

Installing Windows Server 2025 vNext Version 26063

In this post, I am going to download and install above version on a virtual machine for testing. You can download preview version from below link.

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/software-download/windowsinsiderpreviewserver?wa=wsignin1.0&lc=1033>

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Windows Server Insider Preview

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Microsoft Server Previews

Windows Server VNext Preview ISO (Canary) - Build 26063

Confirm

Select Language

English (United States)

Confirm

Downloads

Choose a link below to begin the download.

Windows Server vNext LTSC Preview - Build 26063 English

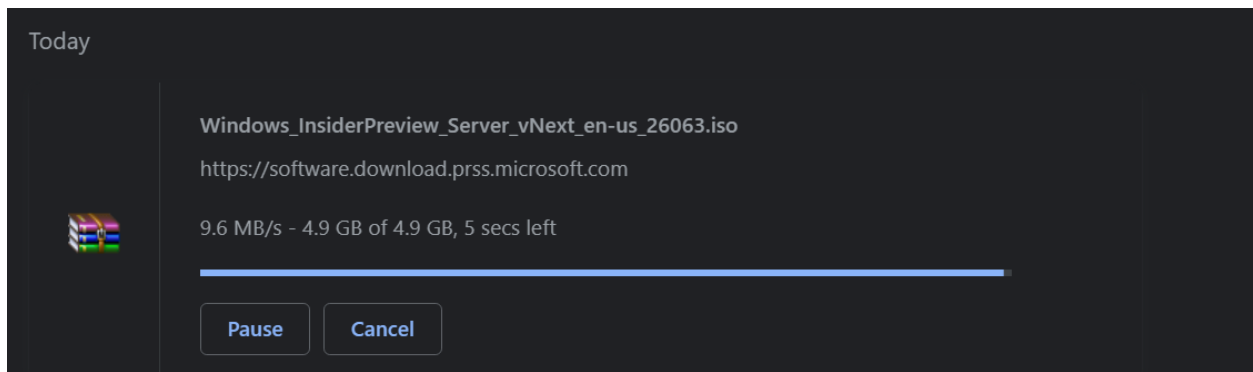
Download Now

File name: Windows_InsiderPreview_Server_vNext_en-us_26063.iso

Save as type: ISO Other File (VLC) (*.iso)

Hide Folders

Save Cancel



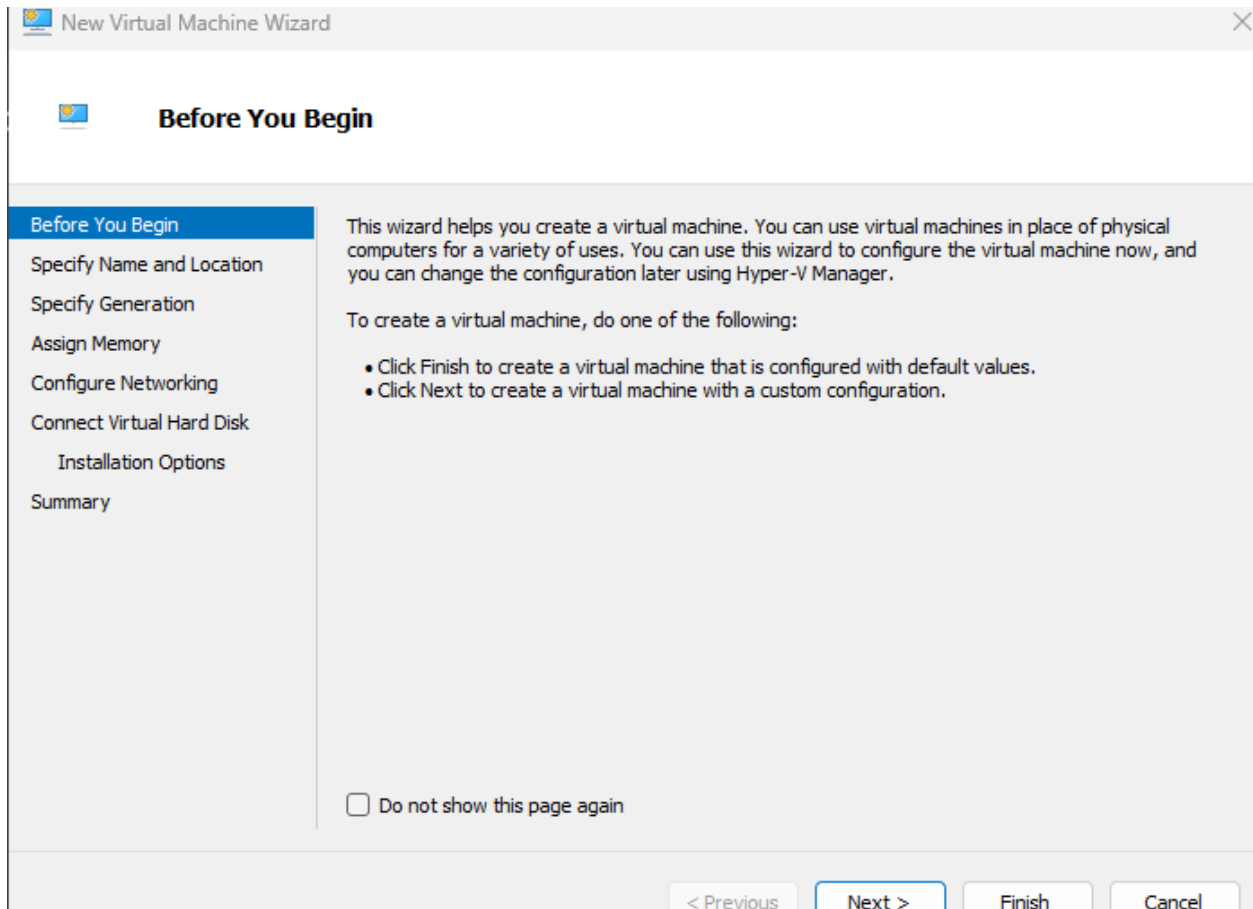
Windows_InsiderPreview_Server_vNext_en-us_26063.iso 05-Mar-2024 1:37 PM WinRAR archive 5,186,710 KB

You can use below keys during the install, if required.

Keys: Keys are valid for preview builds only

- **Server Standard: MFY9F-XBN2F-TYFMP-CCV49-RMYVH**
- **Datacenter: 2KNJJ-33Y9H-2GXGX-KMQWH-G6H67**
- *Azure Edition does not accept a key*

Create a VM to install above operating system for testing.



Specify Name and Location

Before You Begin

Specify Name and Location

Specify Generation

Assign Memory

Configure Networking

Connect Virtual Hard Disk

Installation Options

Summary

Choose a name and location for this virtual machine.


The name is displayed in Hyper-V Manager. We recommend that you use a name that helps you easily identify this virtual machine, such as the name of the guest operating system or workload.

Name:

You can create a folder or use an existing folder to store the virtual machine. If you don't select a folder, the virtual machine is stored in the default folder configured for this server.

Store the virtual machine in a different location

Location:

 If you plan to take checkpoints of this virtual machine, select a location that has enough free space. Checkpoints include virtual machine data and may require a large amount of space.

Specify Generation

Before You Begin

Specify Name and Location

Specify Generation

Assign Memory

Configure Networking

Connect Virtual Hard Disk

Installation Options

Summary


Choose the generation of this virtual machine.

Generation 1

This virtual machine generation supports 32-bit and 64-bit guest operating systems and provides virtual hardware which has been available in all previous versions of Hyper-V.

Generation 2

This virtual machine generation provides support for newer virtualization features, has UEFI-based firmware, and requires a supported 64-bit guest operating system.

 Once a virtual machine has been created, you cannot change its generation.

[More about virtual machine generation support](#)

Assign Memory

- Before You Begin
- Specify Name and Location
- Specify Generation
- Assign Memory**
- Configure Networking
- Connect Virtual Hard Disk
- Installation Options
- Summary

Specify the amount of memory to allocate to this virtual machine. You can specify an amount from 32 MB through 251658240 MB. To improve performance, specify more than the minimum amount recommended for the operating system.

Startup memory: MB

Use Dynamic Memory for this virtual machine.

i When you decide how much memory to assign to a virtual machine, consider how you intend to use the virtual machine and the operating system that it will run.

< Previous Next > Finish Cancel

Configure Networking

- Before You Begin
- Specify Name and Location
- Specify Generation
- Assign Memory
- Configure Networking**
- Connect Virtual Hard Disk
- Installation Options
- Summary

Each new virtual machine includes a network adapter. You can configure the network adapter to use a virtual switch, or it can remain disconnected.

Connection: ▾

< Previous Next > Finish Cancel

Connect Virtual Hard Disk

- Before You Begin
- Specify Name and Location
- Specify Generation
- Assign Memory
- Configure Networking
- Connect Virtual Hard Disk**
- Installation Options
- Summary

A virtual machine requires storage so that you can install an operating system. You can specify the storage now or configure it later by modifying the virtual machine's properties.

Create a virtual hard disk

Use this option to create a VHDX dynamically expanding virtual hard disk.

Name:

Location:

Size: GB (Maximum: 64 TB)

Use an existing virtual hard disk

Use this option to attach an existing VHDX virtual hard disk.

Location:

Attach a virtual hard disk later

Use this option to skip this step now and attach an existing virtual hard disk later.

Installation Options

- Before You Begin
- Specify Name and Location
- Specify Generation
- Assign Memory
- Configure Networking
- Connect Virtual Hard Disk
- Installation Options**
- Summary

You can install an operating system now if you have access to the setup media, or you can install it later.

Install an operating system later

Install an operating system from a bootable image file

Media

Image file (.iso):

Install an operating system from a network-based installation server



Completing the New Virtual Machine Wizard

- Before You Begin
- Specify Name and Location
- Specify Generation
- Assign Memory
- Configure Networking
- Connect Virtual Hard Disk
- Installation Options
- Summary**

You have successfully completed the New Virtual Machine Wizard. You are about to create the following virtual machine.

