I hate using screen shots. This is a major failure IMHO.

Settings should be easily controlled via an easily reproduceable CLI interface - almost always.

Still, this is the easiest way to share this specific knowledge.

						-		2
<u>File Edit View Too</u>	ols <u>H</u> elp							
Organize 🔻 📑 Ope	en 🔻	Burn New folder				== -		0
🛠 Favorites	*	Name	Bit rate	Date modified	Туре	Size	Length	
		📄 VideoReDoPlus.key.txt		10/18/2011 7:22 PM	Text Document	3 KB		
💻 Desktop	E	🔀 VideoReDoPlus-2-5-7-600x.exe		10/3/2011 6:06 PM	Application	8,465 KB		
🔚 Libraries		🛃 VideoReDoPlusM-2-5-7-604.exe		11/20/2009 8:19 AM	Application	13,278 KB		
Documents		📅 VideoReDoPlusM-3-10-3-616b.exe		10/3/2011 6:09 PM	Application	15,805 KB		
J Music		🜍 VirtualBox-4.2.8-83876-Win.exe		3/5/2013 4:32 PM	Application	95,515 KB		
Pictures		😼 VirtualBox-4.2.10-84105-Win.exe		4/8/2013 10:07 PM	Application	95,433 KB		
😸 Videos	-	< <u> </u>	III					۴
VirtualBox-4 Application	.2.10-8410	05-Win.exe Date modified: 4/8/2013 10:07 PM Size: 93.1 MB	Date created: 4/8/2013 10:07 PM					
item selected						👰 Computer		

Windows Installer	
Preparing to install	
	Cancel

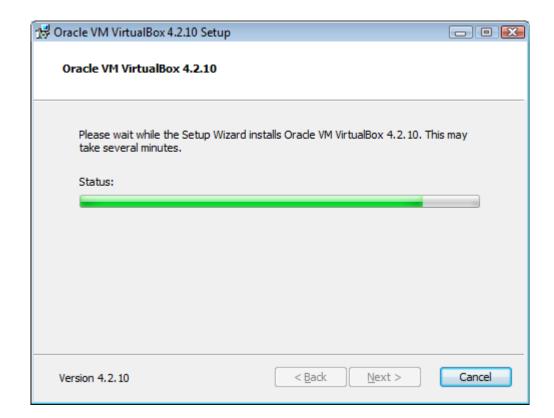
Image: Work of the state o

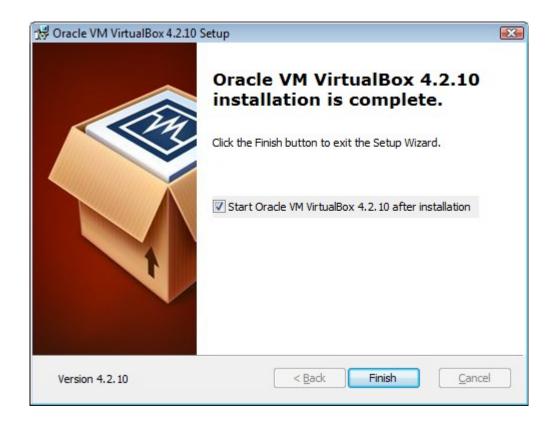
🕼 Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10 Setup	X
Custom Setup	
Select the way you want features to be installed.	
Click on the icons in the tree below to change the way features will be installed.	
Image: WirtualBox Application Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10 Image: WirtualBox USB Support Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10 Image: WirtualBox VirtualBox Networking Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10	
VirtualBox Bridger VirtualBox Host-C VirtualBox Python 2.x Su VirtualBox Python 2.x Su	
Location: C:\Program Files\Oracle\VirtualBox\ Browse	
Version 4.2.10 Disk Usage < Back Next > Cancel	

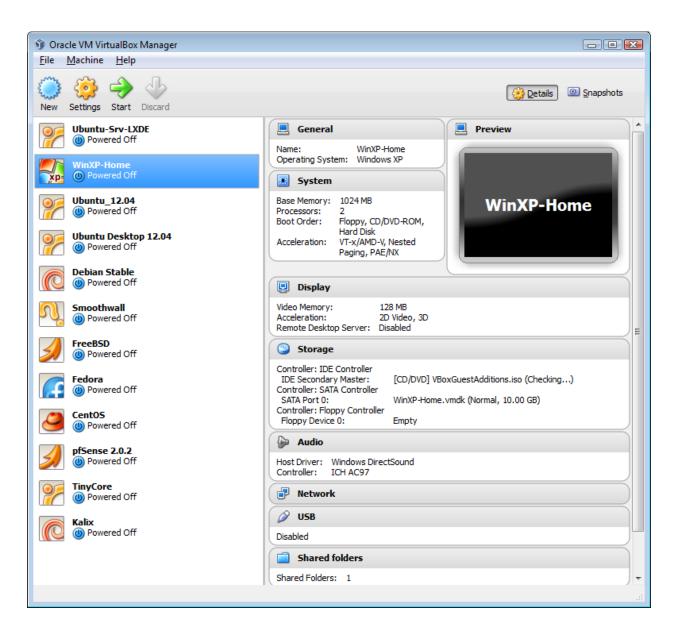
😾 Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10 Setup			
Custom Setup			
Select the way you want features to be installed.			
Please choose from the options below:			
Create a shortcut on the desktop			
Create a shortcut in the Quick Launch Bar			
Version 4.2.10			

