' I can't find the xpm file and can't understand what it means by 'browse to sources'

dpe4250 on 31 Jan 2016
Report

Hi kshu. You are right. I moved the .vhd to C drive and it worked. Thank you for your help. It has accepted my registration key happily and all is well. Do you know where I can find instructions that will show me how to read/write to my actual D drive?

kshu on 29 Jan 2016
Report

I'm thinking maybe the .vhd file is corrupted or is found in a location that can't be accessed by Hyper-V.

dpe4250 on 29 Jan 2016
Report

Greetings kshu :) I decided that the best thing to do would be to remove the VM I created before and start over at step 5a and very carefully do each step as laid out. At 5i I followed the instruction to browse for the file VirtualXPVHD.vhd that you asked me to report on previously. It looked good, everything appeared to be as it should so I began to get a bit hopeful. I clicked 'Next' for the summary and waited for a few seconds and then an error message appeared. Its text is entered below:-
An error occurred when attempting to retrieve the virtual hard disc "\\MYSERVERPC\Data (D)\Drivers\Win 10\WinXP Mode\VirtualXPVHD.vhd" on server DAI5DPC.
There followed more information such as "Failed to get the disc information"
and "System cannot find the file specified"
At that point there were no options available but to click "Close" on that dialog box. There was a bit of activity for a moment then a second error message appeared:-
"The Virtual Machine Management Service encountered an error while configuring the hard disc on your Virtual Machine".
After that the only logical choice was to "Cancel".
Comments?

kshu on 28 Jan 2016
Report

What exactly did you do in step 5i? Did you browse for the VirtualXPVHD.vhd file on your disk?

dpe4250 on 28 Jan 2016
Report

Hello kshu. The size of my VirtualXPVHD.vhd file is reported variously as 1,184,290KB in the folder window details and as 1,212,712,448 bytes in the properties dialog if I right click on the file. The settings window on my machine are the same as the image that you provided except for one small detail - the Hard Drive under the IDE Controller 0 is named "New Virtual Machine.vhdx". I saw the comment from iSaaaa but since I was making progress with your help and with the suggestion from spotslear I carried on. You might be interested to know that afer I submitted my last comment I noticed that in the BIOS settings CD was the priority of the boot order. I put in my old WinXP installation disc and it looked like it was installing from 'scratch'. However it eventually said that it was the wrong disc. I had another installation disc which I tried but that disc was not recognised at all.

kshu on 27 Jan 2016
Report

In step 3c, what is the exact size of your VirtualXPVHD.vhd file? In the settings window for your XP VM, do you have Use VirtualXPVHD.vhd as a hard drive? The settings window for the XP VM looks like this http://www.download3k.com/article_images/0/770/full_15_ef1a23708252a9717091d0b4b677537t.png (ignore the arrows there because the screenshot was taken for a different step in the tutorial).

Earlier in the comments, @iSaaaa encountered the same error. He said that "I solve problem, when I delete all files and repeat installation".

dpe4250 on 27 Jan 2016
Report

Thank you kshu and thank you spiritboar. By combining the advice from both of you I managed to get right through to step 6b - Run the VM. When I click 'Start' I get the following error:-
"Boot failure. Reboot and Select proper Boot device or Insert Boot Media in selected Boot device,"
Any suggestions?
Show more comments

spiritboar on 26 Jan 2016
Report

@dye4250, I had the same problem when extracting with 7-Zip but after some trial and error I figured out, that I had to open the file as a 'cab' archive by doing this:

Right click WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe --> 7-Zip --> Open Archive > --> cab

This lets you extract the correct files including the 'sources' folder.

kshu on 26 Jan 2016
Report   Up

Are you using 7-zip or another archiver? You could try Bandizip as an alternative.

Making an XP VM is also easier with this tutorial: http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-test-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-for-Free-Legally-01181.

dye4250 on 26 Jan 2016
Report

Thank you for the swift response to my query. I downloaded the file as directed and it is reported as being 469MB. Unfortunately when I open the archive the list of files is the same as I mentioned previously and 'Sorces' is not one of them. I have repeated the sequence of downloading and extracting very carefully a total of 4 times now - always with the same result. I downloaded from both of the sites that were suggested - witht he same outcome each time. Any other ideas?

kshu on 25 Jan 2016
Report

Try this, dye4250: http://imgur.com/a/4dq86. Then follow with step 3c from the tutorial. After downloading WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe check to see if it has the correct size on your disk, 469.8 MB.

dye4250 on 25 Jan 2016
Report

Hi - I'm stuck at step 3b because I cannot locate 'Source' after extracting the downloaded file 'WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe'. I can see 4 items - .rsrc; .data; .text; CERTIFICATE; but no Source. What have I misunderstood?

kshu on 20 Jan 2016
Report

@aaaa, this might be exactly what you're looking for http://www.techrepublic.com/blog/windows-and-office/make-usb-devices-accessible-to-a-windows-xp-virtual-machine/. It's a lengthy explanation so I rather not cover it here.

aaaa on 19 Jan 2016
Report

Sorry, but I solve problem, when I delete all files and repeat installation. Now I need to add existing HDD to see it from XP machine, as weel I did not find, how to attach USB ports to machine... Can You help ? I have old HP printer-scanner HP Color LaserJet 2840 and scanning software don't exist for Win7-Win10. When I try Install it on machine - I get message, that I need USB ports. Probably software think, that printer attached to USB, but I have printer in network. Thak You.