Description:

Name:	VNEXT2025
Generation:	Generation 1
Memory:	4096 MB
Network:	Lab
Hard Disk:	C:\vm\VNEXT2025\Virtual Hard Disks\VNEXT2025.vhdx (VHDX, dynamically expandable)
Operating System:	Will be installed from C:\Users\ymla\Downloads\Windows_InsiderPreview_Serve

To create the virtual machine and close the wizard, click Finish.

< Previous

Next >

Finish

Cancel

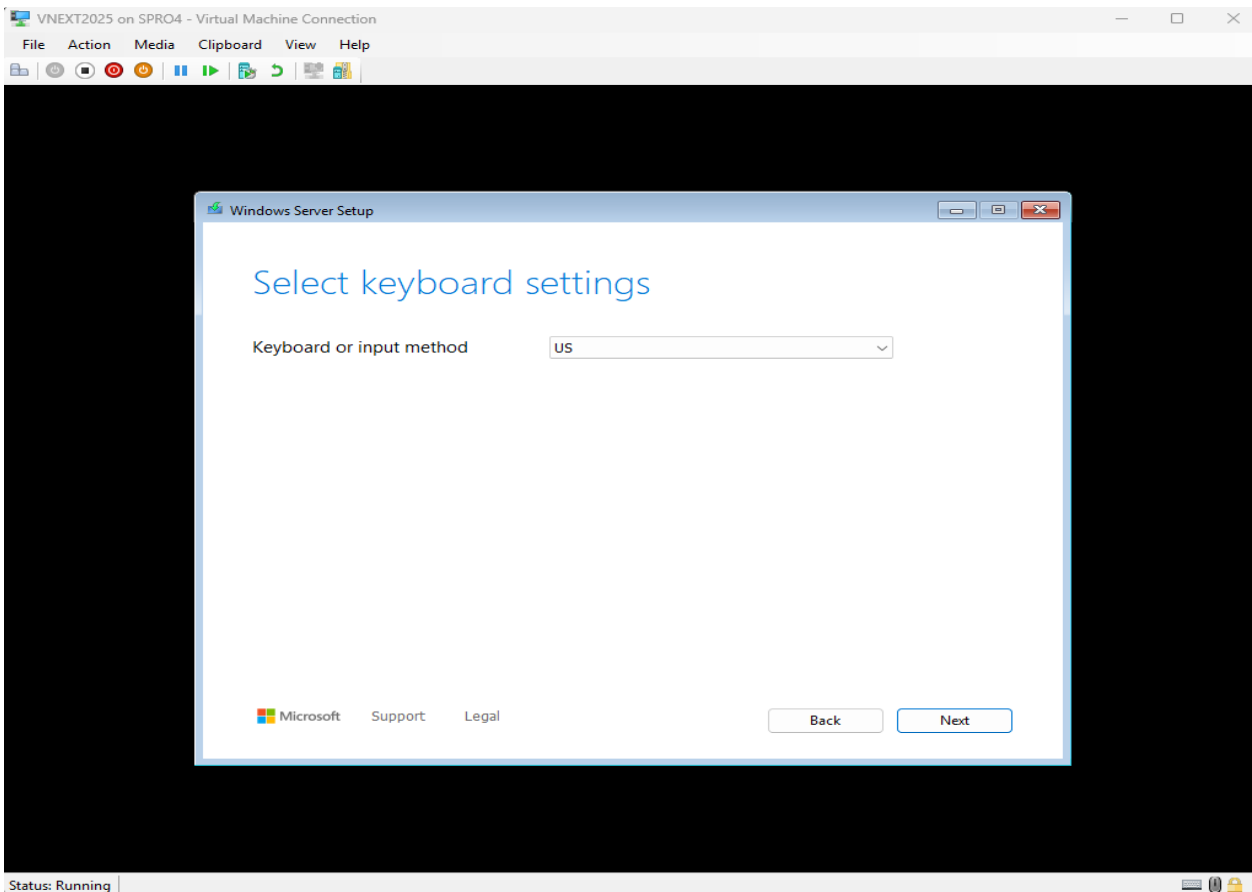
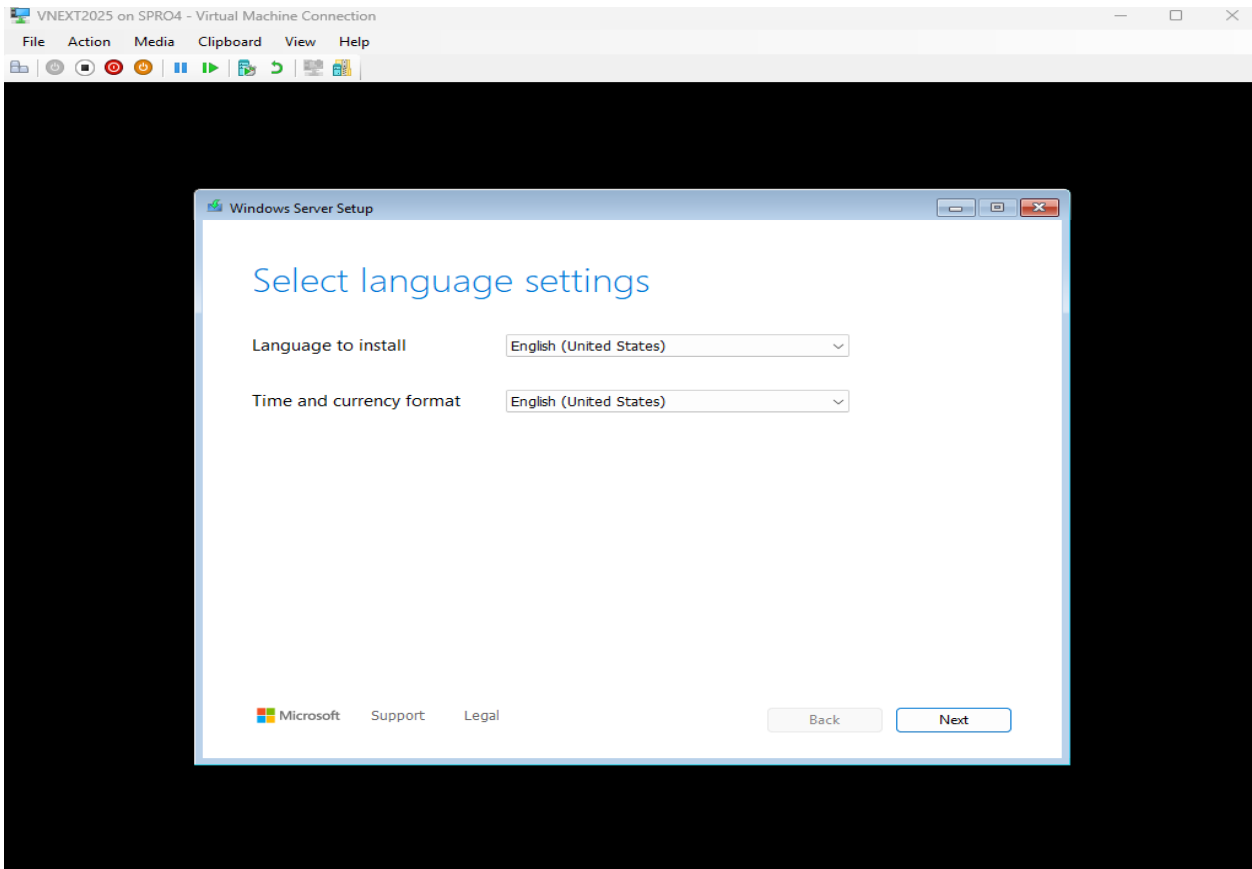
File Action Media View Help