ઝ Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10		X
	Warning: Network Interfaces Installing the Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10 Networking feature will reset your network connection and temporarily disconnect you from the network. Proceed with installation now?	
Version 4.2.10	Yes No	

🕼 Oracle VM VirtualBox 4.2.10 Setup	X			
Ready to Install				
The Setup Wizard is ready to begin the Custom installation.				
Click Install to begin the installation. If you want to review or change any of your installation settings, click Back. Click Cancel to exit the wizard.				
Version 4.2.10 < <u>Back</u> Install <u>Cance</u>				







Next we create a new virtual machine ClientOS for our Ubuntu desktop install.

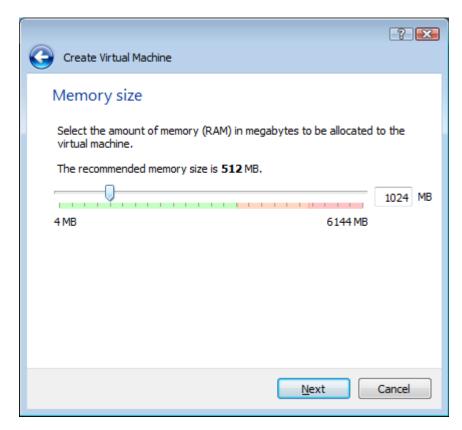
Create	Virtual Machine				
Name	Name and operating system				
type of	hoose a descriptive name for the new virtual machine and select the operating system you intend to install on it. The name you choose sed throughout VirtualBox to identify this machine.				
<u>N</u> ame:	ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop				
<u>Type</u> :	Linux 🔹 💽				
Version:	Ubuntu 👻				
	Hide Description Next Cancel				

File -> New

Dyslexic s/ALT/ATL/

Use Descriptive Names – avoid spaces in all filenames.

New Linux users should stay with LTS releases - 12.04 (Mint/Ubuntu)



Allocate only what you need.

Do not waste.

? 💌				
Create Virtual Machine				
Hard drive				
If you wish you can add a virtual hard drive to the new machine. You can either create a new hard drive file or select one from the list or from another location using the folder icon.				
If you need a more complex storage set-up you can skip this step and make the changes to the machine settings once the machine is created.				
The recommended size of the hard drive is 8.00 GB .				
Do not add a virtual hard drive				
Oreate a virtual hard drive now				
Use an existing virtual hard drive file				
👔 Arch.vdi (Normal, Inaccessible) 🔻 🗔				
Create Cancel				

New HDD - for a NEW OS install.

Do not add a vHDD for a LiveCD install - suitable for online bankin

where you want to boot off a known, unchanged, OS.

TinyCore Linux is perfect for this.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Create Virtual Hard Drive
Hard drive file type
Please choose the type of file that you would like to use for the new virtual hard drive. If you do not need to use it with other virtualization software you can leave this setting unchanged.
VDI (VirtualBox Disk Image)
VMDK (Virtual Machine Disk)
VHD (Virtual Hard Disk)
HDD (Parallels Hard Disk)
QED (QEMU enhanced disk)
QCOW (QEMU Copy-On-Write)
Hide Description Next Cancel

VDI is the native VirtualBox format.

I use it unless I have a good reason not to.

Can convert between these later using **VBoxManage CLI** program.

Create Virtual Hard Drive			
Storage on physical hard drive			
Please choose whether the new virtual hard drive file should grow as it is used (dynamically allocated) or if it should be created at its maximum size (fixed size).			
A dynamically allocated hard drive file will only use space on your physical hard drive as it fills up (up to a maximum fixed size), although it will not shrink again automatically when space on it is freed.			
A fixed size hard drive file may take longer to create on some systems but is often faster to use.			
Dynamically allocated			
Eixed size Eixed size			
Next Cancel			

Dynamic will save storage, but is at least 100% slower on spinning HDDs.

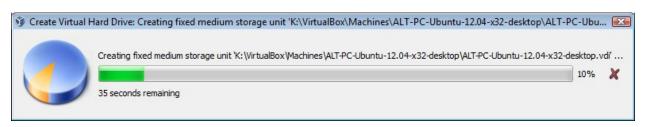
Really only useful for play areas or SSDs.

I always, always, always use **Fixed - completely reallocated virtual HDDs.** Extremely important to get good performance from a VM.