kshu on 19 Jan 2016
Report

@aaaa, in step 3c, what is the exact size of your VirtualXPVHD.vhd file?

aaaa on 19 Jan 2016
Report

When I start XP machine (6b) first time, I get message:
Boot failure. Reboot and Select proper Boot device or Insert Boot Media in selected Boot device.
Please help what was wrong? I try to folow all instructions and try to install machine on Win10
Thank You

ik2rpe on 11 Jan 2016
Report

Re: memo on Jan. 3 statement: "Also I don't see any of the drives of the Lenovo. When I installed xpmode on a windows 7 machine I used to be able to see the other disks as shared disks. "
I have not seen comments on this issue.
I have same problem, to overpass it I make some "tricks" saving files in Dropbox (back and forth).
Show more comments

polrosmo on 4 Jan 2016
Report

Thanks for this very helpful article!

Re: Memo - to release your mouse cursor press ctrl+alt+left arrow which will release your cursor into the "root" OS. Each time you click into the virtual machine, you'll have to follow the above step to get back out.

memo on 3 Jan 2016
Report

I followed the directions above on a windows 10 professional Lenovo. XP loaded but the mouse is trapped in side it until I shut it down. Also I don't see any of the drives of the Lenovo. When I installed xpmode on a windows 7 machine I used to be able to see the other disks as shared disks.
I also have a question regarding registering windows. I have old CDs with windows xp on them and I have the number I used. I assume I use those numbers to register this windows but I don't know how.

echomagic on 27 Dec 2015
Report

Thank you for such clear instructions. Everything went well except the VM will not connect to the internet. I loaded the Legacy, now when I go back to its settings it is greyed out. Any help on this?

kshu on 26 Dec 2015
Report

Glad to hear that, ik2rpe. Merry Xmas :). tylerkveinot, I'm happy to see you found a solution as well.

ik2rpe on 26 Dec 2015
Report

Hi KSHU,
Thank you for the Xmas gift. Everything is now perfectly working with great joy.
Thank you so much
Best regards
Ciao Carlo IK2RPE

gregsampson on 25 Dec 2015
Report

Excellent article very easy to follow. I was hoping I could still use XP mode in Windows . I like playing StarCraft Brood war hope it still plays well on my new rig.

kshu on 24 Dec 2015
Report

ik2rpe, try running this command in a cmd: bcdedit /set hypervisorlaunchtype Auto. Then reboot.

If it still does not work, try checking BIOS settings again and look for virtualization options. Also consider doing a BIOS firmware update, if one is available from your motherboard manufacturer.

tylerkveinot on 23 Dec 2015
Report

It simply doesn't exist, but I got the game working using DOSBOX so my root issue is solved now.

ik2rpe on 23 Dec 2015
Report

Yes I have the option "Hyper-V Platform" in step 4b working and thicked. Furthermore performing the TIP (Hyper-V hardware compatibility) there indicated I have 4 YES to the elements shown

Carlo IK2RPE

kshu on 22 Dec 2015
Report

Hi ik2rpe. Do you have the option "Hyper-V Platform" in step 4b or is it grayed out?
Show more comments

ik2rpe on 22 Dec 2015
Report

Having Windows 10 Pro I did the steps up to 5))
When i go to step 6 b) and I click the Start button a message appears saying (translated from Italian):
Impossible to start "XP Mode 4 Money".
Impossible to start the "XP Mode 4 Money" virtual machine as the hypervision is not running

Any help please?

Carlo

kshu on 4 Dec 2015
Report

Do you have Windows 10 Home? The Home edition does not include Hyper-V. You can try a different approach: http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-test-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-for-Free-Legally-01181.

tylerkveinot on 3 Dec 2015
Report

Tried this but when I go to Turn Off and On Windows Features there is no hyperV or Hyper anything in the list; what do I do?
Really want to play an old Win3.1 game that works on XP

richcaisco on 27 Nov 2015
Report

I had a problem at Step 5a, launching Hyper-V Manager. Even after setting all the right Windows Features, Hyper-V Manager was neither in Start Menu nor Search. I found the answer in "How To Enable, Configure and Use Hyper-V on Windows 10" by Kent Chen* at http://www.nextofwindows.com/how-to-enable-configure-and-use-hyper-v-on-windows-10
Mr. Chen had the same problem, and worked around it by adding Hyper-V manager as an Snap-in component to a blank MMC console as Mr. Chen suggested.

tallboyrip on 20 Oct 2015
Report

Just tried phoning Microsoft with the long product number set (9 groups of 6 number) to activate the Windows XP version I downloaded from the web. Alas it was declared as not genuine & MS refused to activate it. I guess I'll just have to rely on the Checkpoints route to use it. If I can find my original XP CD, I guess I could re-install it. Would that then generate a new set of numbers? I have one working PC with XP on it. Is there any way of extracting the set of nine numbers that must have been used for that machine? (Balarc Advisor just gives the product key.)

tallboyrip on 20 Oct 2015
Report

Thanks for the tip kshu - that was easily done!

