

Installation of SUSE Linux with VMWare

by John Schmidt for

Brigham Young University-Idaho's Linux/Unix Whitney Society

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“Wherefore, he that preacheth and he that receiveth, understand one another, and both are edified and rejoice together.”

Doctrine and Covenants 50:22

Purpose: This tutorial is a “how-to” install SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 10 (or any SUSE product) using VMWare Server 1.01. It can also be used as a general tutorial to install any operating system using virtualization software. It will also work if you are trying to install SLES, OpenSUSE 10.x, with just a few modifications. No previous knowledge of Linux or VMWare is needed.

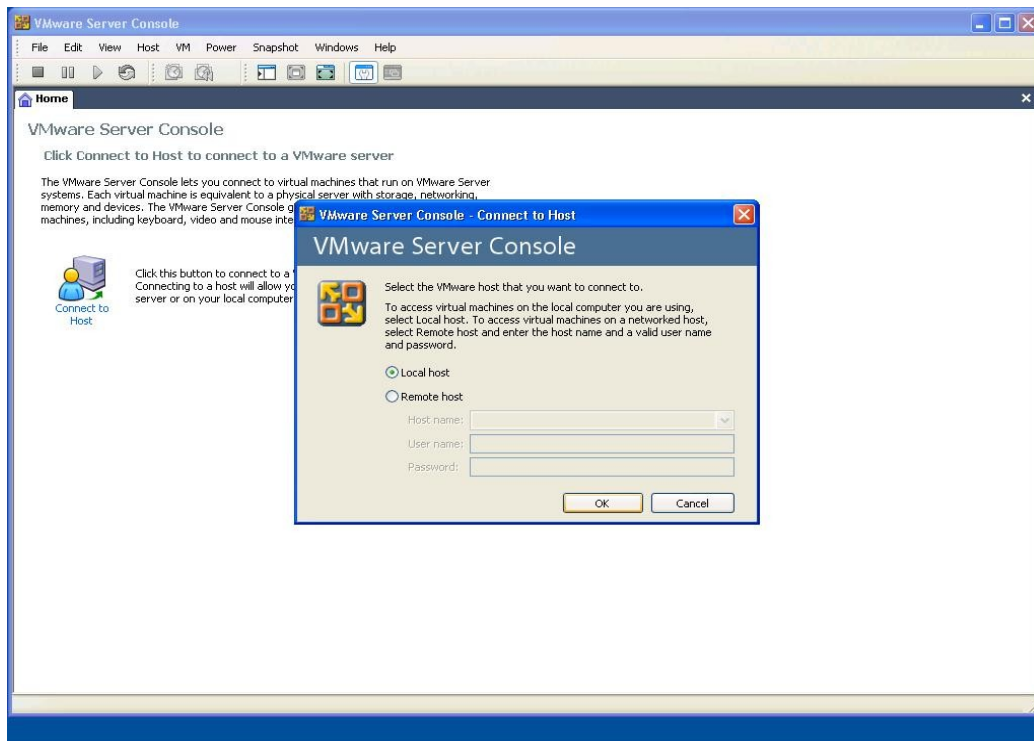
PREREQUISITS

1. Windows XP Professional installed on a Compaq Evo N610c Laptop, with a 1.8 Ghz Pentium 4 Processor, 1 Gig of RAM and a 40 Gig Hard Drive. Any comparable system will do fine.
2. VMWare 1.01. Can be downloaded free from <http://register.vmware.com/content/download.html>
Make sure you have a liscence, which is also free, and can be obtained at <http://register.vmware.com/content/registration.html>
3. SLED (SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop) or OpenSUSE (Free, beta version of SUSE Linux).
 - a. Either download [SLED](#) through Blackboard's [MSDN AA Software](#) link, or [OpenSUSE](#).
 - b. Expand and Burn the ISO's you downloaded either to CD's (5) or to a DVD (1) depending on the download image you chose. [Roxio](#) is the burner of choice, but I have had luck with [UltraISO](#).

