

Parallels Desktop kernel extensions' approval dialog when deploying to a macOS Big Sur host

- Parallels Desktop for Mac Business Edition

Question

Starting with macOS High Sierra 10.13, a kernel extension must be approved by an administrator account or a Mobile Device Management (MDM) profile before it can load.

But when deploying Parallels Desktop to macOS Big Sur, despite having the corresponding MDM profile to allow a Parallels kernel extensions, macOS prompts the user to approve the kernel extensions.

How can this be avoided?

Information

Starting with Big Sur, macOS requires a reboot after updating/deploying kernel extensions to rebuild macOS KEXT cache: <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT211860> .

As a result, even though the kernel extensions are allowed by the MDM profile, an additional system reboot is required before they can be freely loaded, and therefore the dialog appears.

Since in macOS Big Sur Parallels kernel extensions are only required to enable Parallels hypervisor, the best way to avoid this pop-up is to deploy the virtual machine configured to use Apple hypervisor. As a result, Parallels kernel extensions will not need to load, and the pop-up will not appear.

To select Apple hypervisor before deploying a virtual machine, do one of the following:

1. Open the virtual machine's Configuration > **Hardware** > **CPU & Memory** > **Advanced Settings**, and in **Hypervisor** select **Apple**.
2. Inside the .pvm bundle, open config.pvs file and change:

<HypervisorType>0</HypervisorType>

to

<HypervisorType>1</HypervisorType>

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