kshu on 20 Oct 2015
Report

@tallboyrip, with Hyper-V you can also use Checkpoints (previously called Snapshots), which basically work like a restore point. You can do one before the trial period expires and then revert back to it anytime you wish. Later edit: I'm afraid Checkpoints won't work either because they will not revert the trial expiration date too. However, you can create one checkpoint before step 6 above, just before starting the Windows XP VM for the first time, and just use that checkpoint instead of a clean re-install of the VM.

tallboyrip on 20 Oct 2015
Report

Thanks for the tip kshu. I just got a Microsoft reminder that I have 17 days left to activate Windows XP. Let's hope (when I try registering the product key) it works! When setting up XP I chose not to connect to the Internet (as I don't have any XP stuff that needs an online connection) so I'll have to use the telephoning system.

kshu on 20 Oct 2015
Report

@alphaalext, what edition of Windows are you using? The Home edition comes without Hyper-V for example, in which case I recommend VMWare or Virtualbox via this guide http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-test-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-for-Free-Legally-01181.

@aucksy, you can just use File Sharing. By default, my XP VM and the host OS are on the same network. The XP VM has the name \dfwinxp, so on the host OS I just open File Explorer and enter \\xdfwinxp in the address bar. With File Sharing turned on, I can see the folders shared by the XP VM with other PCs on the network. Works the other way around as well: access the host OS from within the XP VM.

You can find the name used by the XP VM on the network by simply right-clicking My Computer > Properties > Computer Name. For Windows 10, you can find the name of the host PC by doing: Win key + X > System.

Another way of transferring files between the host OS and the VM is by setting up a remote desktop connection and connect to the VM that way. Then simply copy/paste between the VM and the host.

auckav on 20 Oct 2015
Report

Can anyone please tell me how do I do the most important thing i.e. to access my host machine files via windows xp?
Show more comments

on 19 Oct 2015
Report   • **Share**

There's no HyperV folder in Windows Features. Im stuck.

kshu on 19 Oct 2015
Report

@adnan, @maggerbee I'm glad you found this guide helpful.

@adnan, @maggerbee sound works fine for me. Did you check under Device Manager to see if the sound driver is installed?

@tallboyrip if you can't get to the Activate Windows screen, then you won't be able to use any key.

adnan on 19 Oct 2015
Report

Very helpful and easy method to apply..thanks for your help in easy way.

maggerbee on 10 Oct 2015
Report

Awesome tutorial! Allowed me to use my existing Windows XP Mode drive from before I upgraded to Windows 10. Then all I had to do was activate Windows using an old key I had. My only complaint is I can't figure out how to get sound to work.

tallboyrip on 9 Oct 2015
Report

Where is the KEY file located & how do you access it? Can you access it without starting up Virtual XP or must you do it from within XP? Once I know, I'll give it a try.

insanedude63 on 8 Oct 2015
Report

XP mode actually comes with its own key. If you rename the KEY file in the XPM file to KEY.txt you can get the code to activate. I believe it is the same for everyone

tallboyrip on 8 Oct 2015
Report

Hi kshu. I don't have an "Activate Windows" option in Systems Tools. However, I did install a routine written by a techie at How-to-Geek which retrieves your Windows Key. (He wrote this to retrieve his Windows 10 key after the free upgrade. It uses a VBScript Script file to retrieve the key.) It appears to work in Windows XP too and came up with a licence key, but where it came from, I don't know. Whether or not it will still work in 3-weeks time, remains to be seen!

I also did as you suggested regarding the pipe - which all would seem very logical, following the screenscast example, but alas, so far I haven't managed to get my Psion to 'talk' to the PsiWin application on the Virtual XP machine. I know the RS-232C-USB adapter works OK as I can get them to communicate using my Windows 7 netbook, so I'll have to try different physical USB ports and check the Windows 10 Device Manager to ensure the adapter is still listed as COM2.

kshu on 8 Oct 2015
Report

If you go to Start > All Programs > Accessories > System Tools, do you have an "Activate Windows" option there?

If you already have a CD Key for XP, you could try one of these VMs for XP: http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-test-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-for-Free-Legally-01181#download. I am currently using the one with "IE8 on XP" and it shows the 30 day activation check.

Regarding the pipe, let's assume your host PC is named tallboyripPC and you want to use the COM2 in the VM. You should select COM2 from the Hyper-V settings and name the pipe com2, then enter tallboyripPC for the remote computer. Did you try it like this? Example, but for COM1: http://www.screencast.com/t/iPkp5rhkA.

tallboyrip on 7 Oct 2015
Report

Thanks for the info kshu. I ran %SYSTEMROOT%/system32/oobe/msoobe.exe /A in the Virtual XP window and didn't get any message - one way or the other. Should I take it from this that XP is not activated? If so, how do I get to the activation screen to enter a Product Key? (I should have one from an old XP computer system.)

Regarding the pipe, I tried entering the name of my virtual machine (Hyper-V lets you choose which Com port you want the pipe to refer to) but sadly it didn't connect. There must be something more than just the name of the Virtual Machine require in the pipe name context. I'll keep searching.

kshu on 7 Oct 2015
Report

Regarding the XP activation, you can check that by going to Start > Run, then type "%SYSTEMROOT%/system32/oobe/msoobe.exe /A", without the quotes. You will get a message telling you if XP is activated or not.

