



Paravirtual Appliance

Getting Started Guide

The Paravirtual Appliances are free virtual machines and are intended to demonstrate the Virtual Machine Interface (VMI) for virtual machine hypervisors. They are available at

<http://www.vmware.com/interfaces/techpreview.html>

Paravirtual appliances are available containing Fedora Core 5 and Suse OSS 10.1. Each has a Linux kernel implementing VMI.

This Getting Started Guide contains the following sections:

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Using the Paravirtual Appliance

Downloading and Installing the Paravirtual Appliances

You can download the Paravirtual Appliances from <http://www.vmware.com/interfaces/techpreview/>. From the same download page, you can download VMware Tech Preview, a free VMware application that you can use to run the Paravirtual Appliances. To install a Paravirtual Appliance, simply untar the download file on your local hard drive.

Running the Paravirtual Appliances

To run a Paravirtual Appliance:

1. Launch VMware Tech Preview.
2. In the dialog box Browse for Virtual Machine Configuration File, browse to the directory where you installed the Paravirtual Appliance, select the file `fedora5.vmx` or `suse.vmx`, and click Open.

The Paravirtual Appliance powers on automatically, and the operating system boots up. This may take several minutes.

Logging in to the Paravirtual Appliances

The paravirtual appliances have been set up with a user login of `vmware`, with the password `vmware`. The root password is also `vmware`.



Setting the Paravirtual Appliances to Preserve Changes or Revert on Shutdown

You can configure the Paravirtual Appliances to preserve changes (persistent mode) or revert to its original state on shutdown (autorevert mode) by editing the Paravirtual Appliance configuration (.vmx) file.

1. In a text editor, go to the folder containing your Paravirtual Appliance files, and open the Paravirtual Appliance configuration file: `fedora5.vmx` or `suse.vmx`.
2. To have the Paravirtual Appliance revert on shutdown, add the following lines to the configuration file:

```
scsi0 :0 .mode = "independent-nonpersistent"
snapshot.action = "autoRevert"
snapshot.disabled = "TRUE"
```

If the configuration file does not contain these lines, the Paravirtual Appliance preserves changes on shutdown. After you have set the configuration file, follow the instructions in the following section to close the Paravirtual Appliance

Note: Setting a suspended virtual machine to revert on shutdown is not recommended.

Closing the Paravirtual Appliance

How you close the Paravirtual Appliance depends on how important portability is to you, and whether you want the Paravirtual Appliance to revert to its original state on shutdown or preserve your changes.

Caution: By default, the Paravirtual Appliances are set to save your changes when you shut down. If you want a Paravirtual Appliance to revert to its original state on shutdown, you can edit the Paravirtual Appliance configuration (.vmx) file so that the appliance reverts on shutdown, as described in the following section.

Note: A virtual machine that has been suspended must be resumed on substantially similar host hardware, and is not appropriate for maximum portability (for example, transporting the Paravirtual Appliance on a portable disk of some sort).

To suspend your current session in either persistent or autorevert mode, and resume it at a later time:

1. Confirm that VMware Tech Preview is set to suspend on exit. In Tech Preview > Preferences > Close, set VMware Tech Preview to Suspend the virtual machine.
2. Select Tech Preview > Exit or click the [X] on the right-hand side of the VMware Tech Preview menu bar.
3. The virtual machine is suspended, and VMware Tech Preview exits.



To end your current session in persistent mode:

1. VMware Tech Preview may be set to either suspend on exit or power off on exit.
2. From the System menu in the virtual machine, select Log Out.
3. Click Shut down, and click OK.
4. The virtual machine performs an orderly shutdown, and VMware Tech Preview exits. This operation may take several minutes to complete.

To end your current session in autorevert mode, and discard all changes to the virtual machine: If VMware Tech Preview is set to power off on exit.

1. Select Tech Preview >Close or click the [X] on the right-hand side of the VMware Tech Preview menu bar.
2. The virtual machine performs an abbreviated shutdown, and VMware Tech Preview exits. This operation may take several minutes to complete.

All changes to the virtual machine from the current session are discarded.

If VMware Tech Preview is set to suspend on exit:

1. From the System menu in the virtual machine, select Log Out.
2. Click Shut down, and then click OK.
3. The virtual machine performs an orderly shutdown, and VMware Tech Preview exits. This operation may take several minutes to complete. All changes to the virtual machine from the current session are discarded.



Removing the Paravirtual Appliances

To remove a Paravirtual Appliance, simply delete the directory containing your Paravirtual Appliance files. There is no uninstallation procedure to perform. If you change your mind, you can always download another copy of the Paravirtual Appliances from

<http://www.vmware.com/interfaces/techpreview/>

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