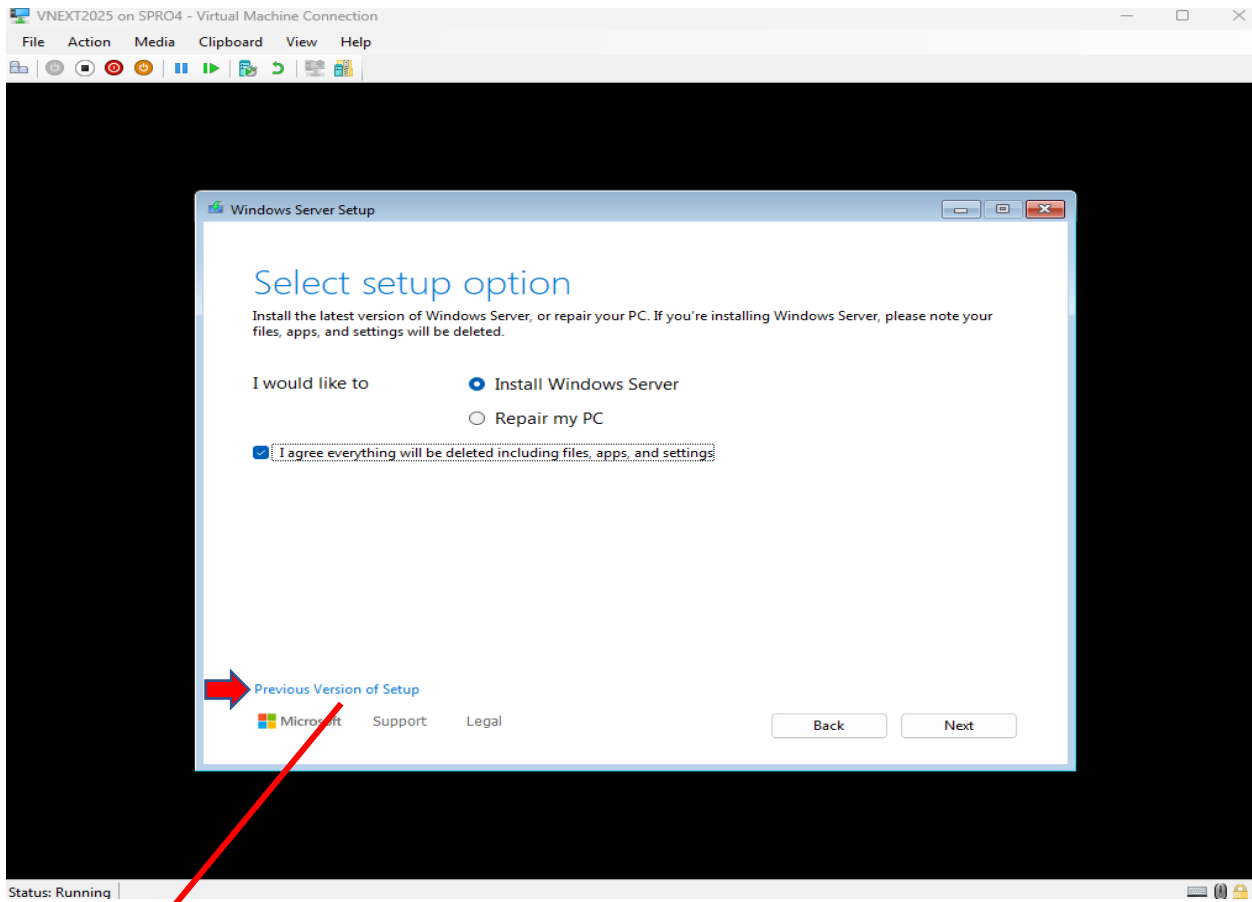


The virtual machine 'VNEXT2025' is turned off

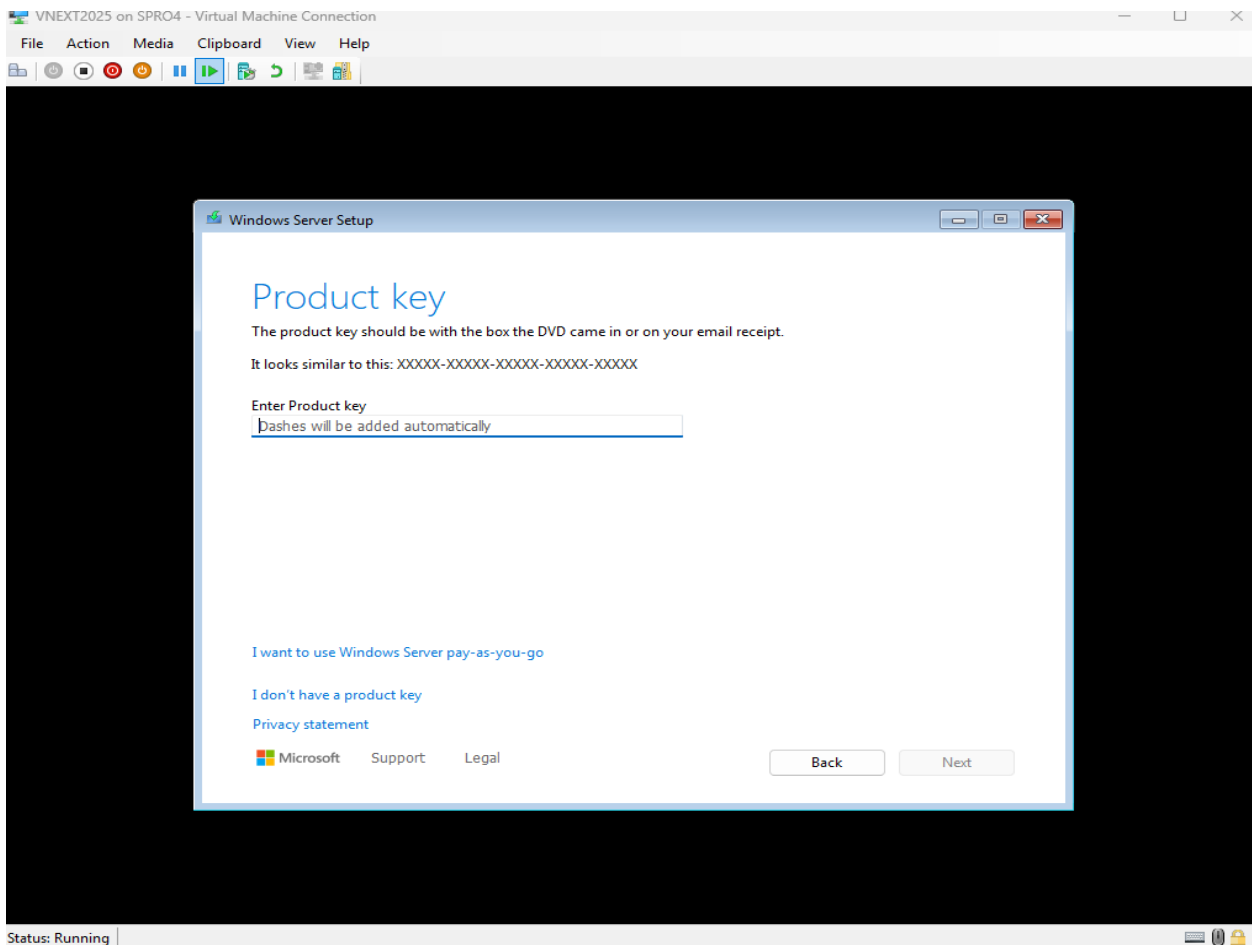
To start the virtual machine, select 'Start' from the Action menu

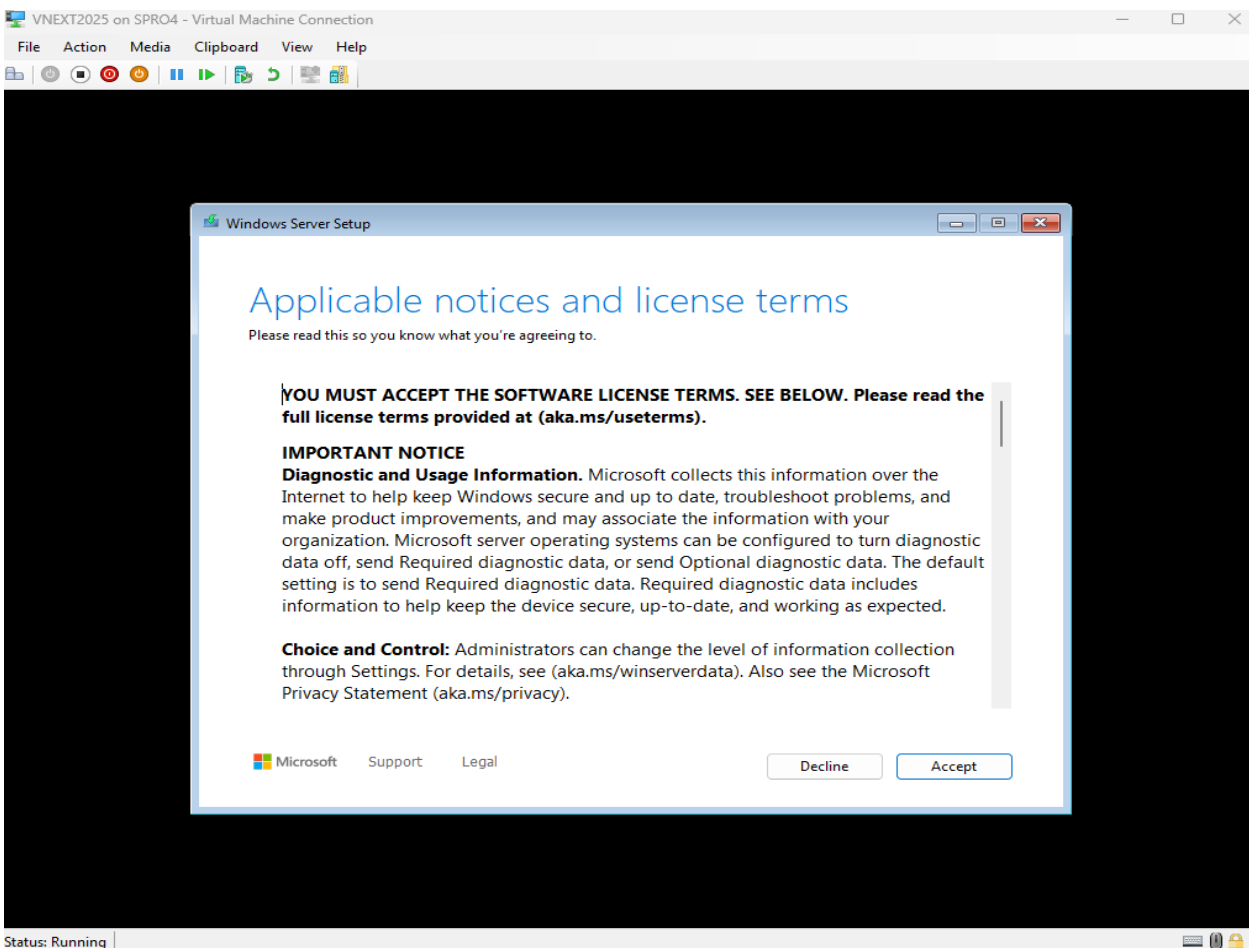
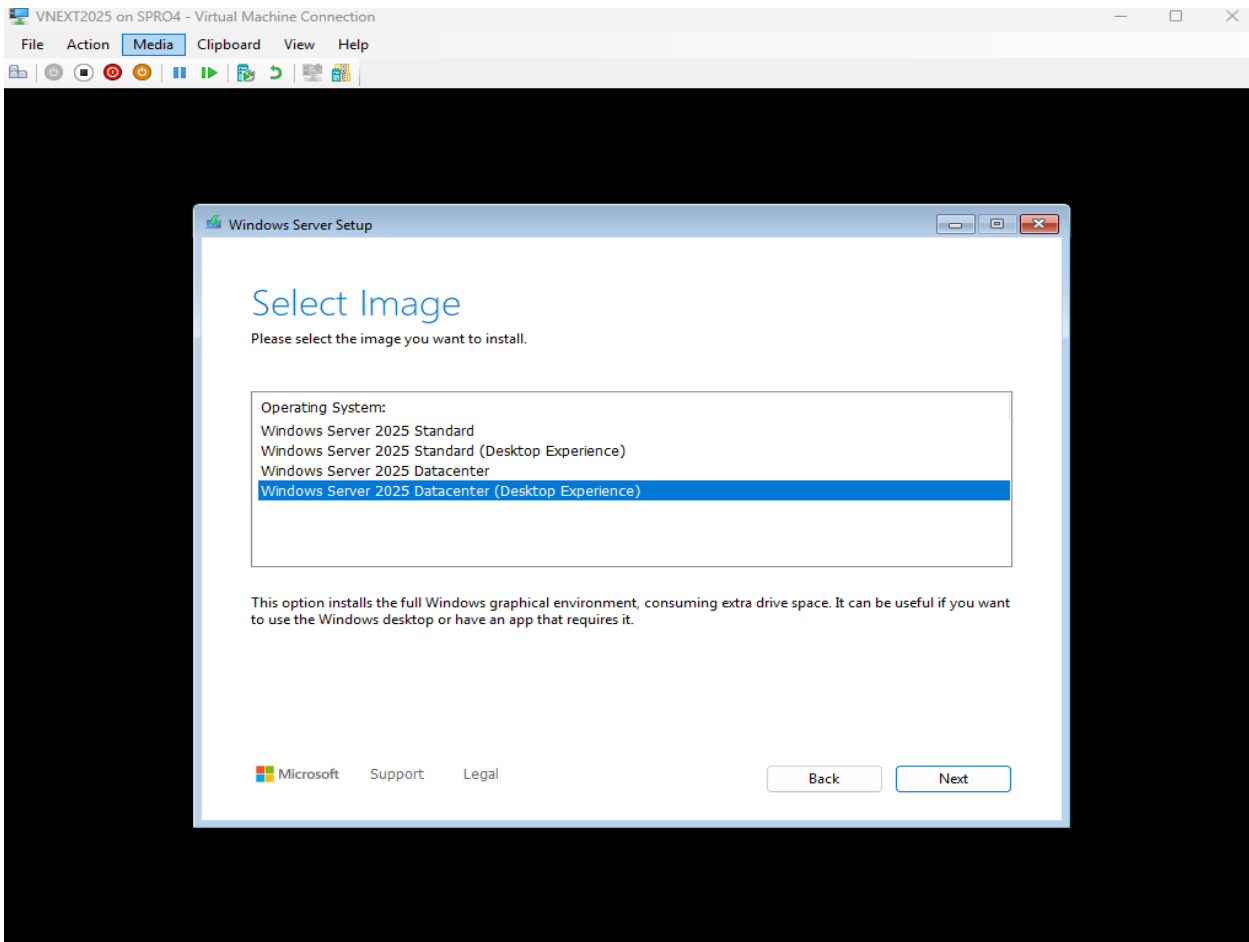
Start