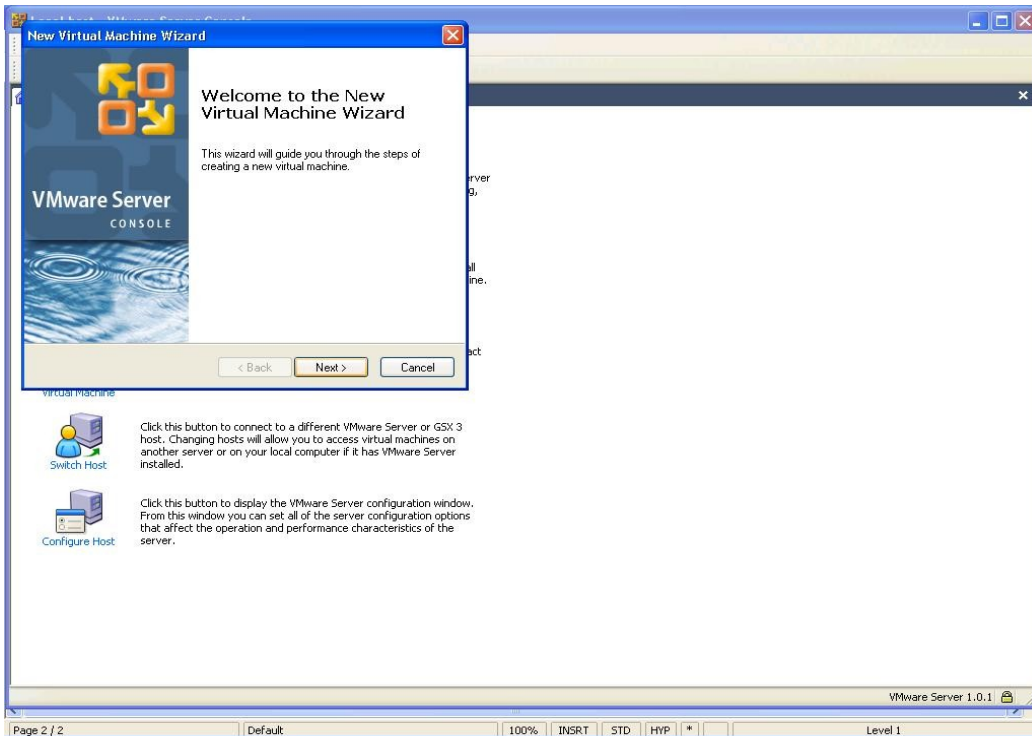
With these three things, you are ready to start your Linux journey.

INSTALLATION

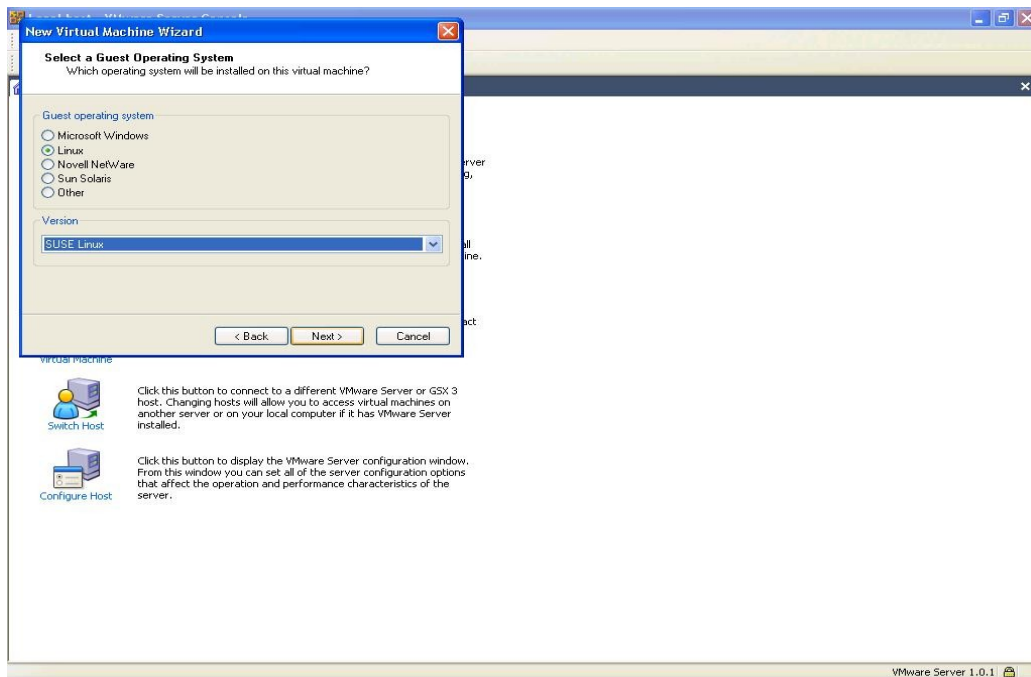
After installing VMWare, start the program and connect to the local host.