Regarding the COM ports, I have 0 personal experience with that, but from what I read online, you could try this:

1. Add "com2" (without the quotes) as the pipe name.
2. If it still does not work, you can add the name of the host, your PC, as the remote server on that same COM2 pipe configuration window. Your host name is the one highlighted in step 5b above.

What are named pipes: https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa365590(v=vs.85).aspx
Show more comments

tallboyrip on 7 Oct 2015
Report

I need to use Virtual XP to run PsiWin - the backup software for Psion Revo Plus & other Psion PDAs. I've followed the above (very clear) instructions and have XP working under Hyper-V on my Windows 10 system. So far, I've not been asked to enter a product key. Should I have been? Will it stop work / ask me in two week's time?

Also, how do I link up to the physical Com2 port? Hyper-V says: "You can configure the Virtual COM port to communicate with the physical computer through a named pipe. If the named pipe is on a remote computer, you must also specify the computer name." There are then two selection choices: none (no connect) and named pipe, with a space to enter the named pipe.

What's a pipe?
what name do I have to enter to make the connection? (It's in the form: \\.\pipe\)

I hope someone can tell me! Thanks, tallboyrip

krisedmek on 29 Sep 2015
Report

Has anyone tried to wipe the xp part and install win 7 instead? Am trying it now and was wondering if there were any issues with doing this as i tried to activate xp and i don't have a key that will work? Also apparently the version of xp will not allow a straight upgrade to win 7.

austindrum on 23 Sep 2015
Report

On Windows 10, I got to step 6b and clicked on the start button - instead of showing me the license screen, it went straight to the Windows XP Logon screen with user name XPMUser and blank password - oops! What do I do now?

kshu on 21 Sep 2015
Report

chief400, earlier in comments fred had the same problem and it appeared that his CPU was not 64-bit capable and was missing 'Hyper-V Platform' in step 4b above.

Can you double check step 4b and see if you have all features available there? Also double-check your BIOS settings for virtualization options.

On a side note, Virtualbox did the trick for fred, see the previous comments.

chief400 on 20 Sep 2015
Report

I need a little help please. When I go into Hyper-V Manager there is not a virtualization server listed. I go over and select the "Hyper-V Manager" in the left pane, click "Connect to server" on the right pane, select "Local computer" in the dialog and click "OK". I get the message "an error occurred while attempting to connect to the server 'Danny's PC'. Check that the Virtual machine management service is running and that you are authorized to connect to the server. The operation on computer 'Danny's PC' failed: Invalid class." Any ideas on why this is happening?

kshu on 12 Sep 2015
Report

I'm very glad it worked for you, fred.

fred on 12 Sep 2015
Report

kshu.. VirtualBox installed on Dell Inspiron E1705 32-bit machine running Windows 10 Professional. Windows XP Professional installed, then, Visual Basic Learning Edition installed on the XP virtual machine and everything seems to be working. Thanks for all your help.

kshu on 11 Sep 2015
Report

fred, if I understand this correctly, Virtualbox should run on x86 without a 64-bit processor: https://www.virtualbox.org/manual/ch10.html#hwvirt.

VMWare requires a 64-bit x86 CPU with LAHF/SAHF support in long mode: http://pubs.vmware.com/player-12-com/index.jsp?topic=%2Fcom.vmware.player.win.using.doc%2FGUID-EDBB71AC-8562-4F18-A472-097FB71EDF21.html

fred on 10 Sep 2015
Report

kshu. VMWare also tells me that 64 bit processor is required. No way to virtualize Windows 10 on 32 bit machine. Windows 7 worked fine, but W10 has moved on.

railcrafter on 3 Sep 2015
Report

kshu....I just wanted to add a few more notes to what I had to do to create the Virtual Machine on my system. I had created the Vitual Maching and then installed Windows XP Pro from my source CD. Everytime I went to load my Quickbook Pro it would give me warning indicating there was not enough "space" to load the program, even though I had created a Virtual Machine with the size of 4GB. I then tried it again with 5GB, same results. Long story short.....I created a 4GB Virtual Machine and then when installing the XP Pro, I told it to set up a 2GB partition ("C") and another 2GB partition (which started out as "E" by default). I was then able to install the operating system and QuickBooks Pro okay and everything works just fine.
Show more comments

kshu on 3 Sep 2015
Report

That makes sense, fred. I added a clarification on step 4b of the tutorial, based on your feedback. Thank you.

fred on 2 Sep 2015
Report

kshu. Using your information I found several places that indicate that Hyper-V Platform is available only on 64 bit processors. Mine is 32. Sounds like obsolete hardware vs new technology. Not worth the effort to provide the 32 bit drivers for obsolete hardware. Thanks again.

kshu on 2 Sep 2015
Report

It sounds like the Intel drivers might have something to do with it - you should have 'Hyper-V Platform' on level 2 there.