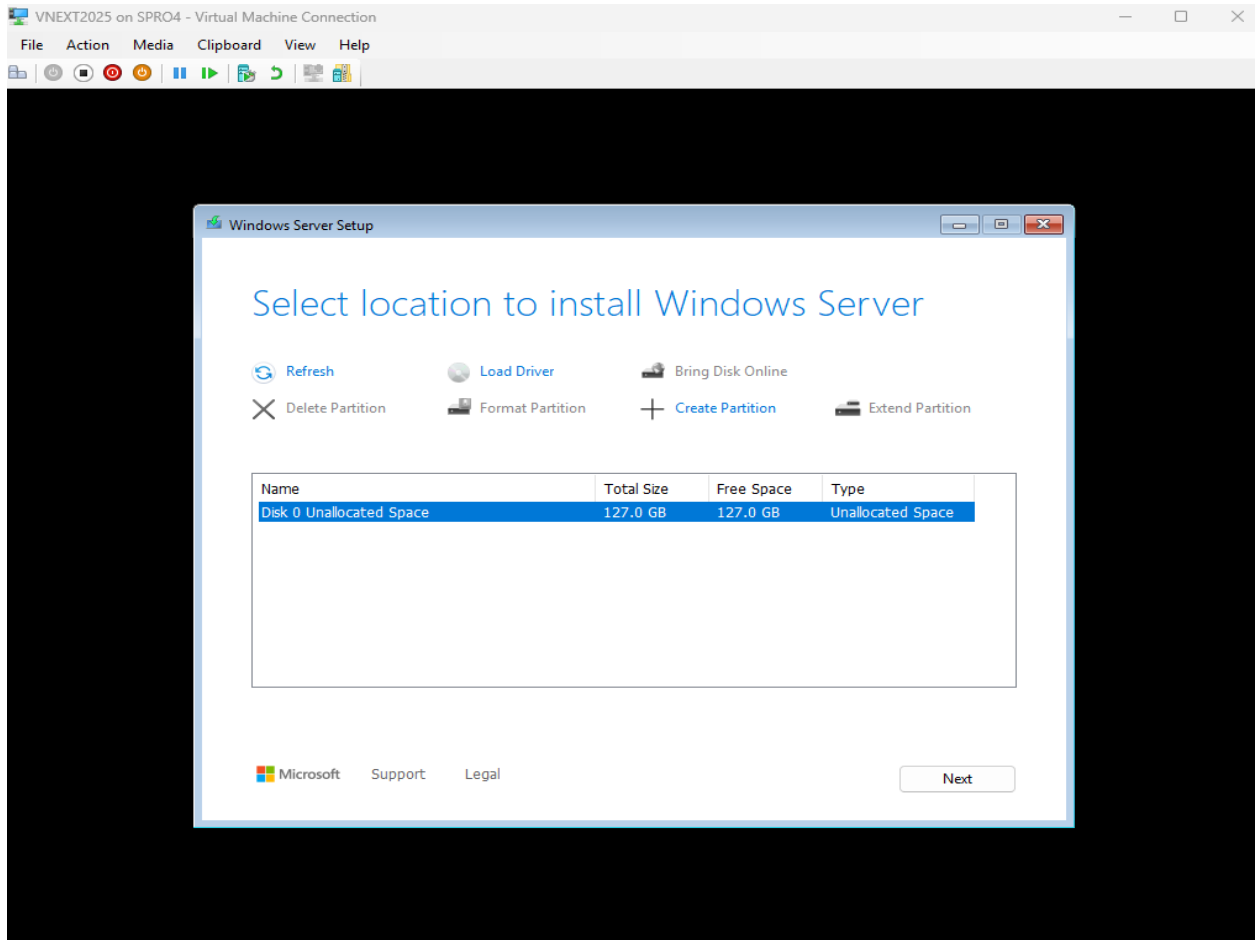




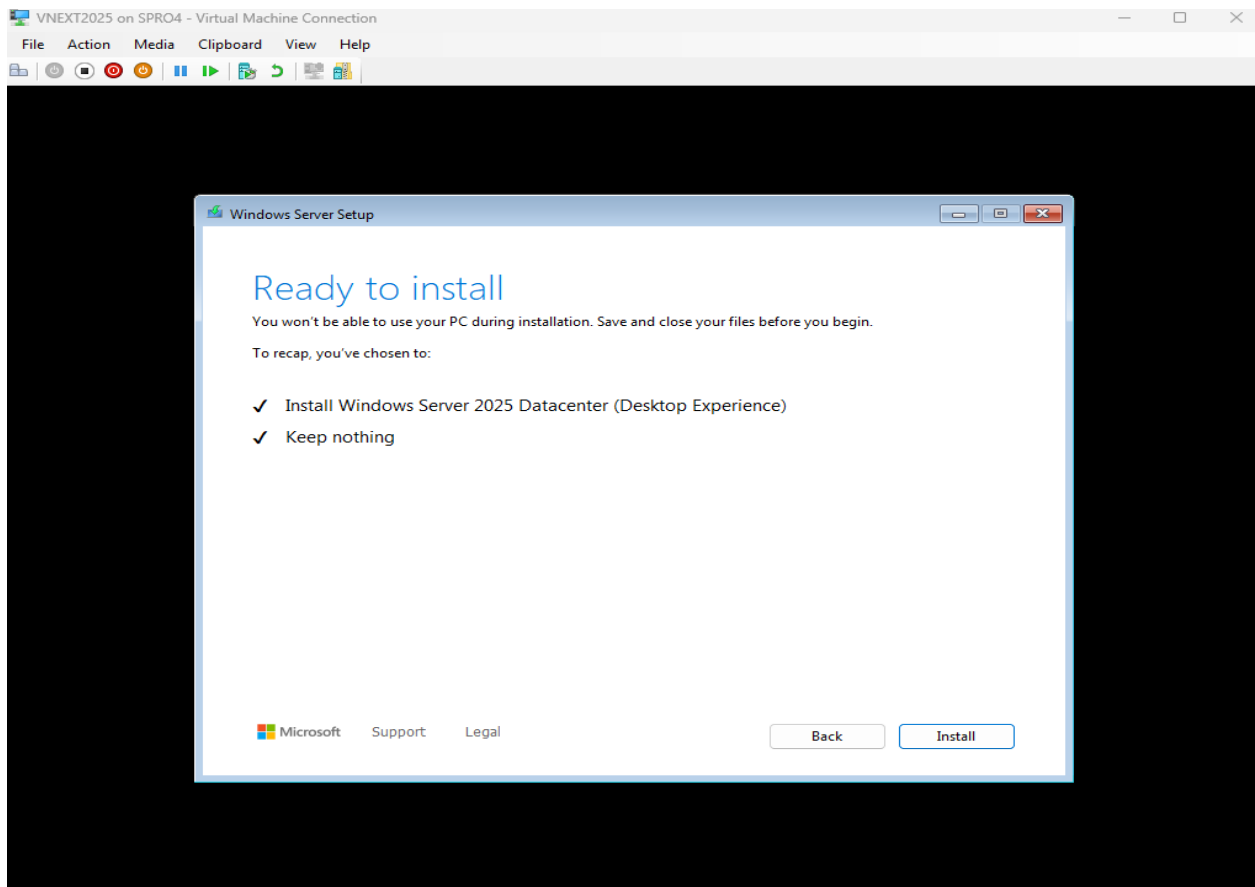
If you click previous version of setup – you will see the old-style setup with blue screen







Status: Running



Status: Running

VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media Clipboard View Help

Installing Windows Server

Your PC will restart several times. This might take a while.

