# || Parallels<sup>®</sup>

# Creating and managing Virtual Desktop Infrastructure in Remote Application Server

- Parallels Remote Application Server 18.3
- Parallels Remote Application Server 19.1

### Intro

This article provides a comprehensive overview of what can be accomplished with virtualized resources and how to set up Parallels Remote Application Server (RAS) to work with said virtualized resources.

By adding the Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) host to the RAS, you can manage the virtual machines on it, create guest clones, and publish virtual desktops and applications from virtual guests.

The following hypervisors are supported:

- Microsoft Hyper-V (Windows Server 2012 R2 up to Windows Server 2022);
- Microsoft Hyper-V Failover Cluster (Windows Server 2012 R2 up to Windows Server 2022);
- VMware vCenter 7.x, 6.7.0, 6.5.0;
- VMware ESXi 7.x, 6.7.0, 6.5.0;
- Scale Computing HC3 8.9, 9.1;
- Nutanix AHV AOS 5.15, 5.20.

The special VDI provider type Remote PC allows publishing from on-premise PCs or Virtual Machines (VMs) without hypervisor involving. To know more, please follow this KB <u>How to create Remote PC Pool</u>

RAS also supports Cloud providers such as Azure and AWS.

## Adding a VDI Host

In this article setting up RAS VDI using Microsoft Hyper-V will be an example, other hypervisors are adding in the same way.

1. In the RAS Console, go to Farm>Providers. Click Plus icon or Tasks>Add. Choose Microsoft



#### Hyper-V.

2. The configuration wizard will appear, specify the parameters:

dd Virtualiza	ation Provider - Microsoft Hyper-V	?	×
Pa	rallels"		=
Type:	Microsoft Hyper-V		
Name:	HOST		
Description:	Lenovo		
Connectiv	ity		
Address:	host.ras.local		
Usemame:	rasadmin		
Password:	••••••		
Manage cr	edentials to deploy RAS agent: Manage credentials		
Advanced	Settings		
		-	

**Tip:** we do recommend using full permission account for VDI provider, but it could be also limited service account.

In case you're using a different user account to deploy RAS Agent on Guest VM, click Manage Credentials...

Pa	rallels"
Type:	Microsoft Hyper-V
Name:	HOST
Description:	Lenovo
Connectiv	ity
Address:	host.ras.local
Usemame:	rasadmin
Password:	••••••
Manage cr	edentials to deploy RAS agent Manage credentials
Manage	Credentials ? ×
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Under Advanced settings you can specify to which Connection Broker (CB) this VDI Agent will report.

**Tip:** if you're planning to use Template to deploy RDSH for auto-scaling feature, we recommend specifying the Primary CB as preferred.

Add Virtualization Provider - Microsoft Hyper-V

? ×

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type.	MICrosof	riyperv				
Name:	HOST					
Description:	Lenovo					
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Advanced V	DI Provid	er Settings			?	$\times$
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Agent addres	IS:					
Preferred Cor Broker:	nnection	RAS19serv				~
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3. Next window will check connectivity and access to hypervisor.

Add Virtualization I	Provider - Microsoft Hyper-V ? ×	
Para	llels" 📄	
Provider:	HOST	
Agent status:	ОК	
Type:	Microsoft Hyper-V	
Version:	19.0 (build 23236) Beta Protocol Version 8	
Provider Services:	Enabled on port 30006	
OS Type:	Windows Server 2022 Standard Edition 10.0.20348 (x64) - Hv:HyperV	
Status: RAS VDI	Agent is verified. The credentials are valid.	
	< Back Finish Cancel Help	

4. Once the Wizard is finished, need to **Apply** settings and wait for synchronization. VDI agent is now requesting a list of available VMs and their info. Depends on the environment, it could take a while.