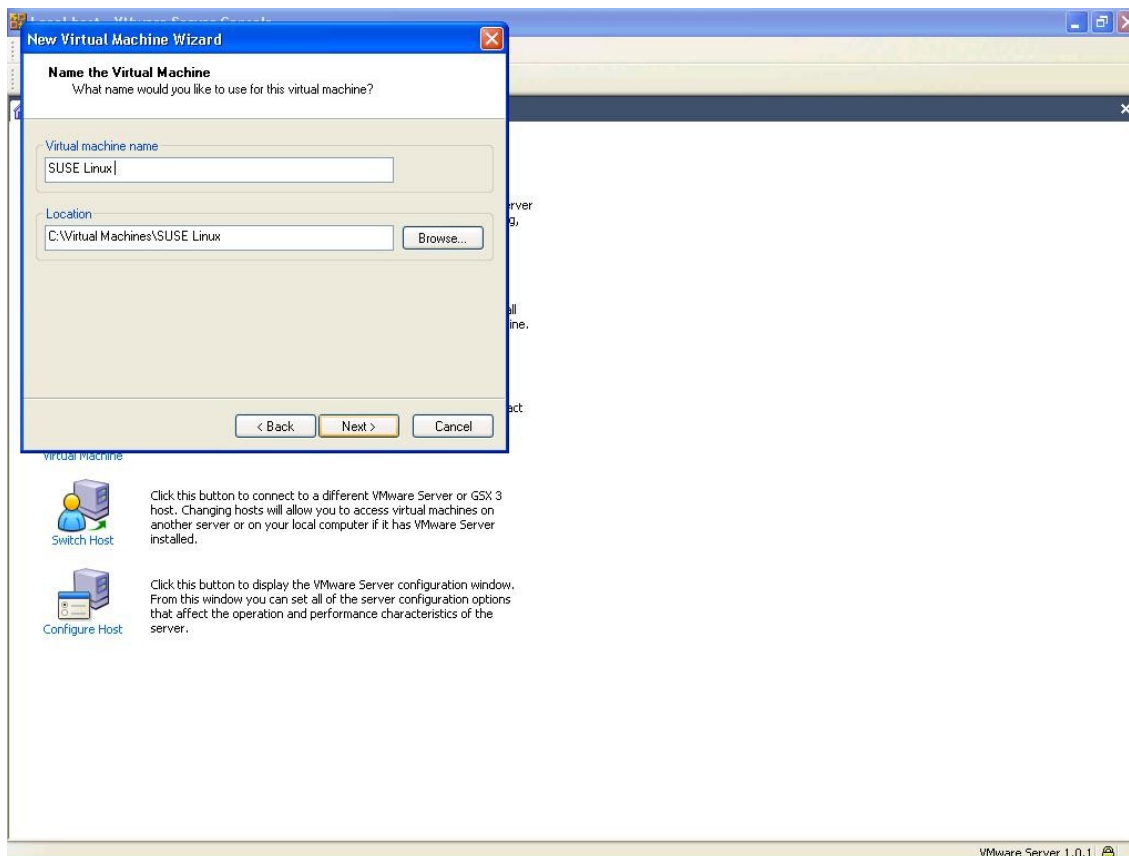
Start a new virtual machine using typical settings.



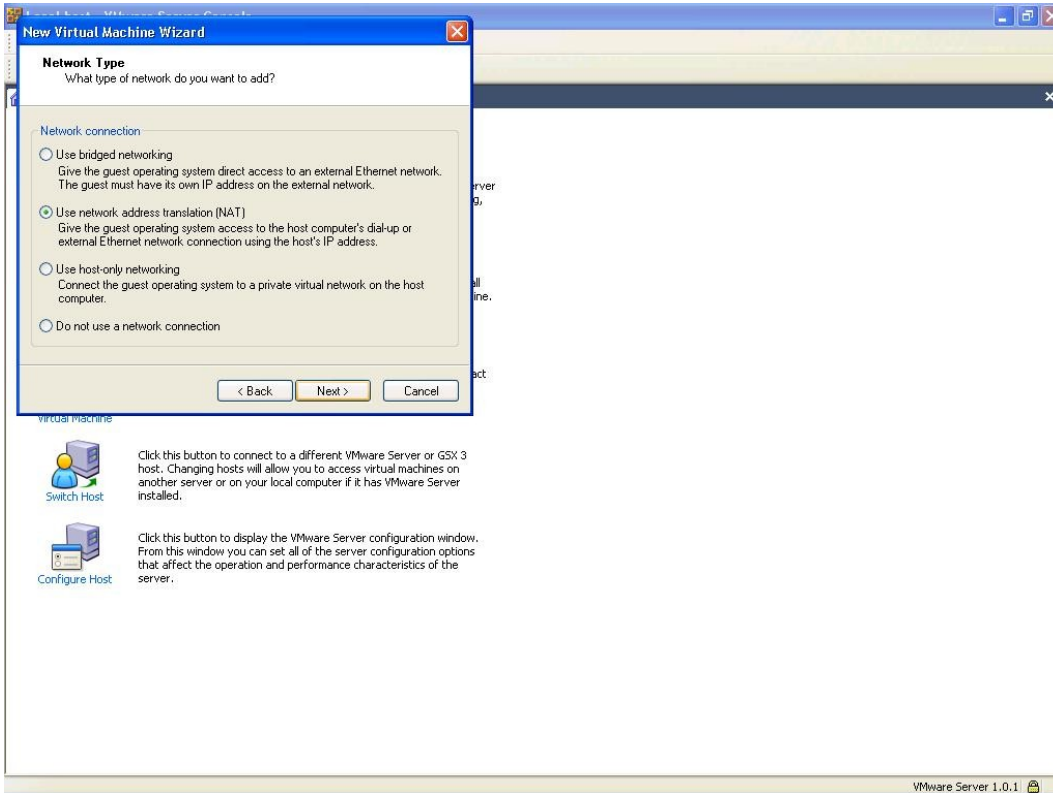
Choose SUSE Linux as the operating system