2% complete

Cancel

Status: Running

This screenshot shows the initial phase of Windows Server installation. The background is a solid blue color. At the top, the title bar reads "VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection" with standard window controls. Below the title bar is a menu bar with "File", "Action", "Media", "Clipboard", "View", and "Help". The main content area features the heading "Installing Windows Server" in a large white font. Below this, a smaller white font message states "Your PC will restart several times. This might take a while." A progress indicator shows a small white arc followed by the text "2% complete". At the bottom left of the main area, there is a white rectangular button with the text "Cancel". The bottom status bar shows "Status: Running" on the left and system tray icons on the right.

VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media Clipboard View Help

Installing 42%

Please keep your computer on.

Your computer may restart a few times.

Status: Running

This screenshot shows the Windows Server installation progress at 42%. The background is solid black. The title bar and menu bar are identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is mostly black with white text. At the top center, it says "Installing 42%". Below that, it says "Please keep your computer on." At the bottom center, it says "Your computer may restart a few times." The bottom status bar shows "Status: Running" on the left and system tray icons on the right.

VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media Clipboard View Help

It's time to enter the product key

Type your product key below. When you connect to the Internet, the product key will be sent to Microsoft to activate Windows.

Enter the product key

 ✕

It looks similar to this: XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX-XXXXX

Do this later



Next

Status: Running

VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media Clipboard View Help

Customize settings

Type a password for the built-in administrator account that you can use to sign in to this computer.

User name

Password

Reenter password 👁



Back

Finish

Status: Running

VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media Clipboard View Help

Press Ctrl+Alt+Delete to unlock.

11:34

Connect to VNEXT2025

Display configuration

Choose the size of your desktop for interacting with the virtual machine. Drag the slider all the way to the right to use the full screen.

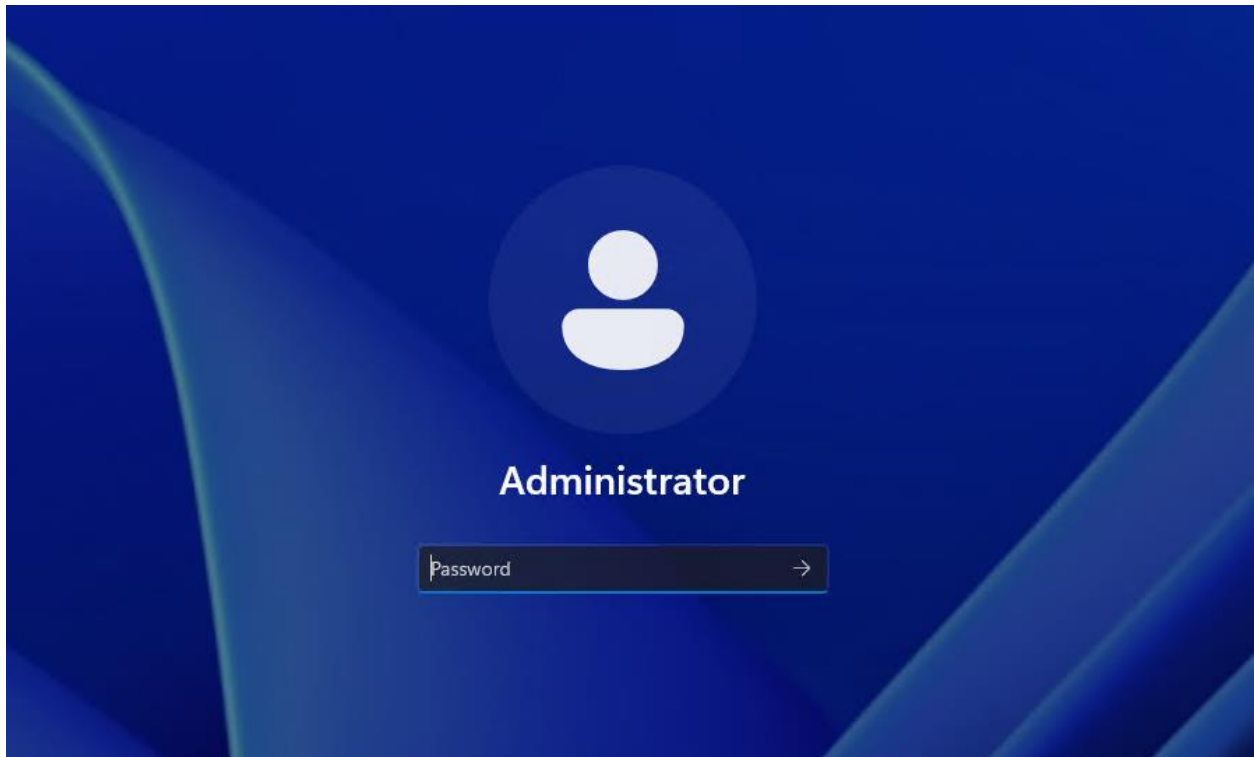
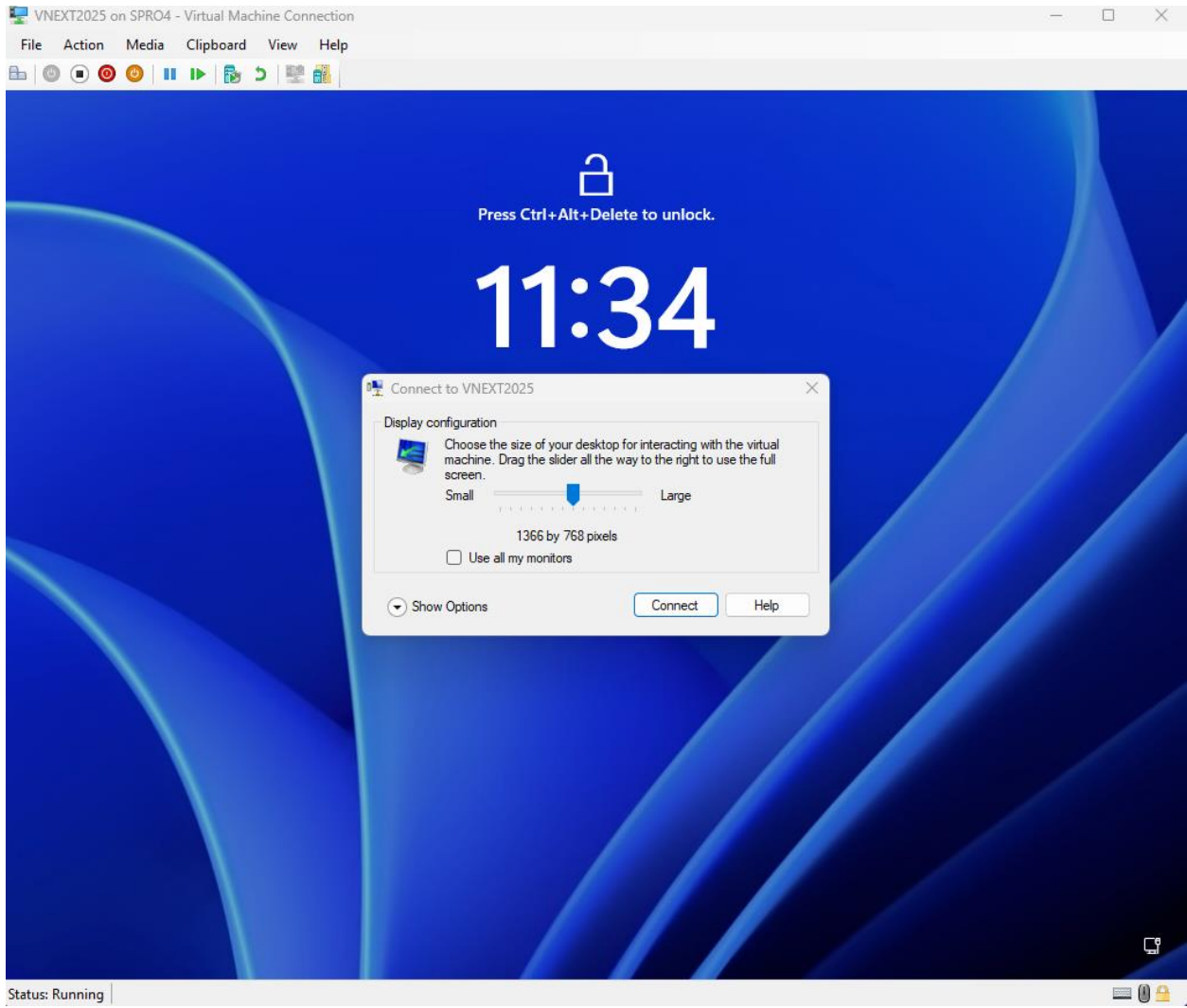
Small Large