Create Virtual Hard Drive
File location and size
Please type the name of the new virtual hard drive file into the box below or click on the folder icon to select a different folder to create the file in.
ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop
Select the size of the virtual hard drive in megabytes. This size is the limit on the amount of file data that a virtual machine will be able to store on the hard drive.
4.00 MB 2.00 TB
Create Cancel

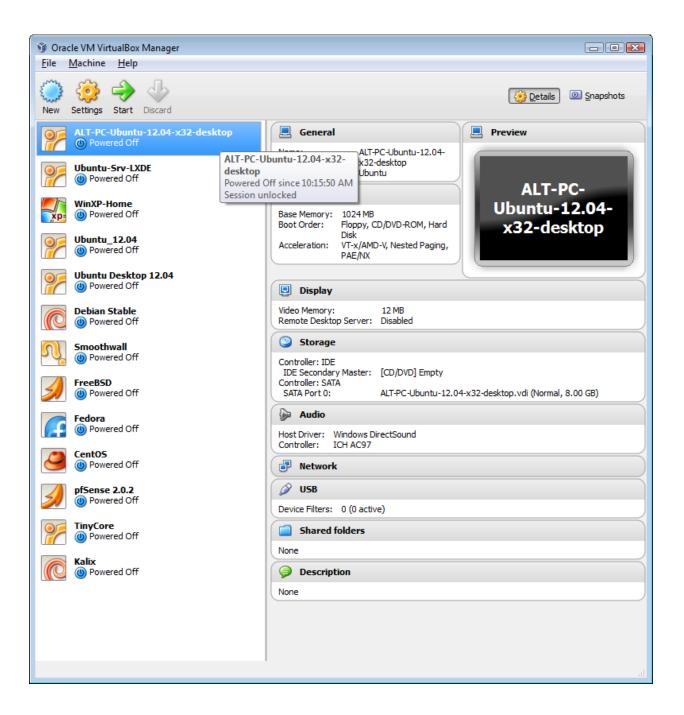
8GB is fine when just starting.

My daily use Linux/Ubuntu desktop is just 14GB in size. Keep large files elsewhere ... on the network or hostOS. Backups are smaller plus lots of other reasons.



Creating a fully allocated virtual HDD takes a few to 20 minutes depending on your system speed.

This took 2 minutes on my Core i5 laptop with a **WD Blue HDD**.



Base VM ready to hold OS install is ready, but needs some tweaks first.

Google "*slow virtualbox jdpfu*" to find written details for all the settings. I may miss a few here.

URL is: <u>http://www.jdpfu.com/2012/09/14/solution-for-slow-ubuntu-in-virtualbox</u>

All settings below are the default, unless I point them out. Of course, since I've been using VBox for 5 yrs, some of my defaults may not reflect what the current program defaults are.

🤨 A	LT-PC-Ubuntu-12	04-x32-desktop - Settings	X
	General	General	7
	System Display Storage Audio	General Basic Advanced Description Name: ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop Type: Linux Version: Ubuntu	
		Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings item to get more information.	
		100% OK Cancel Help	

🥝 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.0	04-x32-desktop - Settings
📃 General	General
🔝 System	
🖳 Display	Basic Advanced Description
Storage	Snapshot Folder: 📗 K:\VirtualBox\Machines\ALTUbuntu-12.04-x32-desktop\Snapshots 💌
ଢ Audio	Shared Clipboard: Bidirectional 🔻
P Network	Drag'n'Drop: Disabled
🔊 Serial Ports	Removable Media: 📝 Remember Runtime Changes
Ø USB	Mini ToolBar: 📝 Show In <u>F</u> ullscreen/Seamless
Shared Folders	Show At Top Of Screen
	Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings item to get more information.
	OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp

Share the clipboard.

You'll thank me later.

🧐 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.0	14-x32-desktop - Settings
📃 General	System
🔝 System	
Display	Motherboard Processor Acceleration
Storage	Base Memory: 1524 MB
ଢ Audio	4 MB 6144 MB
Network	Boot Order: Floppy
🐊 Serial Ports	CD/DVD-ROM Hard Disk
🖉 USB	Network
Shared Folders	Chipset: ICH9 💌
	Extended Features: 🔽 Enable IO APIC
	Enable EFI (special OSes only)
	✓ Hardware clock in <u>U</u> TC time
	Enable <u>a</u> bsolute pointing device
	Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings item to get more information,
	OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp

Chipset: ICH9 - better performance

Enable **IO APIC** (critical when mulitple VMs run simultaneously)

Consider removing the Floppy Disk

🥝 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.0	04-x32-desktop - Settings
 ALT-PC-Obuntu-12X General System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders 	System Motherboard Processor Acceleration Processor(s): 1 I 1
	Controls the number of virtual CPUs in the virtual machine. You need hardware virtualization support on your host system to use more than one virtual CPU. OK Cancel

1 vCPU - more is not needed, but for Linux systems, changing it later is trivial.