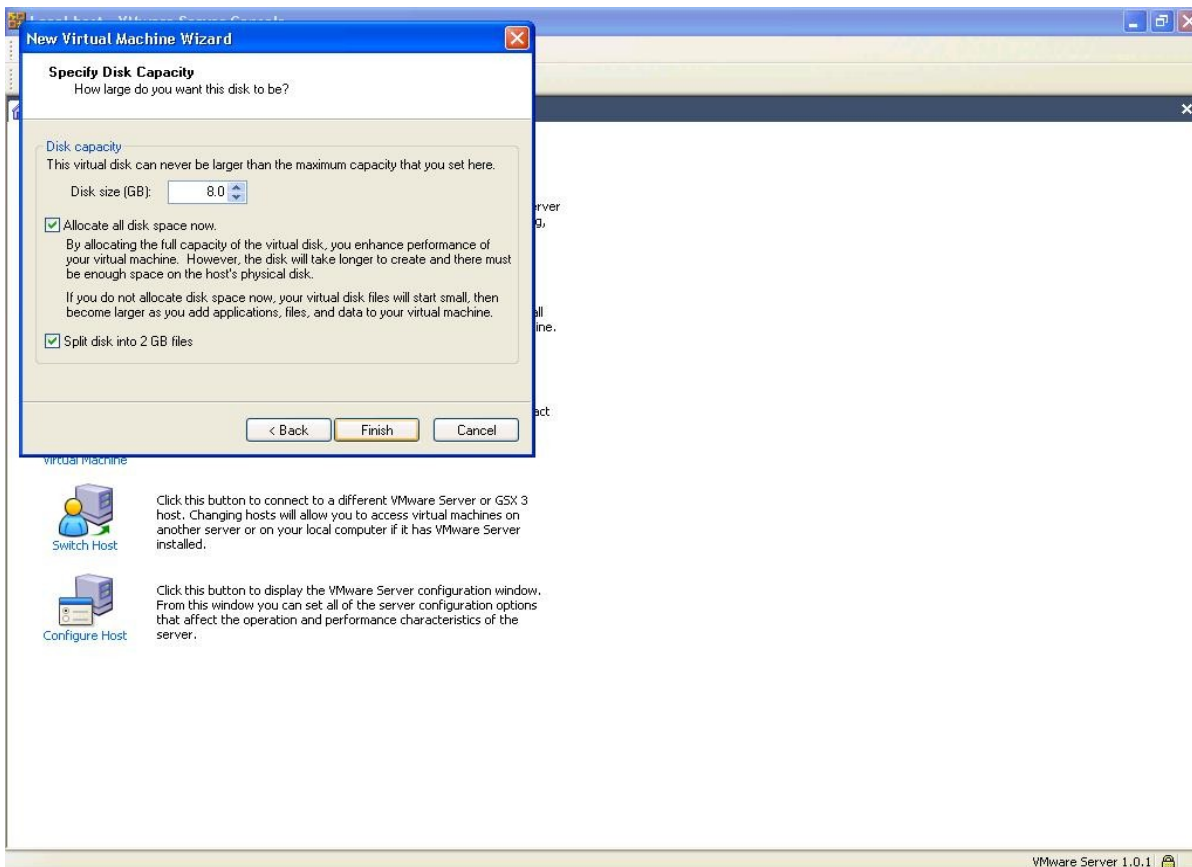
Choose a place on your hard drive where the virtual machine will be stored. This is customizable, but the default settings work well. VMWare stores the entire operating system as a large file on the host computer, so don't worry about reformatting your hard drive or losing data.



