

Can VMWare deployment package with .ova extension be converted for Parallels Desktop?

- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition
- Parallels Access
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Pro Edition

Symptoms

I have VMWare deployment package with the extension .ova (Open Virtual Appliance, standard format for virtual machines).

It contains my virtual machines.

I would like to switch from VMWare to Parallels Desktop.

Can I use the same package (.ova) for deploying VMWare to Parallels Desktop. or it should be converted?

Resolution

.ova is an archive. It usually contains description file (.ovf) a manifest file (.mf), and virtual machine disk files (.vhd or .vmdk)

Currently, conversion directly from ova/ovf is not supported by Parallels Desktop.

What needs to done in this particular case:

- 1. Download the **ovftool** from **VMWare** official site and install it on your computer.
- 2. Once this is done, you can convert the .ova to .vmx format:
 - ◆ Run Terminal (/Finder/Applications/Utilities/Terminal.app) and execute the command:

/Applications/VMware\ OVF\ Tool/ovftool --lax VM_NAME.ova exploit.vmx **NOTE**: You need to specify the exact path to .ova file instead of "VM_NAME.ova".

The best way is to simply Drag'n'Drop this file in **Terminal** window after enterning ...-lax

- ♦ (There should be a space between ...lax and /path-to-vm...).
- 3. Now, you have a .vmx file that you can open and convert to Parallels Desktop virtual machine (.pvm):
 - ♦ Please make sure you deleted previous tools from your virtual machine (old Parallels Tools or VMware tools, etc.)
 - ♦ Fully Shut down your virtual machine do not suspend the virtual machine and do not put it in hibernate mode.
 - ♦ Open Parallels Desktop (in the Applications folder) and choose File > Open.
 - ♦ Select the .vmx file you want to import, then click **Open**.

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