If at some point you figure out what the problem is, feel free to share the result with us as well :).

fred on 1 Sep 2015
Report

kshu. I get (level 1) Hyper-V (level 2) Hyper-V Management Tools. (level 3) Hyper-V GUI Management Tools and, Hyper-V Module for Windows Powershell. There was a delay in receiving Windows 10 here. Messages to the effect that some hardware features on my computer had no drivers available and that I should contact Intel. Do you suppose virtualization on my processor is not supported in W10? Thanks for your time and insight. Don't waste any more time on this as it looks like the obvious bases have been covered. Best regards from Ohio.

kshu on 31 Aug 2015
Report

Not sure what that error means, fred. But I would try these:

- check for Windows updates in the Settings app because some updates might fix hyper-v bugs
- double check if everything is enabled on step 4b, including Hyper-V Platform with Hyper-V Hypervisor and Hyper-V Services
- double check BIOS again for virtualization settings

fred on 31 Aug 2015
Report

kshu. (My computer's name is D79Q4P91.) Message box appears, containing;

Hyper-V Manager. An error occurred while attempting to connect to server "D79Q4P91". Check that the virtual machine management service is running and that you are authorized to connect to the server. The operation on 'D79Q4P91' failed. Invalid Class.

Looks like something is still missing.

kshu on 31 Aug 2015
Report

fred, try this:

1. In the left pane, select Hyper-V Manager.
2. In the right pane, under Actions, select Connect to server.
3. In the new pop-up window, select Local computer > Ok.

Hope that works for you.

fred on 30 Aug 2015
Report

kshu. No virtualization server name beneath Hyper-V Manager in the left pane. Hyper-V took the check mark OK in step 4b. All the subs to it were also checked.

kshu on 30 Aug 2015
Report

railcrafter, I'm glad to hear that everything worked out ok for you :).

fred, I added a screenshot for step 5b. Have a look and see if you see a similar option on your Hyper-V Manager. You should see a server name in the left pane.

In step 4b everything looked ok? No grayed out options if you expand Hyper-V there?

Up

railcrafter on 29 Aug 2015
Report

kshu...set up a network connection to my LAN and am able to connect to all of my computers. All I need to do now is install a few programs in XP Mode and looks like I am good to go. Thanks for your tutorial and suggestions. Helped a lot. Looks like Hyper-V will work for my needs.

Show more comments

railcrafter on 29 Aug 2015
Report

kshu...Activated Hyper-V, installed XP Mode, selected legacy NIC and everything appears to be working great. I am now able to run the XP Mode and connect to the internet. Will try to set up LAN next.

railcrafter on 29 Aug 2015
Report

kshu...I "blew" the hard drive, reinstalled Windows 7 Pro, installed all device drivers and updates. Everything checked out great. I then upgraded to Windows 10, again installed all updates including windows updates and device driver updates. Then reinstalled all programs. Again, everything checks out okay. No crashes on Windows Explorer or Internet Explorer. I wanted to check out each program over several days to make sure all is well....and it is. I am now going to attempt to install Windows XP Pro using the Hyper-V virtual drive using your tutorial. I will let you know of the results.

fred on 29 Aug 2015
Report

Great tutorial. Everything worked as advertised until paragraph 5.b. The hyper-v manager did not show any local virtualization virtual server, only an introduction screen. Clicking ACTION only showed connect to server, view and help as options. This was not surprising since no server was listed. I am using a Dell Inspiron E1705 which under Windows 7 did run Windows XP Mode successfully. Virtualization is ENABLED in the BIOS and Hyper-V runs OK. It appears that maybe Windows 10 does not support virtualization on my machine. Any thoughts?

jdmyers on 29 Aug 2015
Report

I wonder if it has anything to do with the version of BIOS installed? There are some later versions available, but Dell recommended using version A09 because the diagnostics run form the BIOS on later versions result in the blue screen.

Fortunately, I was able to get the VMware working using your other tutorial.

kshu on 28 Aug 2015
Report

That's strange. "EPT * Supports Intel extended page tables (SLAT)" means it has SLAT so Hyper-V should work. It might just be a Hyper-V bug somewhere ... I don't know what else you can do about it.

jdmyers on 28 Aug 2015
Report

I looked in the BIOS and couldn't find anything about DEP or SLAT. The virtualization setting is under Performance and still set to ON. There is some processor info under System and one of the lines says "Hyperthreading Capable = No". There is no way to change that.

I just tried running coreinfo.exe -v -p in the admin cmd and adding the -p paused the results so that I can read them. I can't copy and paste the results here so I'm re-typing them:
Intel(R) Core(TM)2 Quad CPU Q6600 @ 2.40GHz
Intel64 Family 6 Model 15 Stepping 11, GenuineIntel
Microcode signature: 000000BA
HYPERVISOR - Hypervisor is present
VMX * Supports Intel hardware-assisted virtualization
EPT * Supports Intel extended page tables (SLAT)

I checked Windows Features and Hyper-V Hypervisor is still greyed out and still says "Hyper-V cannot be installed. The processor does not have second level address translation (SLAT) capabilities."

jdmyers on 28 Aug 2015
Report

I downloaded the Coreinfo and followed your instructions. The result: "Coreinfo.exe is not recognized as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file."
I tried running Coreinfo.exe as admin and I could see it run and produce results but the window closes so fast and before I can read any of it.

kshu on 28 Aug 2015
Report

I couldn't pinpoint their exact locations because BIOS menus are different from one manufacturer to the next. Best way to find these settings would be to browse the entire BIOS menu.

Another option is to use Sysinternal's Coreinfo.exe to determine if your machine supports Virtualization and SLAT. Coreinfo can be downloaded from http://download.sysinternals.com/files/Coreinfo.zip.