Try 2 if you like, later.

🥹 Al	T-PC-Ubuntu-12.	04-x32-desktop - Settings
	General	System
	System	
Q	Display	Motherboard Processor Acceleration
0	Storage	Hardware Virtualization: 🔽 Enable VT-x/AMD-V
	Audio	Enable Nested Paging
Ð	Network	
	Serial Ports	
Ø	USB	
	Shared Folders	
		When checked, the virtual machine will try to make use of the host CPU's hardware virtualization extensions such as Intel VT-x and AMD-V.
		OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp

Defaults for VT-x capable hardware. May need to enable this in your BIOS. Cheaper machines do not support VT-x/AMD-v features. Vbox will use excellent software-based VM if it isn't available.

🥹 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.0	14-x32-desktop - Settings	
 General System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders 	Display Video Remote Display Video Memory: 1 MB 128 MB 1 MB 14 64 1 Extended Features: Enable 3D Acceleration Enable 2D Video Acceleration 1	
	Controls the amount of video memory provided to the virtual machine.	
	OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp	

Desktops need more vVRAM.

DO NOT ENABLE 2D or 3D accelteration at this point.

Unity sucks, IMHO.

🥹 AL	.T-PC-Ubuntu-12.(04-x32-desktop - Settings	? 🗙
	General	Display	
	System	Denote Direktor	
	Display	<u>Video</u> <u>R</u> emote Display	
0	Storage	Enable Server	
	Audio	Server Port: 3389	
₽	Network	Authentication Method: Null	-
	Serial Ports	Authentication Timeout: 0	
Ø	USB	Extended Features: Allow Multiple Connections	
	Shared Folders		
		Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a se	ettings
		item to get more information.	
		OK Cancel	<u>H</u> elp

No remote RDP needed .. unless you know you want it.

I prefer to use internal remote access/desktop tools, like NX, which are 3x faster.

🥝 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.0	🔅 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop - Settings 🔹 😨 💽				
📃 General	Storage				
 System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders 	Storage Tree Controller: IDE Controller: SATA Controller: SATA ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-des ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-des	Attributes <u>N</u> ame: <u>T</u> ype:	ICH6 ▼ ▼ Use host I/O cache		
	Select a settings category from the list on the item to get more information.	e left-hand sid	le and move the mouse over a settings		
			OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp		

Use ICH? controllers for better performance.

Not too important for virtual optical devices. Also, some BSD releases do not support ICH on all distros, so PII4 is the only viable choice.

🥝 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12	.04-x32-desktop - Settings	?	×
📃 General	Storage		
 System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders 	Storage Tree Controller: IDE Controller: SATA Controller: SATA	Attributes Name: SATA Type: AHCI Port Count: 1 Image: I	
		OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp	

SATA is best for Windows-based client OSes or if you aren't certain. WinXP doesn't provide SATA drivers with the install, so IDE is the only real choice.

With non-VirtualBox hypervisors, you might be able to select VirtIO as the controllers. This would be vastly preferred over emulated hardware from a performance standpoint. **Common Linux installs support VirtIO drivers by default**.

🥹 AI	T-PC-Ubuntu-12	.04-x32-desktop - Settings
	General System Display Storage	Audio ✓ Enable Audio Host Audio Driver: Windows DirectSound ▼
	Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders	Audio <u>C</u> ontroller: ICH AC97
		Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings item to get more information. OK Cancel

Audio - defaults are fine for desktop-on-desktop VMs.

🥹 AI	T-PC-Ubuntu-12.	04-x32-desktop - Settings	? 🔀	
	General	Network		
	System			
D	Display	Adapter <u>1</u> Adapter <u>2</u> Adapter <u>3</u> Adapter <u>4</u>		
0	Storage	☑ Enable Network Adapter		
	Audio	Attached to: Bridged Adapter 💌		
7	Network	Name: Realtek PCIe GBE Family Controller	-	
	Serial Ports	✓ A <u>d</u> vanced		
Ø	USB	Adapter Type: Intel PRO/1000 MT Desktop (82540EM)	-	
	Shared Folders	Promiscuous Mode: Deny 🗸		
		MAC Address: 080027409E79	3	
		Cable connected		
		Port Forwarding		
	Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings item to get more information.			
		OK Cancel	Help	

For non-Linux VMs, use the Intel PRO/1000 NIC.

Bridged, NAT, Host-only, internal network are the choices. Bridged - VMs are full citizens on the network. Could connect a wifi adapter as a PRO/1000 inside any VM. VM only sees virtual hardware.