Status	Туре	Description	Group by 🔻 🕂	📃 🕃 🔽 Task	s 🔻
Status	Type	Description	Descrides Asset		
Synchronizing		o coorpoort	Provider Agent	High availability	1
	Microsoft Hyper-V 10.0.20	Lenovo	RAS19serv	OFF	
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Close

Apply

Help

4. You can check the Properties of VDI Provider and adjust if needed:

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✓ HOST       ■ OK       Microsoft Hyper-V 10.0.20       Lenovo       RAS 19serv       OFF         HOST Properties       ?       ×         General       Credentials       Agent settings       RDP printer         ☑ Enable provider in site            Name:       HOST            Description:       Lenovo            Ivae:       Microsoft Hyper-V            Subtype:       10.0.20348 Windows Server 2022 Datacenter: Azure Edition (Full / Server Core)           Host:       6.3.9600 Windows Server 2012 R2 Standard (Full / Server Core)            Host:       10.0.120348 Windows Server 2012 R2 Datacenter (Full / Server Core)            Host:       6.3.9600 Windows Server 2015 Batacenter (Full / Server Core)            Port:       10.0.14393 Windows Server 2015 Datacenter (Full / Server Core)            Dedicated VDI       10.0.17763 Windows Server 2019 Datacenter (Full / Server Core)            Agent address:       10.0.20348 Windows Server 2022 Datacenter (Full / Serv	vailability	t High avail	Provider Agent	Description	Туре	Status	Name
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		L					
OK Cancel Help		1	Help	Cancel	OK		

Tip: we recommend adjusting the hypervisor subtype according to your environment.

Check credentials will validate VDI Agent authentication on hypervisor.

HOST Properties		? ×
General Creder	ntials Agent settings RDP printer	
Username: ra	Isadmin	Check Credentials
Password:	••••••	
	Parallels Remote Application Server Conso X	
	Valid Credentials	
	ОК	
	ОК С	ancel Help

HOST Properties	?	$\times$
General Credentials Agent settings RDP printer		
Preferred Connection Broker: RAS 19serv		~
Image: Construction         Image: Construction         Image: Construction </td <td></td> <td></td>		
	Configure.	
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HOST Pro	operties							?	$\times$
General	Credentials	Agent	t settings	RDP printer					
Configu	re the followin	ng settir	ngs:						
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Rem	ove session n	umber f	from printe	er name					
					OK	Can	cel	He	p

5. Once the VDI agent is in **OK** state, you can continue VDI deploying.

# Managing Guest VM Pools

Pools are used to manage and publish from the Guest VMs. In order to publish a resource (even from 1 Guest) need to create a pool for this.

#### **Creating a New Pool**

1. To create a new pool select go to **VDI>Plus** icon or **Tasks>Add** or right-click on a field:



2. Specify the source of VMs for this pool.

**Resource Pool:** RAS also supports native pools of certain virtualization solutions. Therefore, if should you have a pool already set up on one of your VDI hosts, you can add that native pool to a Parallels pool.

**Template:** VMs which are made from the particular Template will be automatically added to this pool. **Note**: the Template shouldn't be configured for RDSH approach.

Add Pool - Members		?	×	🛨 🖃 🔍 Та
Parallels'			<b>L</b>	ification by
		🛨 — 🔍 TA	asks 🔻	
Name	Туре	All guest Guest VM Resource Template	VMs in prov 1 pool	ider
0 items				
Wildcard: *				
	< Back	Finish	Cancel	
			Close	Apoly

3. In this article, **Guest VM** was chosen. **Status** shows if VDI Guest Agent is reporting to VDI agent.

uest VMs Li	st						?	×
					🕃 🔍 Task			
Guest VM ESXi DC RAS 18serv RAS 19serv 1	Provid host.r host.r host.r	ler as.local as.local as.local as.local	Power state Powered Off Powered On Powered On Powered On	Status Not verified Not verified Not verified Not verified	Guest OS Not available Windows Windows Windows	Tyı Mic Mic Mic Mic	C	K
< ditems						>		
Trouting								

In case of adding a VM which has never been added to VDI, need to install RAS VDI Guest Agent on it.

		Upgrade Parallels RA	AS Agents		×	ke -	
uest VMs List	_	Select hosts to deploy	Agent to:			7	×
		Server	Status Not verified	Type Guest		s 🔻	
Guest VM	Pro					Ту	OK
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RAS18serv	ho					Mic	
c						>	
items, 1 selecte	d						
tart Stop	Susper						
19				OK	Cancel		-
						and a start of the	

4. Installing the RAS VDI Guest Agent. RAS VDI Guest Agent is responsible for communication between Guest VM and RAS. Guest Agent is supported on the following OS:

- Windows Server 2008 R2, 2012, 2012 R2, 2016, 2019, 2022;
- Windows 7 up to Windows 11.