After you download it, you can run "Coreinfo.exe -v" from an elevated command prompt. The exact steps would be:

1. Download Coreinfo http://download.sysinternals.com/files/Coreinfo.zip
2. Extract it and move it to an easy to find location C:\coreinfo.exe.
3. Open an elevated CMD http://www.download3k.com/articles/What-is-an-Elevated-Command-Prompt-Several-ways-to-open-one-in-Windows-8-and-10-00434
4. Do "c" and "cd\", without quotes.
5. Do "Coreinfo.exe –v", without quotes.

This gives the following output on my PC:

C:\>Coreinfo.exe -v

Coreinfo v3.31 - Dump information on system CPU and memory topology
Copyright (C) 2008-2014 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com

Intel(R) Core(TM) i5 CPU 750 @ 2.67GHz
Intel64 Family 6 Model 30 Stepping 5, GenuineIntel
Microcode signature: 00000005
HYPERVISOR - Hypervisor is present
VMX * Supports Intel hardware-assisted virtualization
EPT * Supports Intel extended page tables (SLAT)

jdmyers on 28 Aug 2015
Report

I can check the BIOS for those things after hours today and let you know. Do you know where they would be located in BIOS?

kshu on 28 Aug 2015
Report

Besides enabling Hyper-V, do you have the options to enable in BIOS Data Execution Prevention (DEP) and SLAT?
Show more comments

jdmyers on 25 Aug 2015
Report

kshu, I just finished re-upgrading to Windows 10 and I looked at the message behind the greyed our Hyper-V Hypervisor. I does say exactly the same thing it did before I enabled virtualization in the BIOS. "Hyper-V cannot be installed. The processor does not have second level address translation (SLAT) capabilities."

kshu on 25 Aug 2015
Report

jdmyers, if you try the other tutorial and get stuck, leave a comment there so I know what steps are unclear so I can improve the tutorial :).

jdmyers on 25 Aug 2015
Report

kshu, the message you asked about was before the BIOS was corrected. I'll plan to upgrade to Windows 10 again tonight and let you know what the current message is.
I don't have a problem trying the other method, but when I read over the tutorial, I found that it was telling me to make choices for certain steps that I have no way to know what to choose.

railcrafter on 24 Aug 2015
Report

kshu...I am probably going to "wipe" my main ssd and do a clean install. Probably will create a second partition and set up a dual boot system. One for Windows 7 Pro and then upgrading to Windows 10 Pro and one for Windows XP Pro. As I built this computer, I did not set up nor do I have a recovery partition on this particular computer. Need to do a little research on setting up a dual boot system. Haven't tried that before. I may attempt to recreate the Hyper-V system again with the XP Mode. I will let you know of my progress.

kshu on 24 Aug 2015
Report

jdmyers, you got the message "Hyper-V cannot be installed. The processor does not have second level address translation (SLAT) capabilities." AFTER you enabled virtualization from BIOS or with virtualization set to off? Is your Windows 7, the one you upgrade to Win 10, 32-bit or 64-bit?

Right now, a really good option for you would be to just download a VMware-ready XP virtual machine and import it to VMware Player (free) - from the other guide you said you find difficult following: http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-test-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-for-Free-Legally-01181 (recently updated with fresh screens matching the layout change of the Microsoft Modern IE site used).

I did not personally test a VM import on Virtualbox or VMware Player under Win 10, but I assume it will work. I know the latest Virtualbox version has some incompatibility issues with Win 10 right now, so I'd go with VMware as a first choice at the moment. If you decide to follow that guide and run into trouble, feel free to leave a comment on the tutorial page and I'll try to help. I'm currently testing the XP VM with VMware and Virtualbox under Windows 10 myself so, if you wait a few days, I might have a tutorial on those scenarios as well.

railcrafter, I added my networking troubleshooting suggestion at the bottom of this tutorial as well, just to be clearer, with pics. It did work for me with a Legacy Network Adapter.

Regarding your File Explorer crashing, you might consider first doing a Reset, with or without keeping your personal files: Settings > Update & Security > Recovery > Reset this PC. I'm assuming the File Explorer crashes in Windows 10.

Or open an elevated cmd and try "sfc /scannow". If you're not familiar with sfc, then type "sfc /?" and see what it does.

railcrafter on 24 Aug 2015
Report

kshu...Yes, I will try your suggestion on the legacy NIC and let you know the results. Got some other work I need to do now, but will get to it later today. Thanks for your suggestions. Nothing to do with Hyper-V, but I am also having a problem with Windows Explorer "crashing" on me occasionally. I'm thinking I may have to do a clean re-install of Windows 7 Pro, upgrade to Windows 10 Pro, and then re-install my programs, etc.

jdmyers on 24 Aug 2015
Report

I can upgrade to Windows 10 again and see what the message is behind the greyed out Hypervisor. Will you be able to help trouble shoot it with me?

jdmyers on 24 Aug 2015
Report

I copied the warning message from the first time here previously.

kshu on 24 Aug 2015
Report

jdmyers, I don't think the old XP Mode on Win 7 is causing any problems with Win 10. The XP Mode in Windows 7 worked using Virtual PC. In Windows 10, Virtual PC is no longer active and have been replaced with Hyper-V. Also, this tutorial is only using the XP Mode file to extract the .vhd from it and nothing else.