1366 by 768 pixels

Use all my monitors

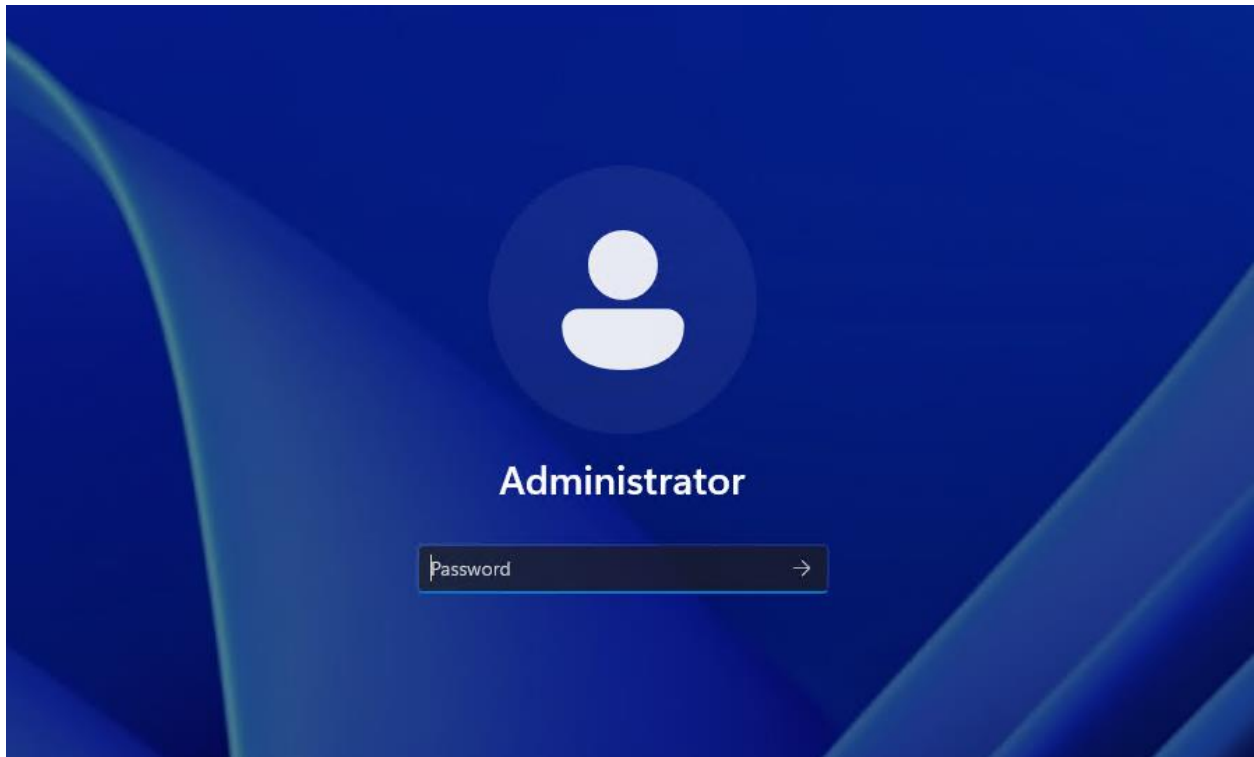
Show Options Connect Help

Status: Running



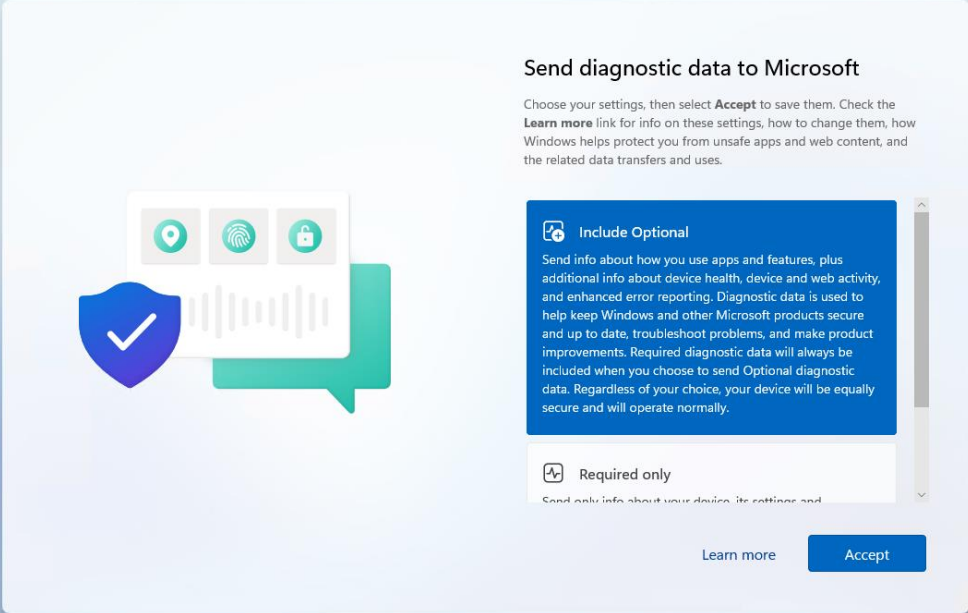
Administrator

Password →



VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media View Help



Send diagnostic data to Microsoft

Choose your settings, then select **Accept** to save them. Check the **Learn more** link for info on these settings, how to change them, how Windows helps protect you from unsafe apps and web content, and the related data transfers and uses.

Include Optional

Send info about how you use apps and features, plus additional info about device health, device and web activity, and enhanced error reporting. Diagnostic data is used to help keep Windows and other Microsoft products secure and up to date, troubleshoot problems, and make product improvements. Required diagnostic data will always be included when you choose to send Optional diagnostic data. Regardless of your choice, your device will be equally secure and will operate normally.

Required only

Send only info about your device, its settings, and...

Learn more **Accept**

Status: Running

VNEXT2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media View Help

Server Manager

Server Manager Dashboard

WELCOME TO SERVER MANAGER

Try Windows Admin Center and Azure Arc today

Instead of Server Manager, you can use Azure Arc and the new Windows Admin Center built into the Azure portal to manage individual servers and clusters—on-premises and in Azure.

With Azure Arc you can secure and govern Windows Server at scale—on-premises and across clouds.

Get more info at aka.ms/ManageWindowsServer
Or try Azure Arc: [Launch Setup](#)

Don't show this message again

ROLES AND SERVER GROUPS
Roles: 1 | Server groups: 1 | Servers total: 1

Role	Count	Server Group	Count
File and Storage Services	1	Local Server	1
Local Server	1	All Servers	1

Search

ENG US 11:37 AM 3/5/2024

Status: Running

VNEX2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media View Help

Server Manager

Server Manager Dashboard

Dashboard

- Local Server
- All Servers
- File and Storage Services

ROLES AND SERVER GROUPS
Roles: 1 | Server groups: 1 | Servers total: 1

File and Storage Services 1

- Manageability
- Events
- Performance
- BPA results

Local Server 1

- Manageability
- Events
- Services
- Performance
- BPA results

All Servers 1

- Manageability
- Events
- Services
- Performance
- BPA results

Status: Running

ENG US 11:38 AM 3/5/2024

VNEX2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

File Action Media View Help

Server Manager

Server Manager Local Server

Dashboard

- Local Server
- All Servers
- File and Storage Services

PROPERTIES
For WIN-E4OUNMA4A6V

Computer name	WIN-E4OUNMA4A6V	Last installed updates	Never
Workgroup	WORKGROUP	Windows Update	Download updates only, using Windows Update
		Last checked for updates	Never
Microsoft Defender Firewall	Public: On	Microsoft Defender Antivirus	Real-Time Protection: On
Remote management	Enabled	Feedback & Diagnostics	Settings
Remote Desktop	Enabled	IE Enhanced Security Configuration	Off
NIC Teaming	Disabled	Time zone	(UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
Ethernet	IPv4 address assigned by DHCP, IPv6 enabled	Product ID	00133-32500-02427-AA027 (activated)
Azure Arc Management	Disabled		
Remote SSH Access	Enabled		
Operating system version	Microsoft Windows Server 2025 Datacenter	Processors	Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-6650U CPU @ 2.20GHz
Hardware information	Microsoft Corporation Virtual Machine	Installed memory (RAM)	4 GB

EVENTS
All events | 16 total

Server Name	ID	Severity	Source	Log	Date and Time
WIN-E4OUNMA4A6V	7023	Error	Microsoft-Windows-Service Control Manager	System	3/5/2024 2:23:45 PM
WIN-E4OUNMA4A6V	24	Warning	Microsoft-Windows-AppModel-State	Application	3/5/2024 11:36:33 AM
WIN-E4OUNMA4A6V	23	Warning	Microsoft-Windows-AppModel-State	Application	3/5/2024 11:36:33 AM

Status: Running

ENG US 2:40 PM 3/5/2024

Settings

Administrator
Local Account

Find a setting

- System
- Bluetooth & devices
- Network & internet
- Personalization
- Apps
- Accounts
- Time & language
- Accessibility
- Privacy & security
- Windows Update**

Windows Update

Restart required
Your device will restart outside of active hours. **Restart now**

Security Intelligence Update for Microsoft Defender Antivirus - KB2267602 (Version 1.405.1111.0) - Current Channel (Broad)	Completed
2024-01 Cumulative Update for .NET Framework 3.5 and 4.8.1 for Windows Server Version Next for x64 (KB5033921)	Pending restart

More options

Get the latest updates as soon as they're available
Be among the first to get the latest non-security updates, fixes, and improvements as they roll out. [Learn more](#) **Off**

