

"There is no operating system installed in this virtual machine" error message

- Parallels Desktop
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition 17 and older
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition

Symptoms

Trying to start the Virtual Machine you get the following error message:

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"There is no operating system installed in this virtual machine. Please insert an operating system"
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Cause

- The error message indicates that Windows Operating System is not installed in the Virtual Machine.
- Your Windows Installation disk or .iso file may be corrupted or non-bootable
- You did not connect an Operating System image of CD/DVD and started virtual machine installation

Resolution

Option 1

1. Start Parallels Desktop.
2. On top MAC menu bar click on *File menu* -> *New* -> choose *Install Windows* -> Click *Continue* and follow the instructions.

Note: For more information you may follow the instruction in the KB article: [KB4729](#)

Option 2

Download another .iso file or get another **original** installation disk from manufacturer

Note: Original means that this iso file/DVD is not modified by 3rd party persons

Option 3

If you are not able to install from DVD (e.g. there is no DVD-ROM in MacBook Air) you may create an .iso image on other computer. Please refer to the following KB article: [KB4917](#)

Option 4

Connect your DVD/iso file:

1. In virtual machine Configuration go to **Hardware** > **CD/DVD 1**.

2. Make sure that **Connected** box is checked.
 3. Specify the disk/image location in **Connect to:** box.
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