🥹 A	🥝 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop - Settings				
	General	Network			
	System				
Q	Display	Adapter <u>1</u> Adapter <u>2</u> Adapter <u>3</u> Adapter <u>4</u>			
0	Storage	Enable Network Adapter			
	Audio	Attached to: Bridged Adapter			
ð	Network	Name: Realtek PCIe GBE Family Controller	-		
	Serial Ports	✓ Advanced			
ø	USB	Adapter Type: Paravirtualized Network (virtio-net)	•		
	Shared Folders	Promiscuous Mode: Deny	Promiscuous Mode: Deny		
		MAC Address: 080027409E79	9		
		Cable connected			
		Port Forwarding			
	Controls how this virtual adapter is attached to the real network of the Host OS.				
		OK Cancel H	<u>t</u> elp		

However, we're installing Ubuntu, so **VirtIO** is the best choice for a network vNIC.

🕹 AL	.T-PC-Ubuntu-12.	04-x32-desktop - Settings	? 🗙
	General	Serial Ports	
	System		
e	Display	Port <u>1</u> Port <u>2</u>	
9	Storage	Enable Serial Port	
	Audio	Port Number: COM1 v IRQ: 4 I/O Port: 0x3F8	
Ð	Network	Port Mode: Disconnected 💌	
	Serial Ports	<u>C</u> reate Pipe	
Ø	USB	Port/File Path:	
	Shared Folders		
		Select a settings category from the list on the left-hand side and move the mouse over a set	ttings
		item to get more information.	
		OK Cancel	Help

Defaults.

Image: System USB Image: System Image: System Image: Display Image: Enable USB 2.0 (EH_CI) Controller Image: Storage Image: Enable USB 2.0 (EH_CI) Controller	😟 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop - Settings 🔹 👔					
Shared Folders		General System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports	USB Image: USB Controller Image: USB 2.0 (EHCI) Controller	B		
OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp			item to get more information.	ettings		

Defaults.

ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-desktop - Settings						
📃 General	Shared Folders Folders List					
 Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders 	Name Path Machine Folders	Auto-Mount Access				
	Select a settings category from the list on the left-han item to get more information.	nd side and move the mouse over a settings OK Cancel Help				

Defaults for now.

This is where you can make certain file areas of the hostOS available to VMs. Perhaps a good place to keep large files and audio collections to be shared between the HostOS and multiple clientOSes? All these settings can be changed later.

None really matter **except the fully allocated vHDD**. Linux looks at the available hardware during boot and configures appropriately. No license crap to deal with. Change the vRAM, vCPUs, NICs, Audio between reboots - no problem.

🥝 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.	04-x32-desktop - Settings	? X
 General System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB Shared Folders 	Storage Tree	Attributes CD/DVD Drive: IDE Primary Master Live CD/DVD Information Type: Image Size: Location: D:\VirtualBox\ISOs\ubuntu-12.0 Attached To: Ubuntu Desktop 12.04
	Select a settings category from the list on the item to get more information.	e left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings
		OK Cancel <u>H</u> elp

Now we need to **attach** an **Ubuntu x32 12.04 LTS Desktop ISO** to the optical device and boot.

Start that baby up!

Install Ubuntu

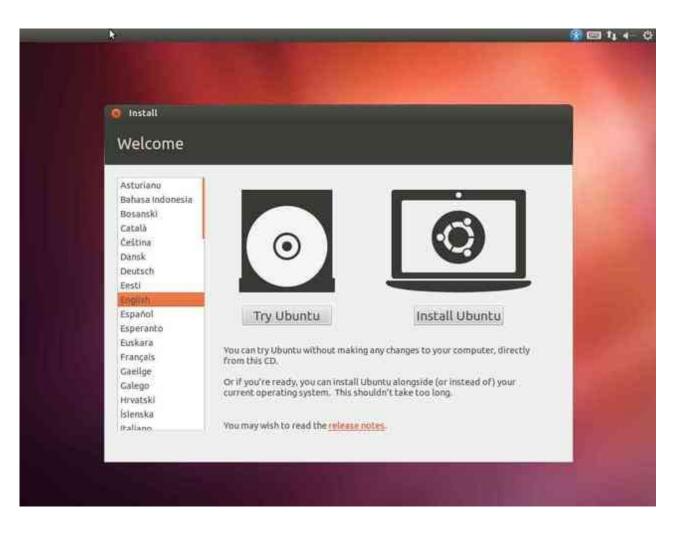
Erase disk - this will be writing to a vHDD, not any real HDD

"Something Else" is for complex installs to hardware or when you want to control partitioning.

Canonical learned from others how to fill the time during an installation. Billboards showing features that I never use - cloud, music, social media.