Pause updates **Pause for 1 week**

VNEX2025 on SPRO4 - Virtual Machine Connection

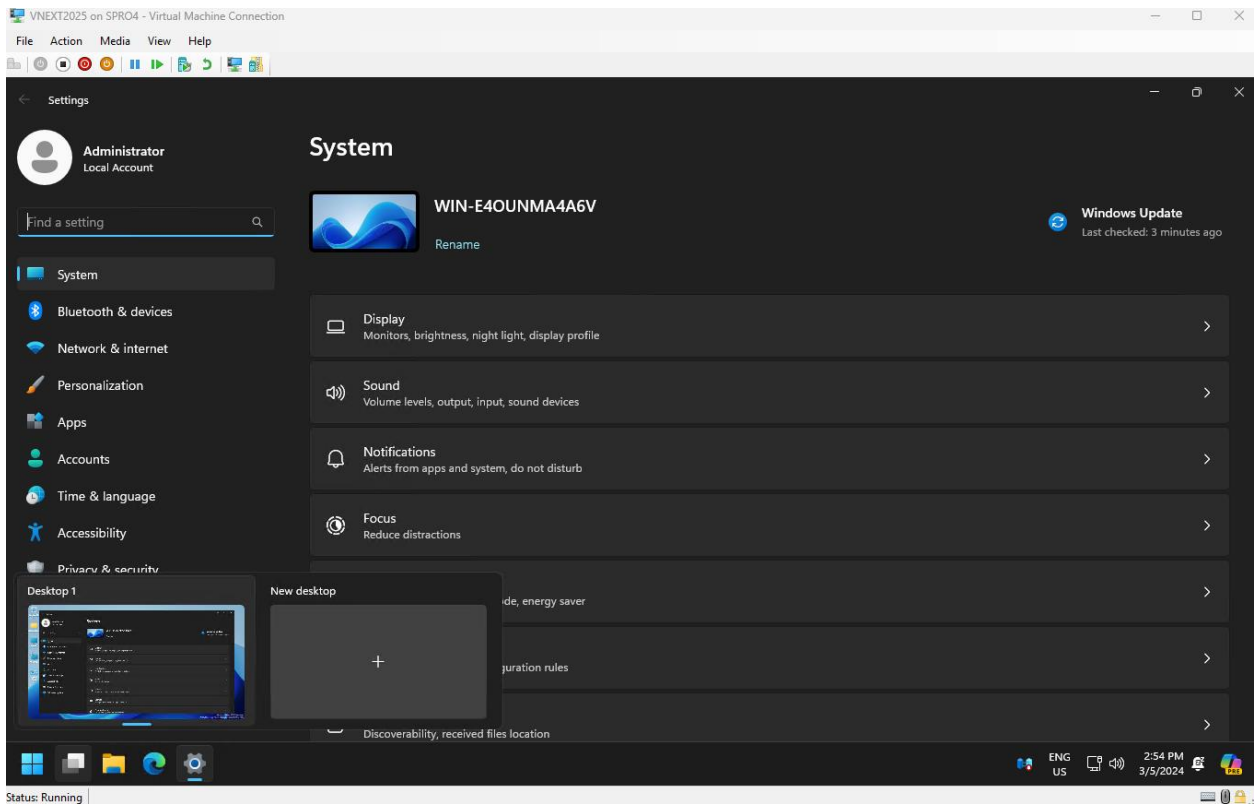
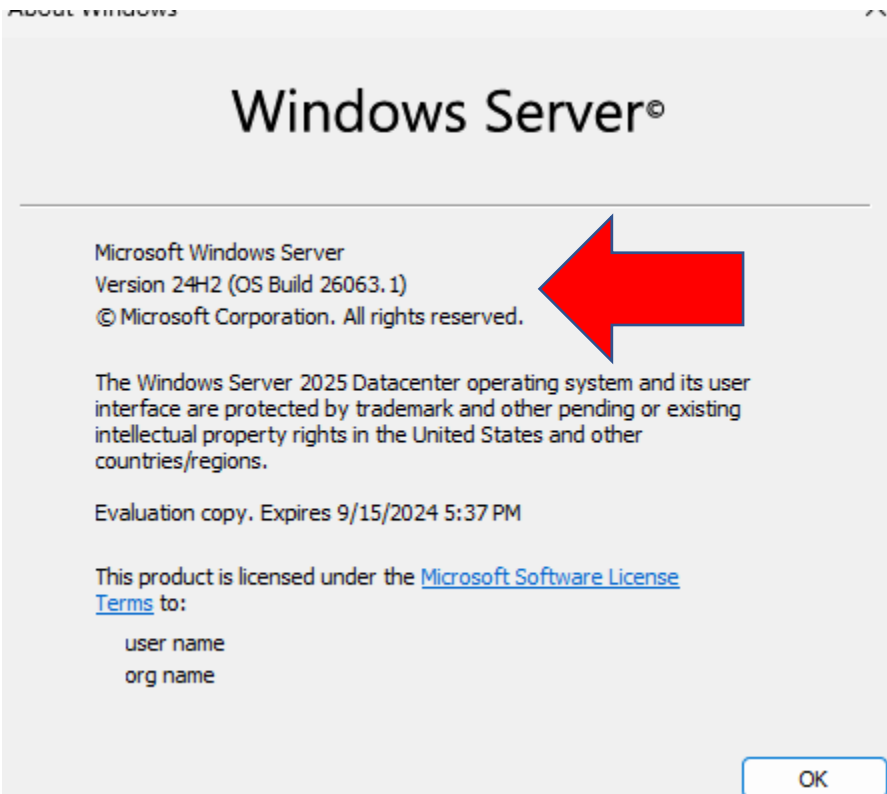
File Action Media View Help

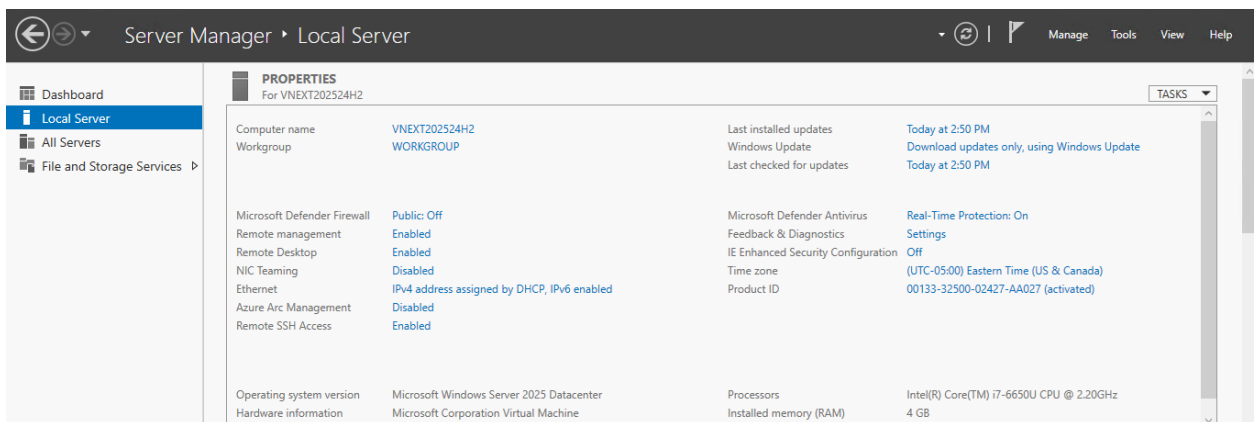
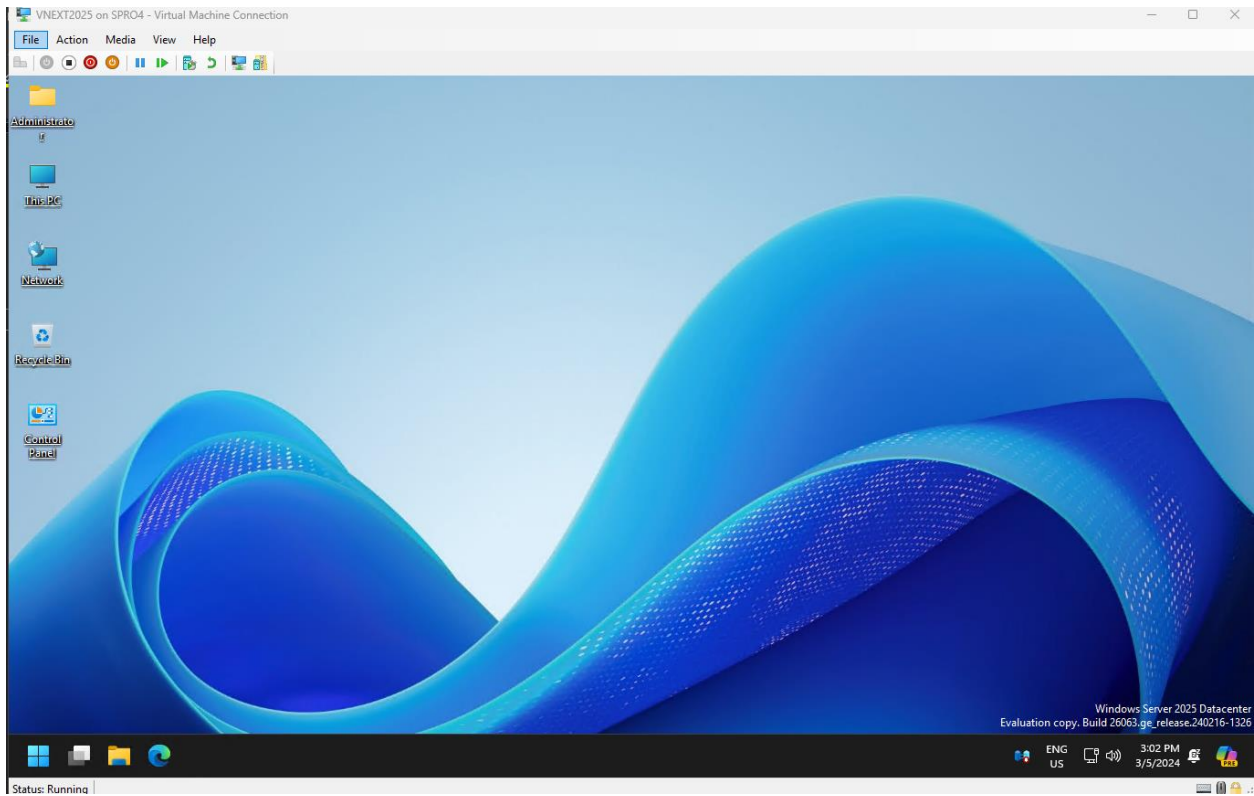
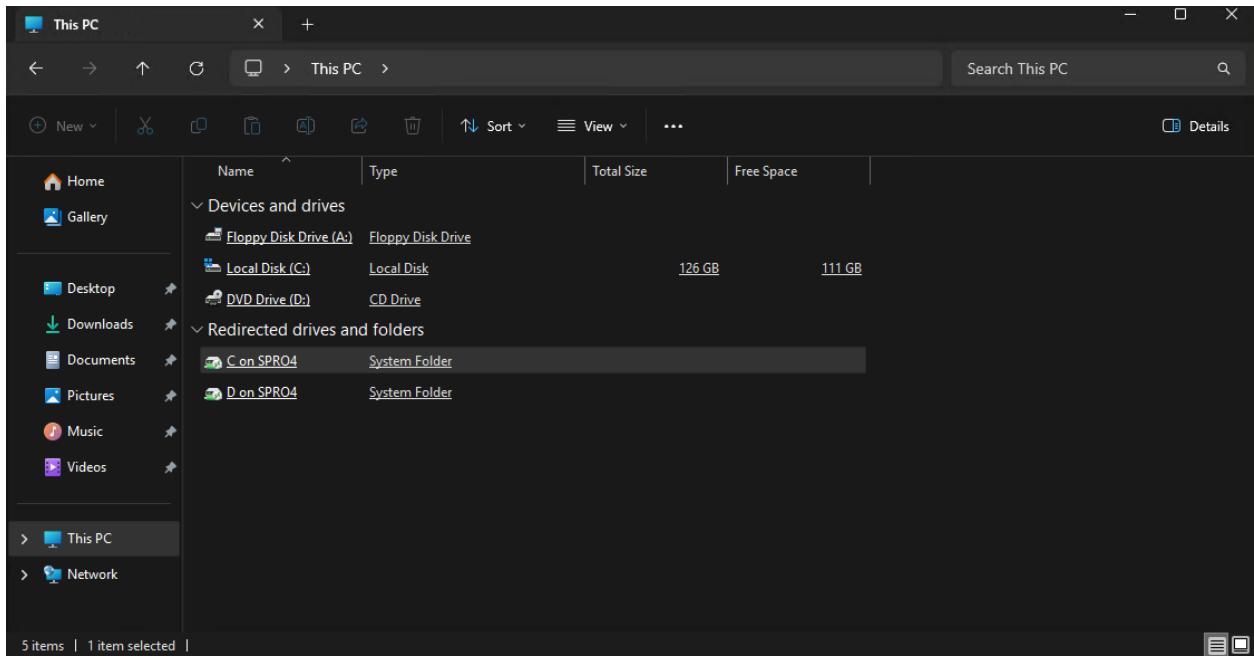
Recycle Bin

