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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 - 97812 views

Support for Windows XP has ended, and, although [official 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 8.1 Pro as well.

Notes:
1. The resulting virtual machine will use **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 customers but will do just fine for testing old software or servers. For example, alternatively, if you have an old XP license lying around, you can use it to activate the virtual machine. If you use Windows 8.1 or 10, does not include Hyper-V (most that by doing [this](#) - the free edition 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 create Windows XP 32-bit VM for free using VMware](#)
2. 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 included in XP Mode and run it as a virtual machine. Here's what you'll need to do:

1. Download XP Mode
2. Extract XP Mode
3. Create a Virtual Machine using VirtualBox
4. Install XP Mode
5. Run XP Mode
6. Or not, and make the internet connection work on the XP VM
7. Repeat
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.

2. Install 7-zip

Notes: If you are unable to do step 2 and 3 below, using 7-zip, then you can try a different compression utility, such as [7-archiver](#), [Bandizip](#) (one of our favorites here at Download.com), etc. This problem has been pointed out a few times in the comment section.

Downloaded File ([Download image](#)) 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 content menu on x64 machines. We'll need content menu for 7-zip to make extracting easier.

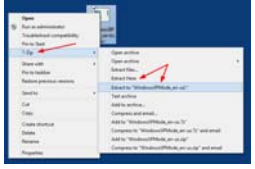
Step to Step 3 if you know what type of system you're in.

- 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.

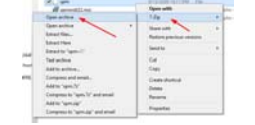
Now that you know what type of OS you have installed, download and install the corresponding version of 7-zip.

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 **spin** file. Right click on spin 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 content menu, choose **open archive as CAB**, instead of extracting to "WindowsXPMode_en-us", then pick up from there. Notice the **VirtualXPVHD** file.



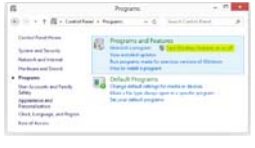
- c) Extract it to a location of your choice. **Rename it to VirtualXPVHD.vhdx**.
- d) **Clean up.** You can go ahead and delete the file downloaded in Step 1 and all the other files extracted from it, except for VirtualXPVHD.vhdx.

In order to use the .vhdx 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:

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

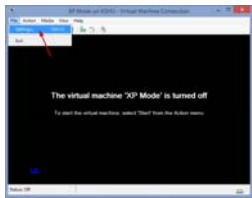
- a) Open Hyper-V Manager by clicking **Start** (or press the Win key) and type **Hyper-V Manager**, then hit **Enter**.

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

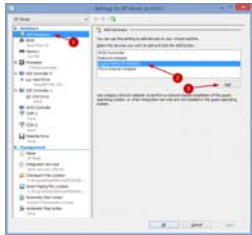
- b) Make sure your local virtualization server is selected.



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".



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.

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Thank you for the article!

There you who and thank you spiritless. By combining the advice from both of you I managed to get right through to step 0b - Run the VM. When I click 'Start' I get the following error:-
"Boot failure. Partition and select proper Boot device or insert Boot Media in selected Boot device."
Any suggestions?
[Download comments](#)

[Download](#) on 28 Jan 2016

Hi@4202, 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 'rar' archive by doing this:

Right click on [WinXPMode_en-us.exe](#) -> 7Zip -> Open Archive -> -> rar

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

[Download](#) on 26 Jan 2016

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

Making an XP VM is also easier with this tutorial: <http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-Add-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-As-Free-Legal-01181>

[Download](#) on 28 Jan 2016

Thank you for the swift response to my query. I downloaded the file as directed and it is reported as being 465MB. Unfortunately when I open the archive the list of files is the same as I mentioned previously and 'Sources' 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 - with the same outcome each time. Any other ideas?

[Download](#) on 25 Jan 2016

Try this, @4202: <http://imgur.com/v44z08t> 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, 463.8 MB.

[Download](#) on 25 Jan 2016

H - I'm stuck at step 0b because I cannot locate 'Sources' after extracting the downloaded file. WindowsXPMode_en-us.exe I can see 4 items - .rar, .data, .text, CERTIFICATE but no Sources. What have I misunderstood?

[Download](#) on 20 Jan 2016

@saak, this might be exactly what you're looking for <http://www.techsupport.com/blog/windows-and-virtualize-usb-devices-access-to-a-windows-or-virtual-machine/>. It's a lengthy explanation so I rather not cover it here.

[Download](#) on 19 Jan 2016

Sorry, but some problem, when I delete all files and repeat installation. Now I need to add existing HDD to see it from XP machine, as well I did not find, how to attach USB ports to machine... Can You help ? I have old HP printer-scanner HP Color LaserJet 2940 and scanning software don't exist for Win7-Win10. When I try to 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. Thank You.