For communication between VDI Guest Agent and Remote Application Server farm, the following ports should be open:

• TCP&UDP: 30006 destination RAS VDI Agent

**Note**: in case of Guest VM is situated on a different from RAS VDI Agent (RAS Connection Broker server) subnet, use the following KB to apply the setting <u>KB Parallels</u>: <u>Virtual guests and VDI agent located in different subnets</u>

Adding Agent

Ad	Id Pool - Members	?	× 🖿 [
	Parallels		lification
	Remote Agent Installation		? ×
t \	Agents to install:	1	Install
est .B:	Server Status Type RAS18serv (192.168.1 Complete Guest		Done
51	Progress: 192. 168. 1. 102: Log on username: Administrator 192. 168. 1. 102: Copying C:\Program Files (x86)\Parallels\ApplicationServer \RASInstaller-19.0.23236.msi 192. 168. 1. 102: Executing RAS installation. 192. 168. 1. 102: MSI operation successful.	^	
ms			
		~	

Requirement for VDI Guest Agent push installation:

- The firewall must be configured on the server to allow push installation. Standard SMB ports (139 and 445) need to be open. See also Port reference for the list of ports used by Parallels RAS.
- SMB access. The administrative share (\\server\c\$) must be accessible. Simple file sharing must be enabled.
- Your Parallels RAS administrator account must have permissions to perform a remote installation on the server. If it doesn't, you'll be asked to enter credentials of an account that does.
- The VM should be joined to an AD domain.
- The RAS Installer also verifies the OS state If the target machine is in Reboot pending or Waiting for updates states, the installation could be failed.

5. Added to a Pool Guests are specified in a list.

		_						
<b>&gt;</b>	Farm - RAS19serv	Pools	Templates	Desktops	Sessions	Scheduler		
Start	RD Session Hosts							
E		Nar	ne		Descrip	tion		Memb
Earm	Providers		Test		Lenovo			Gues
8	Connection Brokers	Шг	Test Properti	ies				
Sessions	Enrollment Servers	1111						
	Themes		General Me	embers				
Load Balancing								
5 - 5 -	Settings		Name				Туре	
Publishing			RAS 18ser	v			Guest	
a🗲								
Quick Keypad								
-								
Universal Printing								
<u>_</u>								
Universal Scanning								
Tu								
Connection								
		11		- la da d				
Device Manage			1 items, 1	selected				
			Wildcard:	*				
								OK

You can also delete the VM from the Pool using **Minus** icon or right-click>**Delete** on VM.

eneral Members		
	🛨 🖃 🗸 Tasks	-
Name	Туре	
RAS18serv	Guest	
Parallels Re	ote Application Server Console $ imes$	
	rrent user assignment will be removed.	
	e you sure you want to delete guest VM RAS18serv?	
	Yes No	
1 items, 1 selected		
Wildcard: *		

6. Once the machine is added to Pool, you can observe it on Desktops tab.

**Note**: freshly added machine is in Random assignment. It means any user which was able to open a published from this Pool resource, randomly followed to such machines.

				Dealsteam				
	Farm - RAS19serv	Pools	s Template	s Desktops	Sessions	Scheduler		
L. L.	Site - RAS19serv							Cr.
Start	RD Session Hosts	_					1	Gri
	WDI VDI	G	uest VM	Guest VM s	tate Use	er	Assignment	IP Address
•	PC Remote PCs	R	AS 18serv	Powered Or	n		Random	192.168.1.1
Farm	····· 🔄 Providers							
° <b>—</b>	Secure Gateways							
8=	Connection Brokers							
Sessions								
	IALB							
	····· 🐂 Themes							
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8 - 8 -	Settings							
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Device Manager								

After the user is followed to any machine in the pool, the VM becomes **Persistent** for this particular user. Now, all published from this Pool resource will be opened on this machine. Right-click on Guest will allow you to manage **Assignment**.

Tip: you can assign a Guest to any user prior to establishing a session.

	Farm - RAS19serv	F	Pools	Templates	Desktops	Sess	ions	Scheduler		
Start	Site - RAS19serv									G
Start	WDI VDI		Cuer	+ VM	Cuest VM st	- to	Line		Accionment	TD Address
<b>—</b>	Remote PCs		RAS	18serv	Powered Or	ate	rast	11@ras	Persistent	192, 168, 1
Farm	···· 🕎 Providers			100011	Towered of			126103	r croioterite	192110011
8	Connection Brokers									
Sessions	Enrollment Servers									
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Load Balancing	Certificates									
8 - 8 - ■ -	Settings									
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Connection			1							
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Device Manage				-						

Under **Guest VM>Properties>Settings** you can also specify the different scenarios in order to user Guests efficiently.