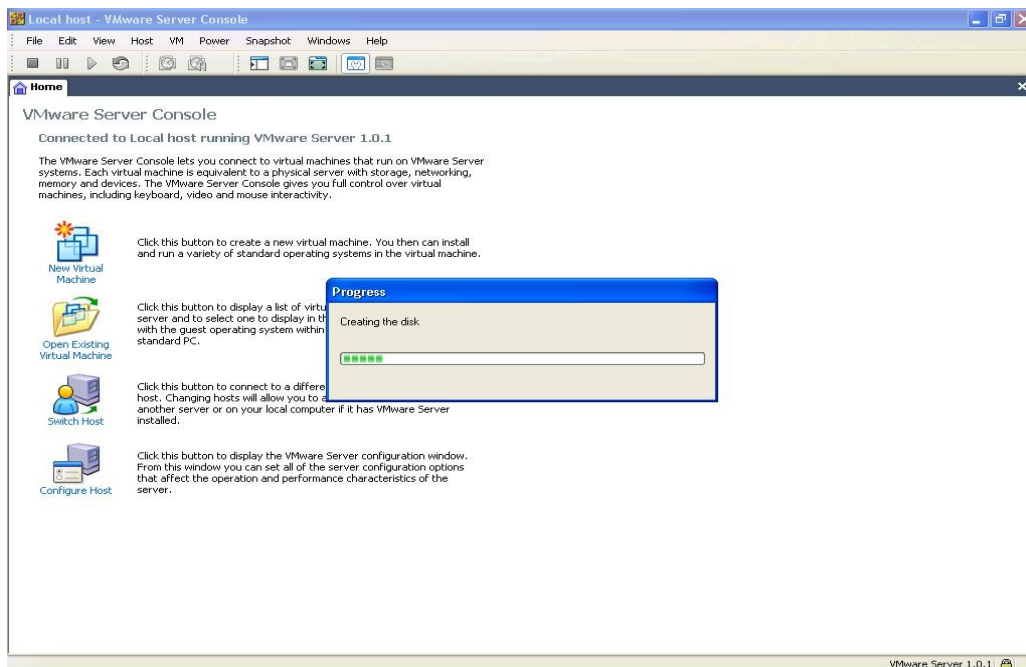
For the network type, select NAT (network address translation) for the connection type. This is the best solution, and will allow you to run either a wireless or wired connection to your SUSE installation as a wired connection. It will gain it's own DHCP lease as well. This is a great solution for the wireless laptop using Linux, because a computer using a wireless connection and natively running Linux can have driver and software issues, making a wireless card useful a problem.



To finish the installation, you need to allocate a portion of disk space. You cannot come back to change the allocation size, so it is important to give yourself enough room. The defaults are good, I would suggest between 8-20 Gigs depending on what you are planning on doing with the installation and how big your hard drive is. Also, I suggest that you divide the files into 2 Gig portions. This will allow the native file system (Windows) to more easily handle the files.