[Download](#) on 19 Jan 2016

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

[Download](#) on 19 Jan 2016

When I start XP machine (B), first time, I get message:
"Boot failure. Partition and select proper Boot device or insert Boot Media in selected Boot device."
Please help what was wrong? I try to follow all instructions and try to install machine on Win10

[Download](#) on 11 Jan 2016

Re: memo on Jan. 3 statement: "Also I don't see any of the drives of the Lenovo. When I installed sptmode 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).

[Download comments](#)

[Download](#) on 4 Jan 2016

Thanks for this very helpful article!

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

[Download](#) on 3 Jan 2016

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 sptmode 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 assume. I assume I use those numbers to register the windows but I don't know how.

[Download](#) on 27 Dec 2015

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 grayed out. Any help on this?

[Download](#) on 26 Dec 2015

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

[Download](#) on 26 Dec 2015

Hi @KRAJ,
Thank you for the Xmas gift. Everything is now perfectly working with great joy.
Thank you so much
Best regards

[Download](#) on 26 Dec 2015

Ciao Carlo @CRPPE

[Download](#) on 25 Dec 2015

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.

[Download](#) on 24 Dec 2015

Hi @Zipe, try running this command in a cmd: `bcdedit /set hypervisorlaunchtype Auto`. Then reboot.

[Download](#) on 23 Dec 2015

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.

[Download](#) on 23 Dec 2015

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

[Download](#) on 23 Dec 2015

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

[Download](#) on 22 Dec 2015

Hi @Zipe, do you have the option "Hyper-V Platform" in step 4b or is it grayed out?

[Download](#) on 22 Dec 2015

Hi @Zipe, 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 the "XP Mode 4 Money"."
Impossible to start the "XP Mode 4 Money" virtual machine because the hypervision is not running

[Download](#) on 22 Dec 2015

Any help please?

[Download](#) on 4 Dec 2015

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-Add-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-As-Free-Legal-01181>

[Download](#) on 3 Dec 2015

Thank you for the tip kshu - that was easily done!

[Download](#) on 27 Nov 2015

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.windows.com/news/articles/How-to-Enable-and-Use-Hyper-V-on-Windows-10>

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

Just tried generating Microsoft with the long product number set (B group of 6 numbers) to activate the Windows XP version I downloaded from the web. Also 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? (Baltic Advisor just gives the product key)

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

Thanks for the tip kshu - that was easily done!

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

Hi@kshu, 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.

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

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 regenerating 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.

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

@kshuwhat, 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-Add-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-As-Free-Legal-01181>

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

@kshu, 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 kshuwp, so on the host OS I just open File Explorer and enter kshuwp 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.

[Download](#) on 20 Oct 2015

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.

bochsa on 20 Oct 2015

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

on 19 Oct 2015

There's no Hyper-V folder in Windows Features. Im stuck.

bochsa on 19 Oct 2015

Someone @maggiehelp me i got you found this guide helpful.

@maggiehelp sound exactly like for me. Did you check under Device Manager to see if the sound driver is installed?

Stalbytyy: If you can't get to the Activate Windows screen, then you won't be able to use any key.

bochsa on 19 Oct 2015

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

bochsa on 10 Oct 2015

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.

bochsa on 9 Oct 2015

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.

bochsa on 8 Oct 2015

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

bochsa on 8 Oct 2015

Hi kahu, I don't have an "Activate Windows" option in System 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 license 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 see you suggested regarding the pipe - which all would seem very logical, following the screenshot example, but alas, so far I haven't managed to get my Pison to talk to the PowerShell 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.

bochsa on 8 Oct 2015

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-add-Windows-10-8-7-Vista-XP-to-Foxit-Light-211814.html>. I am currently using the one with "ES on XP" and it shows the XP day activation check.

Regarding the pipe, it's assume your host PC is named talbytyyPC 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 talbytyyPC for the remote computer. Do you try it like this? Example, but for COM1: <http://www.powershell.com/216416/>

bochsa on 7 Oct 2015

Thanks for the info kahu. I ran "%SYSTEMROOT%\system32\bootmsoobe.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'm 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.

bochsa on 7 Oct 2015

Regarding the XP activation, you can check that by going to Start > Run, then type "%SYSTEMROOT%\system32\bootmsoobe.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: <http://www.muhimbi.com/Articles/NamedPipes.aspx>

bochsa on 7 Oct 2015

I tried to run Virtual XP to run PowerShell - the backup software for Pison Revo Plus & other PDA's. 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.

bochsa on 29 Sep 2015

Also 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.

bochsa on 23 Sep 2015

On Windows 10 I got to step 4b and clicked on the start button - instead of showing me the license screen, i went straight to the Windows XP Logon screen with user name XPUser and blank password - oops! What do I do now?

bochsa on 21 Sep 2015

chid400, earlier in comments fixed 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 virtualization options.