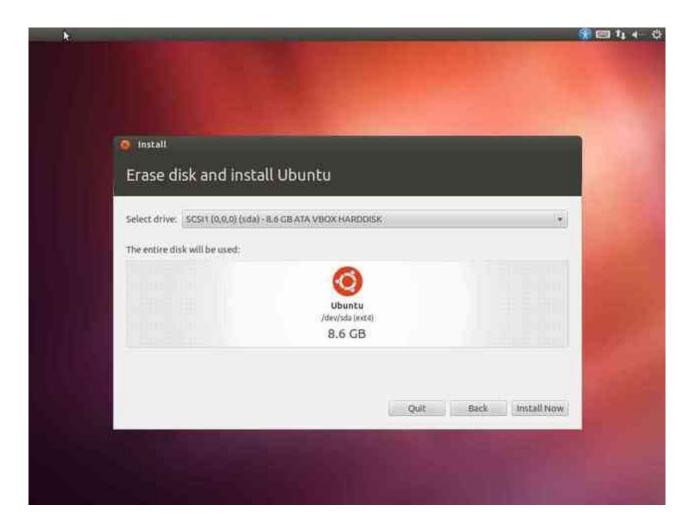
A few very useful programs will be highlighted - **LibreOffice** - replacement for MS-Office for 95% of the world.

> We told the install to download updates during the installation. If you don't do this, the install will be a little quicker, but you'll want to patch immediately after the install, just like with every other OS.

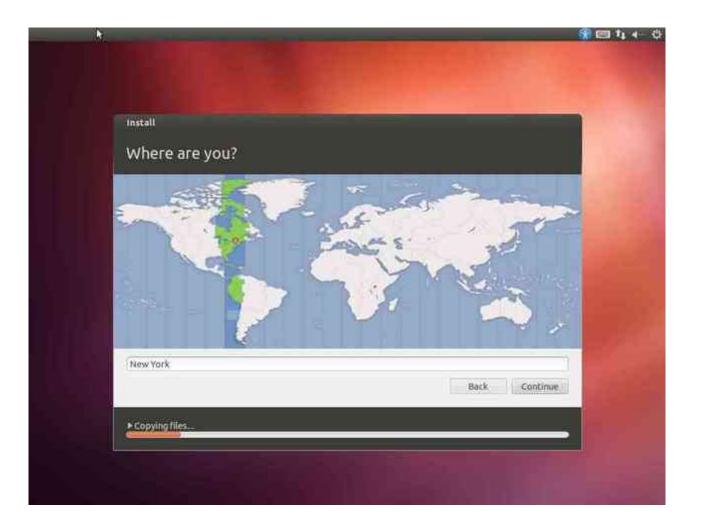


10 Install	
Preparing to install Ubuntu	
For best results, please ensure that this compute	E.
🧳 has at least 4.4 GB available drive space	
🥩 is plugged in to a power source	
🚀 is connected to the internet	
😰 Download updates while installing	
Ubuntu uses third-party software to display Flash, MF hardware. Some of this software is closed-source. The with the software's documentation.	P3 and other media, and to work with some wireless e software is subject to the license terms included
Sinstall this third-party software Fluendo MP3 plugin includes MPEC Layer-3 audio decoding 1	technology licensed from Fraushofer ID and Technicolog SA
Preside why profile includes white take 3 approximation	
	Quit Back Continue

	Install		-
Ir	stallation	type	
	This compo	oter currently has no detected operating systems. What would you like to	do?
	• 🖸	Erase disk and install Ubuntu Warning: This will delete any files on the disk.	
	ុង	Something else You can create or restre partitions yoursall, or choose multiple partitions for Ubuntu.	
			-10
			100
		Quit Back	Continue



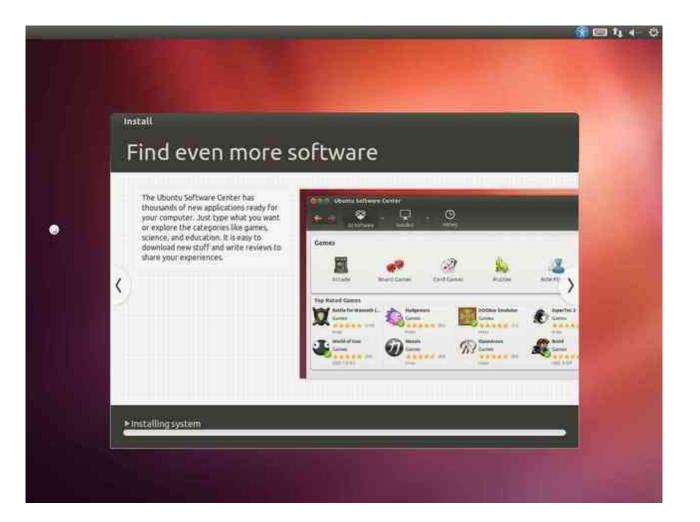
Install	I tillering ber	
Erase disk and instal	l Obuncu	
Select drive: SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda) -	E 6 GB ATA VBOX HARDOISK	[+]
The entire disk will be used:		
	Ø	
	Ubuntu (dev/sda (ext4)	and the second
	8.6 GB	
		Back Install Now