<b>&gt;</b>	Farm - RAS19serv	Pools	Templat	es Desk	tops Sessio	ns Scheduler		
Start	Site - RAS 19serv							Gr
E		Gue	est VM	Guest	VM state	User	Assignment	IP Address
Farm	Remote PCs	RA	S18serv	Power	ed On		Random	192.168.1.1
Sessions	····· 🔃 Secure Gateways ····· 😥 Connection Brokers ···· 🗐 Enrollment Servers		Guest VM General	Propertio Settings	es User profile	e Optimization	Security	
	HALB		Inher	it default	settings			
Load Balancing	Certificates		Applic	ation ses	sion linger	ing		
⊠ ⊠ ■	Settings		Logoff	active se	ssion after:	Never		
Publishing			Action	s				
a🔁			On ses	sion:		Logoff		
Quick Keypad			Perfor	m action:		Unassign		
-			After:			5 minutes		
Universal Printing								
<u>_</u>								
Universal Scanning								
Yal								
		< 1 i						
							ОК	Ca

Sometimes, a newly added machine already has a **User** and **Random** assignment. This could cause an unexpected behavior. The cause could be a bypass RDP-session to this Guest.

	Farm - RAS19serv	Pools	s Templates	Desktops	Sessions	Sched	luler	
Start	Site - RAS19serv							
	VDI	Gu	uest VM	Guest VM st	tate Us	er	Assignment	IP Ad
Farm	Providers	R/	AS 18serv	Disconnecte	ed ra	sadmi	Random	192.
Sessions	Secure Gateways     Connection Brokers     Enrollment Servers							
Load Balancing								
Publishing	Settings							
Quick Keypad								
Universal Printing								
Lniversal Scanning								
Tu								
Connection		<						
		<b>1</b> it	tems, 1 selecte	d				
Device Manane								

Prior to **Unassign** the user, log off the session on **Sessions** tab.



7. Now, you have a Pool a Guest VM in it, so it's possible to publish a resource using VDI.

#### **Publishing Resources from VDI Pool**

By following the procedure below, you will be able to publish the **Desktop** from the VDI pool:

1. Click **Add** from the **Publishing** category to launch the publishing wizard.



2. Choose an item to publish.

Publish Resource Wizard - Item Type	? ×
Parallels"	
What do you want to publish?	
OApplication	<b>—</b>
Publish an application.	
Desktop	
Publish a desktop.	
O App-Y application	
Publish an App-V containerized application.	
○ Web application	Http://
Publish a web link such as CRM system or a search engine.	
ODocument	
Publish a document such as a Word document or Excel spreadsheet.	
○ Folder on the file system	
Publish a network folder via UNC path.	
	-
Rade Next >	Cancel Help
V Dack Next >	nep

3. In the second step of the wizard select Virtual Desktop.

Publish	Resource	Wizard -	Desktop	Type
---------	----------	----------	---------	------

Parallels"			
What type of desktop do you want to publish?			
O RD Session Host Desktop			RDS
Publish a desktop session from a RD Session Host.			_
Virtual Desktop			VDI
Publish a desktop session from a Virtual Guest.			Ŧ
Remote PC Desktop			PC
Publish a desktop from a Remote Personal Computer.			-
- 1			
	< Back Next >	Cancel	Help

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4. In the **Publish from** check the desired Pool.

Publish Resource wizdru - Publi
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Publish Resource Wizard - Publish from					?	×
Parallels"						8- 8- 8-
Any Guest VM from pool						
Name Test						
Specific Template	Provider					
None	FIONDEI					
		< Back	Next >	Cancel	н	elp

5. Specify the published resource configuration.

#### Π-

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esktop		
Name:	Desktop Test pool	
Description:		
	Start automatically when user logs on	
	Exclude from session prelaunch	
	Change Icon	
roperties		
Desktop Size:	Full Screen	~ X
Multi-Monitor:	Use Client Settings	
	Persistent	

6. Choose the desired state of the published Desktop and click Finish.

Note: The same procedure applies when publishing a different resource.

### **VDI Templates**

In order to get info about the Templates and how to publish resources from the Template, use the following KB Deploying Remote Application Server Templates

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