

# Chapter 8

## Hands–On Guide to Virtual Box

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### **ABSTRACT**

*VirtualBox is a cross-platform virtualization application. What does that mean? For one thing, it installs on your existing Intel or AMD-based computers, whether they are running Windows, Mac, Linux or Solaris operating systems. Secondly, it extends the capabilities of your existing computer so that it can run multiple operating systems (inside multiple virtual machines) at the same time. So, for example, you can run Windows and Linux on your Mac, run Windows Server 2008 on your Linux server, run Linux on your Windows PC, and so on, all alongside your existing applications. You can install and run as many virtual machines as you like—the only practical limits are disk space and memory.*

### **INTRODUCTION TO VIRTUAL BOX**

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VirtualBox is deceptively simple yet also very powerful. It can run everywhere from small embedded systems or desktop class machines all the way up to datacenter deployments and even Cloud environments (Oracle VM VirtualBox, n. d.).

## **USING VIRTUAL BOX**

### **Installation**

Installing VirtualBox on Windows and OSX is relatively straight forward. VirtualBox can be downloaded from <https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>.

1. Double click on the VirtualBox.exe file for Windows users or VirtualBox.dmg file for OSX users.
2. Click Next / Continue button on the Welcome window.
3. OSX Users can choose the install location from the Choose Install Location button on the Installation Type window. Users can also perform a custom install using the Customize button on the Installation Type window. This opens up the Custom Install on “Macintosh HD” window. OSX users can click on Install button to install VirtualBox on their system. Windows users can perform a custom install by clicking on the various features available. Windows users click Next to proceed with the installation process.
4. The installation process resets the network interface for Windows users temporarily. Click on Yes to start the installation process.
5. Windows users will be presented with a Ready to Install window. Click Install to install VirtualBox on the system.

### **Installing a Guest Operating System**

VirtualBox enables the user to install various Guest Operating Systems or Guest OS on their Host Operating System or Host OS, which is the operating system upon which VirtualBox is installed. The Guest OS runs on the Host OS. Upon opening VirtualBox users are greeted with a Welcome to VirtualBox window. The following steps will guide users on installing a Guest OS. In the steps below the Guest OS being installed is Ubuntu 16.04 but the same steps can be followed to install any OS.

1. Click on the New button to start the process of adding a Guest VM.

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