^{Install} Keyboard layout	
1 5-12 MG	
choose your keyboard layout: English (Ghana) English (Nigeria) English (South Africa) English (UK) English (UK) Esperanto Estonian Faroese Filipino	English (US) English (US) - Cherokee English (US) - English (Colemak) English (US) - English (Dvorak atternative internation English (US) - English (Dvorak international with dead English (US) - English (Dvorak) English (US) - English (Macintosh) English (US) - English (US, alternative international) English (US) - English (US, alternative international)
Type here to test your keyboard	
Detect Keyboard Layout	Back Continue

Install		-	-		-
Who are you	?				
	Your name:	JD P			4
Your	computer's name:			£	
	Pick a username:		in it talks	to other computers.	
c	ioose a password:			Weak password	
Confi	m your password;			1	
		Log in automa		1.4.141	
		 Require my pa Encrypt my 			
				Back	Continue
► Copying files					

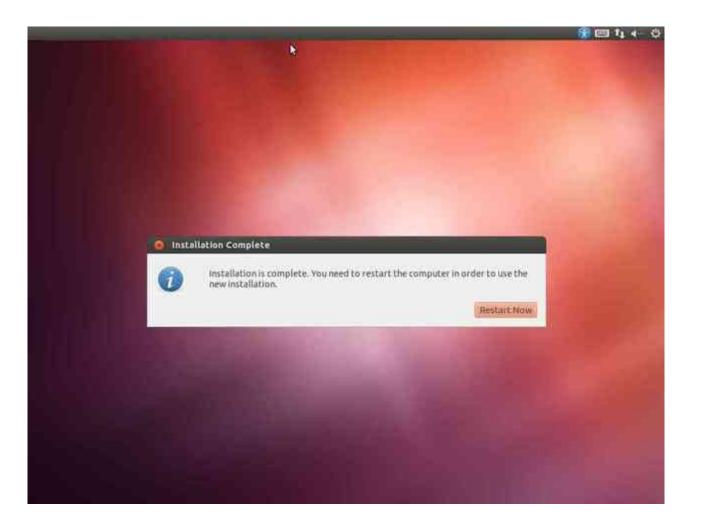












Welcome to Ubuntu 12.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.2.0-29-generic-pae 1686)

* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com/

ubuntu@ubuntu:~\$ Broadcast message from root@ubuntu (unknown) at 11:01 ...

The system is going down for reboot NOW! modem-manager[1364]: ≺info> Caught signal 15, shutting down...

Please remove installation media and close the tray (if any) then press ENTER:

After the install finishes ... remove media and restart. VirtualBox automatically removes the media for us - at least it did for me.



ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12	2.04-x32-desktop - Settings	2 💌
 ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12 General System Display Storage Audio Network Serial Ports USB 	2.04-x32-desktop - Settings Storage Storage Tree Storage Tree Controller: IDE Empty Controller: SATA Storage ALT-PC-Ubuntu-12.04-x32-des	Attributes CD/DVD Drive: IDE Primary Master CD/DVD Drive: IDE Primary Master Difference CD/DVD Diffe
Shared Folders	Select a settings category from the list on the item to get more information.	Attached To: e left-hand side and move the mouse over a settings OK Cancel Help