So I don't see a conflict between the old Win 7 and Win 10. Or maybe I'm missing something.

Anyways, you can't make use of this tutorial unless Hyper-V is active on Win 10 Pro. In your case, it wasn't and I have no idea why. That warning message when hovering over the disabled Hyper-V Hypervisor could have provided some clues.

jdmyers on 24 Aug 2015
Report

kshu, to answer your questions:
I used 7-zip. I downloaded and installed it as per step 2 above. I don't know which version but assume it was the latest version.
I didn't re-check the message for Hypervisor after changing the BIOS and I've already rolled back to Windows 7 for the 2nd time until we find out if we can get Windows 10 to work.
I will say that when I rolled back to Windows 7, XP Mode would not work so I tried to reinstall it and it wanted the old one uninstalled first. Add/remove programs would not uninstall it. I finally got it off the machine using IO-bit Uninstaller. At that point I ran out of time to do the install so I don't know if this will be successful. Do you think this uninstall/old version issue could have been the problem after upgrading to Windows 10?
Show more comments

kshu on 24 Aug 2015
Report

railcrafter, you can try this as well before going the Vmware/Virtualbox way (which I still consider far more user friendly with their settings):

1. Turn off the XP VM.
2. Open its settings window. You can do this in several ways:
   - a) From the Hyper-V Manager, select the XP VM and, in the right hand pane, click Settings.
   - b) If the XP VM window is active, you can click File > Settings.
3. In the Settings window, simply Add Hardware > Legacy Network Adapter. The Add Hardware option is the first one in the Settings window.
4. Make sure the Legacy Network Adapter is set to use the previously created Virtual Switch.
5. Click Apply/OK and start the XP VM again.

It should result in a quick driver install in the VM and the network should work inside the VM.

Let me know if this worked for you please.

railcrafter on 24 Aug 2015
Report

I will try Virtualbox or Vmware. However, should I be able to access my NIC from within the XP Mode under Hyper-V? Or, am I configuring it incorrectly?

kshu on 24 Aug 2015
Report

railcrafter, as an alternative, you could try setting up the VM with Virtualbox or Vmware Player. Both free, both working under Windows 10, both are more user-friendly with their settings.

railcrafter on 24 Aug 2015
Report

So, I had XP Mode working just fine on my Windows 7 Pro Desktop and ungraded to Windows 10 Pro. I got Windows 10 Pro working just fine on my Desktop and as I still have an accounting program that needed to run in Windows XP, I decided to attempt an XP Mode in Windows 10. I activated the Hyper-V Manager, created a virtual "external" switch and selected the installed Intel NIC. I then created a Virtual Machine, choosing Generation 1, set 2048 for Dynamic Startup memory, selected the installed NIC. Created a virtual hard disk, and then installed the Windows XP Pro from an installation CD. The install went well and the Virtual XP Mode appeared to be working okay, EXCEPT that it will not discover the internal Intel NIC. And so, I can't connect to the LAN or of course the internet. I tried installing the drivers for the installed NIC to no avail. The driver installation indicated that it could not discover the NIC. SO......what am I overlooking or doing wrong?

kshu on 24 Aug 2015
Report   Up

jdmyers, what software (including version if possible) do you use to unarchive WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe?

In step step 4b, after you enabled virtualization in BIOS, if you hover your mouse over the grayed out Hyper-V Hypervisor, what message do you get now?

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

Here's an update on what I've done after my last post. I rolled the OS back to Windows 7 and discovered my VM would no longer work there either. I went to the BIOS and found the virtualization was off (probably from a BIOS update I did a few days ago) and I turned it on. Then I reupgraded to Windows 10. I've started the steps here over again. The same issue exists on step 3a in that it only completes 99% and gives the same warning. It did create the files and allowed me to proceed, but once again on step 4b, the Hyper-V Hypervisor is greyed out. I proceeded anyway and this time on step 5c I got an error message while trying to retrieve a list of virtual switches saying the operation failed. I tried to get Microsoft to help me but that was a joke. Do you think this is something we can make work or should I stay with Windows 7?

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

I guess I'm just going to give up and roll back to Windows 7. The other tutorial is just too complicated for me and I get stuck on a step not knowing what to do. Thanks.

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

The greyed out Hyper-V Hypervisor shows "Hyper-V cannot be installed. The processor does not have second level address translation (SLAT) capabilities." Can you tell me what I need to do please?

kshu on 23 Aug 2015
Report

I will have a look at those errors later on and see if I find a solution for you.

Meanwhile, maybe this guide is enough for what you need:
http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-test-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-for-Free-Legally-01181

With it, you can create a VM running XP. The XP in the VM should be activated for 90 days - and from there you have 2 options: use an existing XP license to activate it, or use the Snapshots feature of Virtualbox to rollback the VM to a previous state. It's all covered in that tutorial.

Overall, the steps in that tutorial are much easier to follow, with no need to extract the .vhd. The VMs come already prepared from Microsoft's servers.

I hope that helps for now.