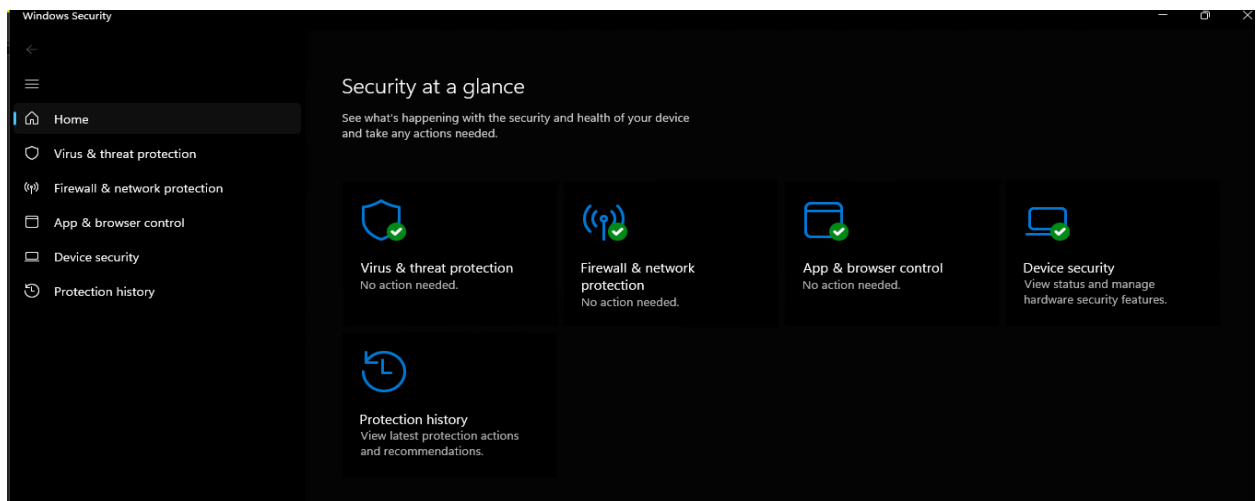
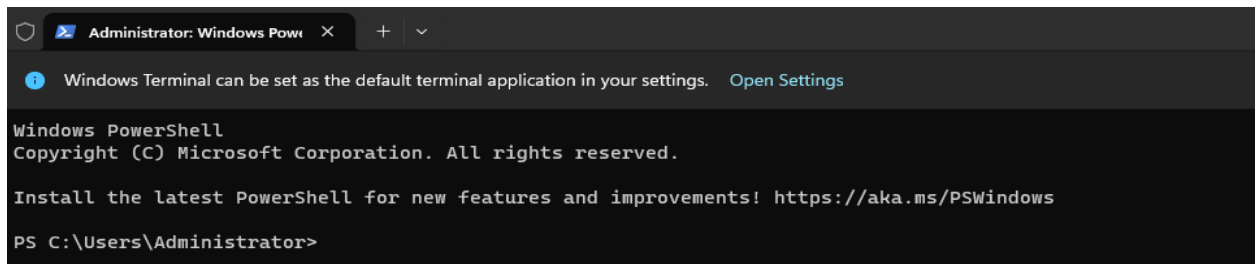
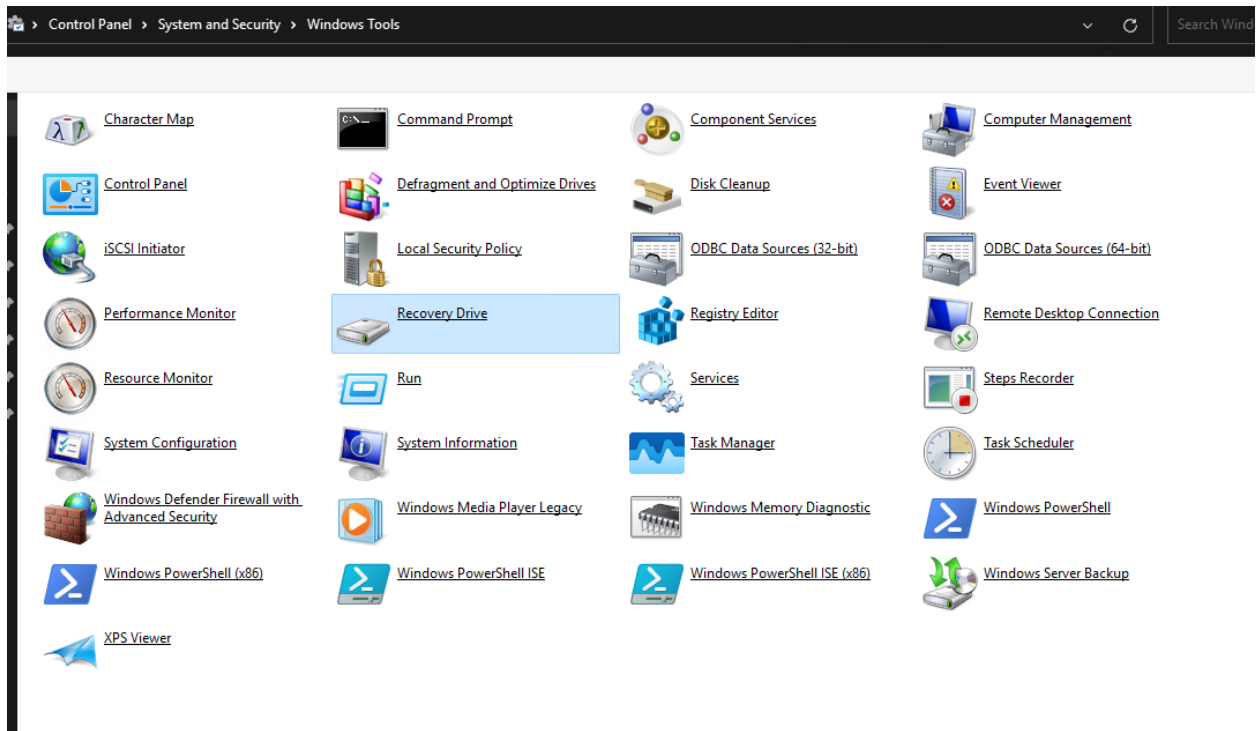
Windows Server 2025 Datacenter
Evaluation copy, Build 26063.ge.release.240216-1326

ENG US 2:47 PM 3/5/2024

Status: Running







To disable CoPilot on vNext Server using registry

```
reg add HKCU\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\WindowsCopilot /v TurnOffWindowsCopilot /t REG_DWORD /d 1 /f
```

This concludes Windows Server vNext 2025.

Thanks

Ram
5th Mar 2024

MICROSOFT ROAD MAP FOR 2024

UPDATED: Copilot, Windows Server 2025, .NET 9, Microsoft Fabric

Windows 11 24H2 (UPDATED: 2/9)

Expected: Second Half of 2024

.NET 9 / .NET MAUI (UPDATED: 2/26)

Expected: November 2024

Visual Studio 2022 Updates (UPDATED: 2/15)

Expected: Ongoing

Semantic Kernel (AI SDK) Updates

Expected: Ongoing

SharePoint Premium

Expected: First Half of 2024

SharePoint Embedded (UPDATED: 1/31)

Expected: Mid-2024

SharePoint Server Subscription Edition Updates

Expected: Spring and Fall 2024

Fluid Framework 2.0

Expected: Summer 2024

Windows Server 2025 (UPDATED: 2/28)

Expected: Fall 2024

Planner

Expected: Spring 2024

Copilot Capabilities (UPDATED: 3/1)

Expected: Ongoing

Viva Updates

Expected: First Half of 2024

Mesh (UPDATED: 1/24)

Released

Teams Capabilities

Expected: Ongoing

Dynamics 365 (UPDATED: 1/25)

Expected: April & October 2024

Fabric Capabilities (UPDATED: 2/15)

Expected: First Half of 2024

Outlook Updates (UPDATED: 2/7)

Expected: Ongoing

Microsoft 365 Backup

Expected: First Half of 2024

Microsoft 365 Archive

Expected: TBA

2024 Microsoft Product

Deprecations