On a side note, VirtualBox did the trick for fixed, see the previous comments.

bochsa on 20 Sep 2015

Fixed a little thing 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 'Denny'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 'Denny's PC' failed. Invalid class." Any ideas on why this is happening?

bochsa on 12 Sep 2015

It's very glad it worked for you, fixed.

bochsa on 12 Sep 2015

kahu: 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.

bochsa on 11 Sep 2015

fixed. If I understand this correctly, VirtualBox should run on x64 without a 64-bit processor: <http://www.virtualbox.org/manual/ch05.html#requirements>

VMWare requires a 64-bit x64 CPU with LAHF/SAHF support in long mode: http://pubs.vmware.com/vsphere-10-windows/index.jsp?topic=/%2Fpubs.vmware.vsphere_10-windows/doc/GUID-E68B11AC-856C-4F18-A472-007F81E2F21.html

bochsa on 10 Sep 2015

kahu: 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 Win10 has moved on.

bochsa on 3 Sep 2015

kahu: 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 Virtual Machine and then installed Windows XP Pro from my source CD. Everytime I went to load my Quickbook Pro I 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.

bochsa on 3 Sep 2015

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

bochsa on 2 Sep 2015

kahu: 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.

bochsa on 2 Sep 2015

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 :).

bochsa on 1 Sep 2015

kahu: I got fixed 1) Hyper-V (level 2) Hyper-V Management Tools. (level 3) Hyper-V CLI 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.

bochsa on 31 Aug 2015

Not sure what that error means, fixed. But I would try this:

- 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

bochsa on 31 Aug 2015

kahu: (My computer's name is DTSP4P91) Message box appears, containing:

Hyper-V Manager. An error occurred while attempting to connect to server 'DTSP4P91'. Check that the virtual machine management service is running and that you are authorized to connect to the server. The operation on 'DTSP4P91' failed. Invalid Class.

Looks like something is still missing.

bochsa on 31 Aug 2015

Fixed, 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.

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, 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.

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, glad to hear that everything worked out ok for you :)

And, 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?

29 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, add 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 look like I am good to go. Thanks for your tutorial and suggestions. Helped a lot. Looks like Hyper-V will work for my needs.

29 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, 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.

29 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, I "broke" the hard drive, reinstalled Windows 7 Pro, installed all device drivers and updates. Everything checked out great. 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 it all works...and it's. 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.

29 Aug 2015
[Profile] [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?

29 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, I'm not sure if there is anything to do with the version of BIOS installed? There are some later versions available, but Dell recommended using version A03 because the diagnostics run from the BIOS on later versions result in the blue screen. Fortunately, I was able to get the VMware working using your other tutorial.

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [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.

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [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.

Just read online something about the #p in the system cmd and adding the #p passed the results so that I can read them. I can't copy and paste the results here so I'm re-typing them:
model Family 6 Intel Celeron T1
Microcode signature: 00000026
HYPervisor: Hyper-V or present
VM* Supports Intel hardware-assisted virtualization
EPT* Supports Intel extended page tables (SLAT)

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

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [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 ran and produce results but the window closes so fast and before I can read any of it.

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [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 to use SystemInfo's CoreInfo.exe to determine if your machine supports Virtualization and SLAT. CoreInfo.exe can be downloaded from <http://download.proxmox.com/files/CoreInfo.exe>