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

Okay, even though step 3a only got to 99%, it did create the file needed. I was able to continue the steps. However, in step 4b, when I checked the box next to Hyper-V, one of the sub boxes was greyed out and did not check. It was the Hyper-V Hypervisor. That is the error message I'm now getting in step 6b. How do I turn on a greyed out feature?
Show more comments

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

I decided to start over once again but this time I downloaded the XP Mode file without the "N". Same exact issue and same warning message.
Should I roll the OS back to Windows 7 because I have to have the Virtual XP available?

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

I left the extracting running for about an hour and it never got past 99%. So I started over, this time downloading the files to my desktop instead of my file server. Same results at Step 3a, it got to 99% extracting and was stuck. Only one warning this time: "There are some data after the end of the payload data".

jdmyers on 23 Aug 2015
Report

The 1st issue I have in the process is on step 3a during extraction of the WindowsXPMode_en-us file. It gets to 99% extracting and seems to stop. There are some warnings in the box
1 There are some data after the end of the payload data
2 Can not delete output file : The process cannot access the file because it is being used by another process.
I'm not sure what that means but it did extract the WindowsXPMode_n_en-us directory containing the sources directory which contains the xpm file.
The 2nd issue I get in in step 3c during extraction of the VirtualXPVHD file. It gets to 99% copying and seems to stop. There is a message that says "1 Can not open output file : Access is denied. "C:\VirtualXPVHD".
I'm not sure if that is okay or not but it did create the VirtualXPVHD file that I renamed to add the .vhd extension.

kshu on 22 Aug 2015
Report

Not sure, jdmyers. That's the exact error message you get? Nothing else? You performed all the previous steps correctly?

jdmyers on 22 Aug 2015
Report

I got down to step 6b and am stuck. When I click the green start button, an error message pops up that says: "XP Virtual Machine failed to start". The actions it lists to resolve the problem are not making sense to me. Can you help me?

kshu on 20 Aug 2015
Report

kos, you'll need to re-install all your programs again in the Virtual Machine running XP, created using this tutorial. The XP mode won't be preserved when upgrading to Windows 10.

kos on 20 Aug 2015
Report

OK. I have win 7 running with virtual XP mode available. If I upgrade to the free offer of windows 10 and then follow the details above will I still have the XP programmes available or will I have to reload them all again in the virtual machine. i.e. does the virtual hard drive have my installed XP programmes? Thank you in anticipation of your help.

kshu on 9 Aug 2015
Report

a3k, using this tutorial, the resulting XP inside the virtual machine will not be activated, but if you have an XP license, you can use the license to activate it.

a3k on 9 Aug 2015
Report

I have it working,only without the internet connection,so i try again.
The only thing i don't understand is why my XP dvd drive is not accesseable cause it has the letter D: and my W10 has the F:/ letter.
And when i can register do i have XP for life or evenso for 30 days?

a3k on 8 Aug 2015
Report

Okay kshu,
I stopped this morning with it because i was stucked in the VirtualXPVHD.
Now i can try it again, thanks m8.
Show more comments

kshu on 8 Aug 2015
Report

a3k, that's normal. It is supposed to be an exe file. Right click on the .exe file and see if you have your regular WinRar extracting options there.

Here is step 3 of the tutorial, adjusted for WinRar:

- right-click WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe and choose "Extract to WindowsXPMode_en-us"
- browse to WindowsXPMode_en-us\Sources and notice the xpm file with no extension
- rename xpm to xpm.rar
- open xpm.rar with WinRar and notice the VirtualXPVHD file
- extract VirtualXPVHD to a location of your choice
- rename it to VirtualXPVHD.vhd
- (optional) clean up: delete WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe and everything you extracted from it, except VirtualXPVHD.vhd

Continue with steps 4, 5, 6 of the tutorial. I hope this helps.

a3k on 8 Aug 2015
Report

Alright, i forgot to install Winrar on my new W.10. So now i can unrar. It was not an exe what i download.

a3k on 8 Aug 2015
Report

I have Winrar on my PC,so when the file is downloaded it normely should open automaticly in Winrar.Thats with the most files i download.
This one doesnt. It came in as an exe file kshu.

kshu on 7 Aug 2015
Report

That's because you are double-clicking the file downloaded in step 1 (WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe) and try to run it just like that. Instead of doing that, you should follow step 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in the tutorial.

a3k on 7 Aug 2015
Report

Don' know if i git an answer,but i'll try.

When i will install XP download it extracts but after that it says that it's only supported with W.7.
After the message it stops and nothing happens.
Ive downloaded it from your Microsoft link within.

carawing on 8 Jun 2015
Report

Thank you, you're a saint.

gianni1962 on 7 Jun 2015
Report

Hi carawing, take a look at this articles:
https://4sysops.com/archives/windows-8-xp-mode-part-1-hyper-v/
https://4sysops.com/archives/windows-8-xp-mode-part-2-setting-up-windows-xp/
https://4sysops.com/archives/windows-8-xp-mode-part-3-gotchas/

carawing on 24 May 2015
Report

I have successfully done everything, but I really don't know how I can put files in this virtual Windows now.

carawing on 23 May 2015
Report

I could do everything nicely, untill the 5th step came by, somehow, windows 10 (build 10122) doesn't find hyper-v when I search it after pressing start. All it shows is the possibility to search it through bing --'
Anyhow, I searched if there would be any other way of opening hyper-v but I couldn't find one. What should I do?

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