# || Parallels<sup>®</sup>

#### **Unable activate Windows 8**

- Parallels Desktop
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition 9 and older
- Parallels Desktop for Mac Standard Edition

## Symptoms

Unable to Activate Windows 8.

#### Cause

- 1. You upgraded to Windows 8, but didn't have a previous version or the correct edition of Windows installed.
- 2. One copy of Windows might have been installed multiple times (if Windows 8 is migrated to Mac using Parallels).

## Resolution

Please use the following steps to fix Windows 8 Activation issues:

- 1. Go to Search and type in regedit, hit Return/Enter
- 2. Navigate to

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE/Software/Microsoft/Windows/CurrentVersion/Setup/OOBE/

3. Change MediaBootInstall from 1 to 0

select the item "MediaBootInstall", double-click on it, then you can type in '0' as the value, (hexadecimal or decimal).

4. Go back to the Start screen (Search) and type in cmd

*Note:* To get back to the Windows 8 start screen, you just hit "COMMAND" key on your Mac keyboard 5. Right-click Command Prompt and select to Run it as Administrator

6. Type in the following command:

slmgr /rearm

and hit Return/Enter.

Exit out of the command prompt window.

- 7. Reboot Windows Virtual Machine
- 8. Go to:

Control Panel > System and Security > System > Windows Activation and check if Windows 8 has been activated.

Please note that the isssue with Windows 8 activation is not related to Parallels Desktop directly.

If the issue still persists, please contact Microsoft Technical Support.

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