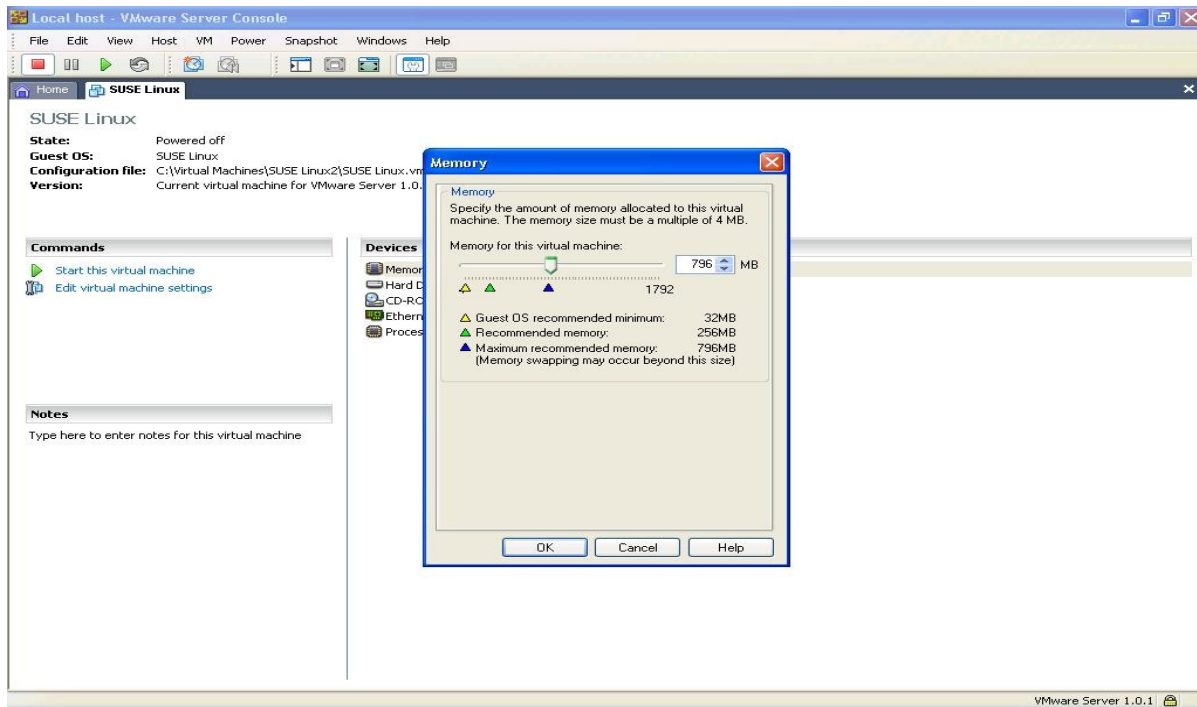


It will now create the disk. This process takes a few minutes depending on the size of the allocated disk space.

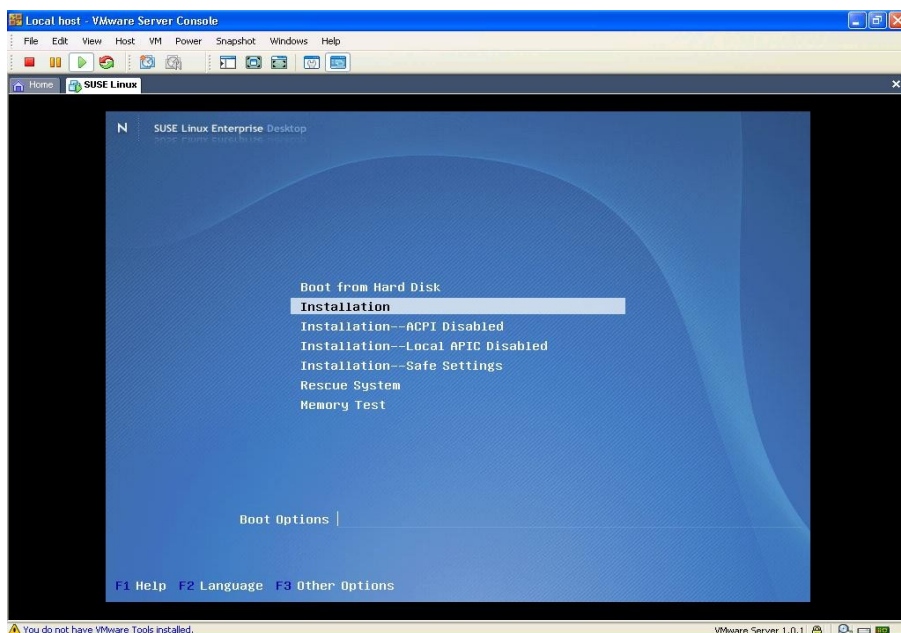


After the disk is created, I suggest that you allocate more RAM than VMWare allocated the virtual machine. *I would suggest to allocate around 75% of installed memory (more or less 796*