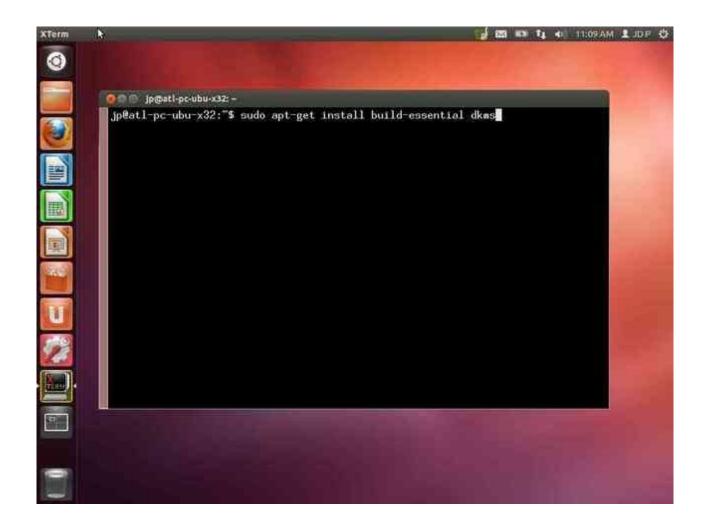


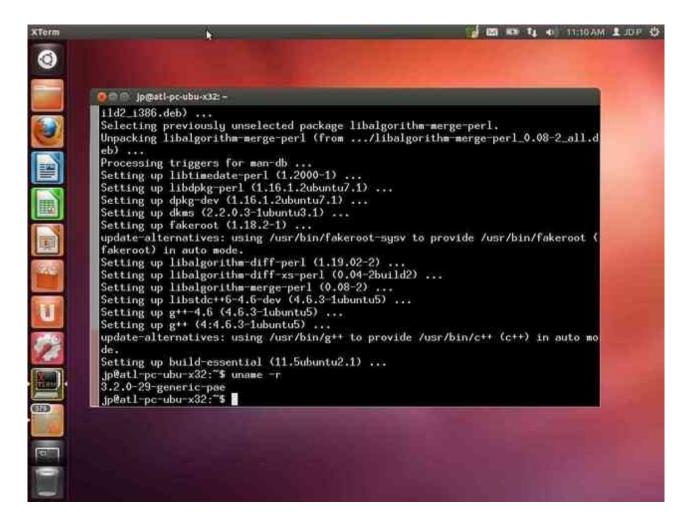
After login, time to install the Guest Additions. Google for "jdpfu guest additions" Dependencies to install **Guest Additions** are documented here: <u>http://www.jdpfu.com/2012/09/14/solution-for-slow-ubuntu-in-virtualbox</u>

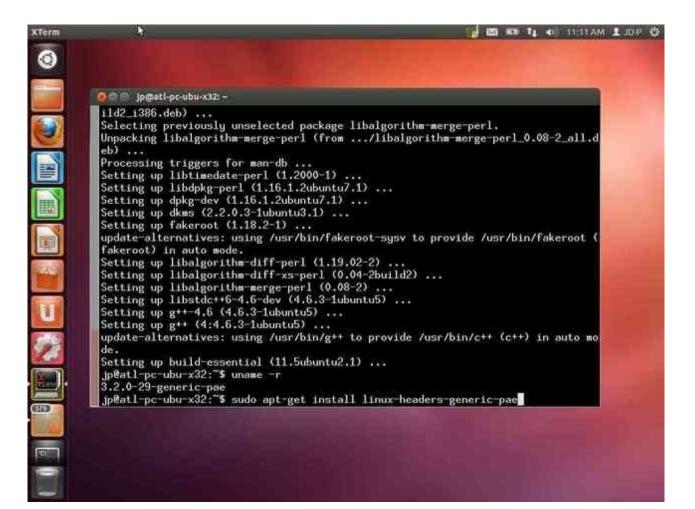
- •
- \$ sudo apt-get install build-essential dkms
- \$ uname -r
- •

{}-generic-pae = apt-get install linux-headers-generic-pae
 {}-generic = apt-get install linux-headers-generic
 {}-server = apt-get install linux-headers-server

Select **Devices --> Install Guest Additions** from the virtualbox menu. This just mounts the storage (an ISO).







🛃 🖙 👣 🔹 TICTSAM 🗘 JDP 🛟



XTerm

O O C jpmstl-pr-upp-s32 -		
Get:1 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubu 2.0-40 all 3.2.0-40.64 [11.7 MB] Get:2 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubu 2.0-40-generic-pae 1386 3.2.0-40.64 [9 Get:3 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubu VBOXADDITIONS 4.2.10 84104	ntu/ precise-update: 179 k8]	5/main linux-headers-3
This medium contains software intended to started. Would you like to run it? The software will run directly from the medium "VBC You should never run software that you don't trust. If in doubt, press Cancel. Unpacking replacement linux-headers-gg Setting up linux-headers-3.2.0-40 (gg, Setting up linux-headers-3.2.0-40-genet Examining /etc/kernel/header_postinst. run-parts: executing /etc/kernel/header_pace. Setting up linux-headers-3.2.0-40 gg, Setting up linux-headers-3.2.0-40 genet Examining /etc/kernel/header_postinst. run-parts: executing /etc/kernel/header_pace. Setting up linux-headers-generic-pae Setting up linux-headers-generic-pae Setting up linux-headers-generic-pae Setting up linux-headers-generic-pae	Cancel Run cancel Run neric-pae 2.0-40.64) eric-pae (3.2.0-40.64 d. er_postinst.d/dkms 3	

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XTerm



Get completely patched - OS, apps, everything:

- \$ sudo apt-get update
- \$ sudo apt-get dist-upgrade

To enable Guest Addition features like vGPU acceleration, Shared Folders with the HostOS, desktop resizing, NTP, we need to reboot.

\$ sudo reboot

At this point, you have a stock, Ubuntu 12.04 LTS install running Ubuntu 12.04.2 LTS. Supported until April 2017.

Congratulations.

When running on current hardware doing non-GUI tasks, I see 95% of native performance.

When running full-screen, I forget that I'm in a VM.

Honestly, I don't use stock Ubuntu. I install a server release, then add the specific GUI that I prefer - LXDE or fvwm. these are both light-weight compared to Unity, which is a hog styled after Microsoft and OSX GUIs.

In total, about 45 minutes is needed to perform this install.

Try alternative GUIs:

\$ sudo apt-get install fvwm lxde

then select the alternative GUI on the main login screen. Linux is the base OS, not the GUI. GUIs can be swapped in and out as you like. I don't understand why people dump Ubuntu for Mint. They are the SAME OS, just a with a slightly different GUI. The Mint GUI is available under Ubuntu. Back to the main presentation