

Nothing happens when opening a file on a Mac with a Windows application

- Parallels Desktop
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition

Symptoms

When I try to open a file on a Mac side using Windows application (for example .xls file ->'Open With'->'Excel.app') nothing happens.

Virtual Machine is running, application does not open, my action has no effect.

Shared Applications feature is enabled in Virtual machine Configuration > Options > Applications.

Cause

Sometimes .app packages created by Parallels Desktop lose links to their Virtual Machine counterparts.

Resolution

- 1. Start your Windows Virtual Machine and launch the necessary Windows application
- 2. On the Mac side right-click the file you want to open with Windows app and choose 'Open With' -> relevant app

Example:

- You want to open an .xls (Excel) file located on the Mac Desktop with Microsoft Excel
- You start your Windows Virtual Machine and launch Microsoft Excel (empty workbook)
- On the Mac side you locate the .xls file, right-click on it and choose *Open With... ->* Microsoft Excel (*your Virtual machine name*)

Application should now be properly registered. "Open with" feature should now work as intended.

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