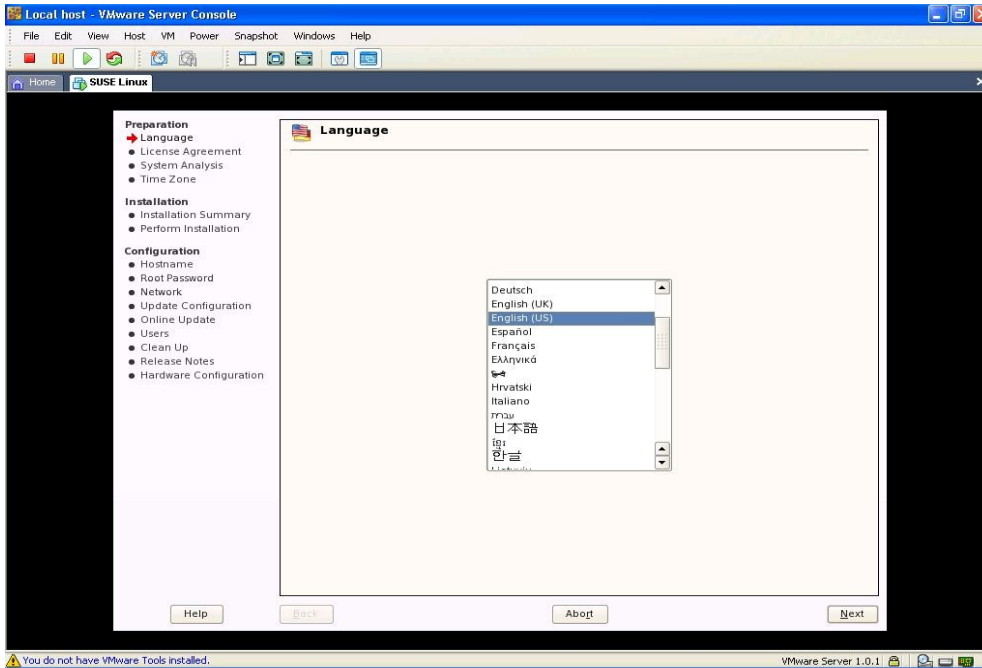
MB on a 1 GB system, for example) to be allocated to the virtual machine for installation. You can change this at any time using the “Edit Virtual Machine Settings” option on the virtual machine.



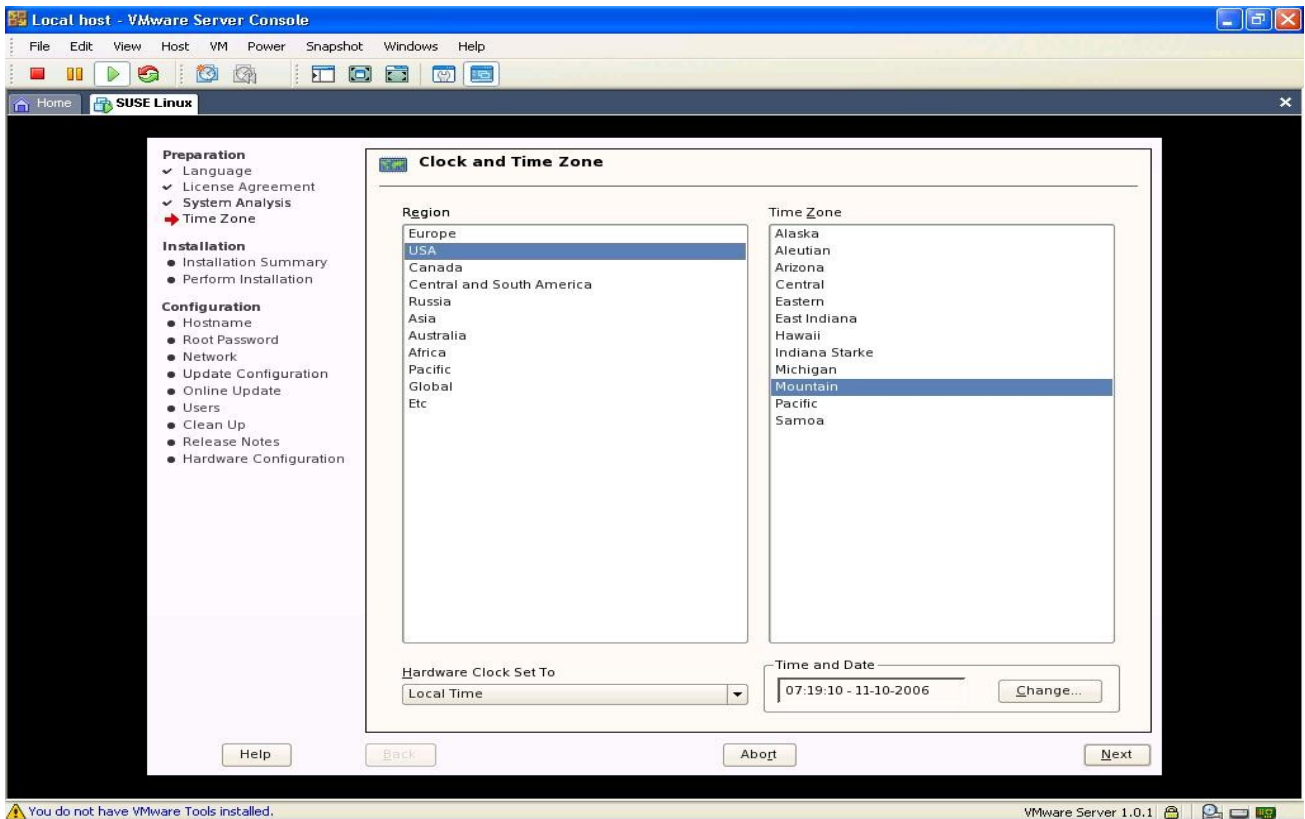
Now, start the virtual machine with disk 1 inside the CDROM drive.



