

How to add a hard disk from one virtual machine to another virtual machine

• Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition

Information

This article explains how to add a virtual hard disk of one virtual machine to another virtual machine as a second hard drive.

- 1. Start Parallels Desktop but do not start your virtual machines.
- 2. Go to the <u>Configuration</u> of the virtual machine which you want to attach the other virtual machine's hard disk to.
- 3. Go to Hardware tab and click '+' sign, choose Hard Disk
- 4. Click on the Type drop-down menu and choose Existing image file
- 5. Click on **Location** and navigate to another virtual machine's hard disk file (.hdd), then click **Open**.
- 6. Now the **Hard Disk 2** is shown in your first virtual machine's Configuration.

Example

You have two virtual machines: Windows 8 and Windows 8.1 and you need to attach the virtual hard disk of Windows 8.1 to Windows 8 virtual machine.

Both virtual machines are located in the /*Users/username/Documents/Parallels* folder and you can see them as **Windows 8.pvm** and **Windows 8.1.pvm**.

- 1. You open Windows 8 virtual machine's Configuration > **Hardware** and click on "+" to attach a new hard disk
- 2. Then you select **Type: Existing image file**.
- 3. Under Location you go to Documents > the Parallels folder, click on Windows 8.1.pvm, go to Windows 8.1-0.hdd > Windows 8.1-0.hdd.

Note: the first .hdd item here is the folder that contains the virtual hard disk .hdd file.

- 4. Then you click **Open**.
- 5. Now your Windows 8.1-0.hdd is attached to your Windows 8 virtual machine as a second drive.

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