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.proxmox.com/files/CoreInfo.exe>
2. Extract it and move it to the same folder 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-10-2014>
4. Do "cd" 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 Max Ruslanovich
SystemInfo - www.systeminfo.com
Intel(R) Core(TM) i5 CPU 750 @ 2.67GHz
model Family 6 Intel Celeron T1 Supporting 5. Gen/Intel
Microcode signature: 00000026
HYPervisor: Hyper-V or present
VM* Supports Intel hardware-assisted virtualization
EPT* Supports Intel extended page tables (SLAT)
```

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [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?

28 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

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

25 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, I just finished re-upgrading to Windows 10 and I looked at the message behind the grayed out 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."

25 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

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

25 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, the message you asked about was before the BIOS was connected. 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.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, I am probably going to "broke" 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. All I built this computer. I did not set up or 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.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, 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? In your Windows 7, the one you upgrade to Win 10, SP24 or 64-bit?

Right now, a really good option for you would be to just download a VMware-XP virtual machine and import it to VMWare Player (free) - from the other guide you said you find different following: <http://www.download3k.com/articles/How-to-install-Windows-10-2-7646-XP-for-Free-Legal-4118> (recently updated with fresh screens matching the layout change of the Microsoft Modern E UI 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.

Hi, I added my networking troubleshooting suggestion at the bottom of this tutorial as well, just to be clear, 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 "fdt /sourcenet". If you're not familiar with cmd, then type "cmd /?" and see what it does.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, 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.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

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

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

I expect the warning message from the first time have previously.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, 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.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, to answer your question:

I used 7-2b. I downloaded and installed it as per step 2 above. I don't know which version but assume it was the latest version.
I don't check the message for Hyper-V after changing the BIOS and I've already rolled back to Windows 7 for the 2nd time and 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 need to re-install it and I wanted the old one uninstalled first. Add/remove programs would not uninstall it. I finally get it off the machine using IObit 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 uninstalls/old version issues could have been the problem after upgrading to Windows 10?

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

Hi, 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 the 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 error raised in the VM and the network should work inside the VM.

Let me know if this worked for you please.

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

24 Aug 2015
[Profile] [Report]

I fell by VirtualBox or Wintaware. However, should I be able to access my NIC from within the XP Mode under Hyper-V? Or, am I configuring it incorrectly?

on 24 Aug 2015

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

on 24 Aug 2015

So, I had XPMode working just fine on my Windows 7 Pro Desktop and upgraded 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 external Intel NIC. And so, I can't connect to the LAN or of course the internet. I'vek installed 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?

on 24 Aug 2015

Hi there, what software (including version if possible) do you use to unarchive WindowsXPMoE_en-us.exe?

on 23 Aug 2015

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?

on 23 Aug 2015

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 3b, the Hyper-V Hypervisor is grayed out. I proceeded anyway and tried time on step 3c. I got an error message while trying to retrieve a list of virtual switches saying the operation failed. I read to get Microsoft to help me but that was a pain. Do you think this is something we can make work or should I stay with Windows 7?

on 23 Aug 2015

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 got stuck on a step not knowing what to do. Thanks.

on 23 Aug 2015

The error 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?

on 23 Aug 2015

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.win7.com/Free-Desktop-7-1-Linux-XP-For-Free-Desktop-7-1.html>

on 23 Aug 2015

Okay, even though step 3a got to 99%, I 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 grayed out and did not check. It was the Hyper-V Hypervisor. That is the error message I'm now getting in step 5b. How do I turn on a grayed out feature?

on 23 Aug 2015

I decided to start over once again but this time I downloaded the XP Mode file without the "V". 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?

on 23 Aug 2015

I hit the extracting warning 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".

on 23 Aug 2015

The 1st issue I have in the process is on step 3a during extraction of the WindowsXPMoE_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.
- 3. The 2nd issue I get in the step 3b 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".

on 22 Aug 2015

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

on 22 Aug 2015

I got down to step 4b 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?

on 20 Aug 2015

Yes, you'll need to reinstall 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.

on 20 Aug 2015

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 reinstall 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.

on 18 Aug 2015

As using the 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.

on 9 Aug 2015

I have it working only without the internet connection, so I try again. The only thing I don't understand is why my XP did drive is not accessible cause it has the letter D, and my Win10 has the FJ letter. And when I can register do I have XP for life or expires for 30 days?

on 8 Aug 2015

Okay, I stopped this morning with it because I was stuck in the VirtualXPVHD. Now I can try it again. Thanks ml.

on 8 Aug 2015

OK, 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.

on 8 Aug 2015

- right-click WindowsXPMoE_en-us.exe and choose "Extract to WindowsXPMoE_en-us"
- browse to WindowsXPMoE_en-us\Sources and notice the .spn file with no extension
- rename .spn to .spn.rar
- open .spn.rar with WinRAR and notice the VirtualXPVHD file
- extract VirtualXPVHD to a location of your choice
- rename it to VirtualXPVHD.exe
- optional: then up: delete WindowsXPMoE_en-us.exe and everything you extracted from it, except VirtualXPVHD.exe

on 8 Aug 2015

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

on 8 Aug 2015

I have Winrar on my PC so when the file is downloaded it normally should open automatically in Winrar. That's with the most files I download. This one doesn't. It came in as an exe file lol.

on 7 Aug 2015

That's because you are double-clicking the file downloaded in step 1 (WindowsXPMoE_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.

on 7 Aug 2015

Don't know if I got 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. I've downloaded it from your Microsoft link within.

on 8 Jun 2015

Thank you, you're a saint.

on 7 Jun 2015

If curious, take a look at this article: <http://forums.comcast.net/showthread.php?p=134687>

on 24 May 2015

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

on 23 May 2015

I could do everything really, until the 5th step came by, somehow, windows 10 (build 10522) 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 getting hyper-v but I couldn't find one. What should I do?

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