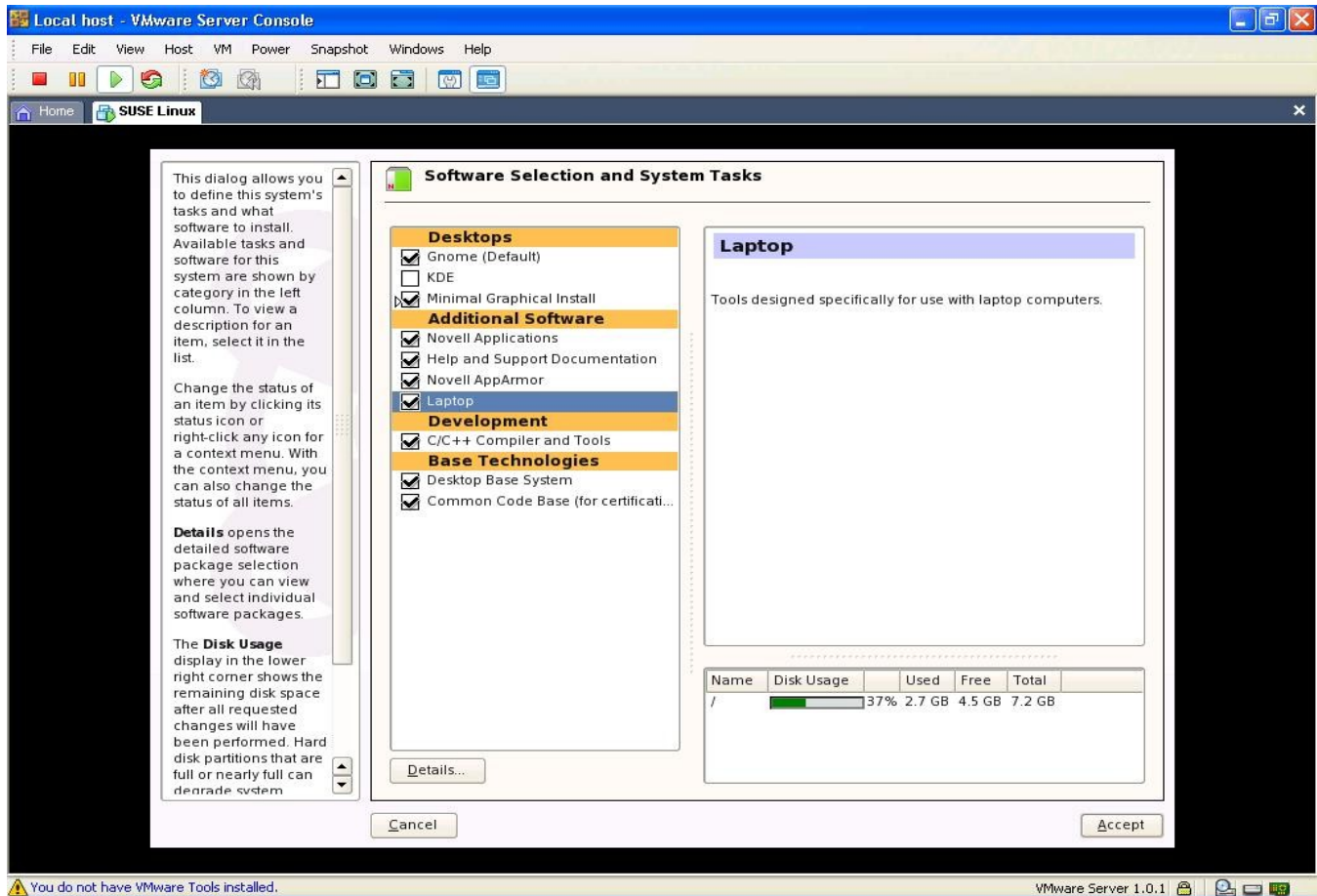
Select the language of choice.



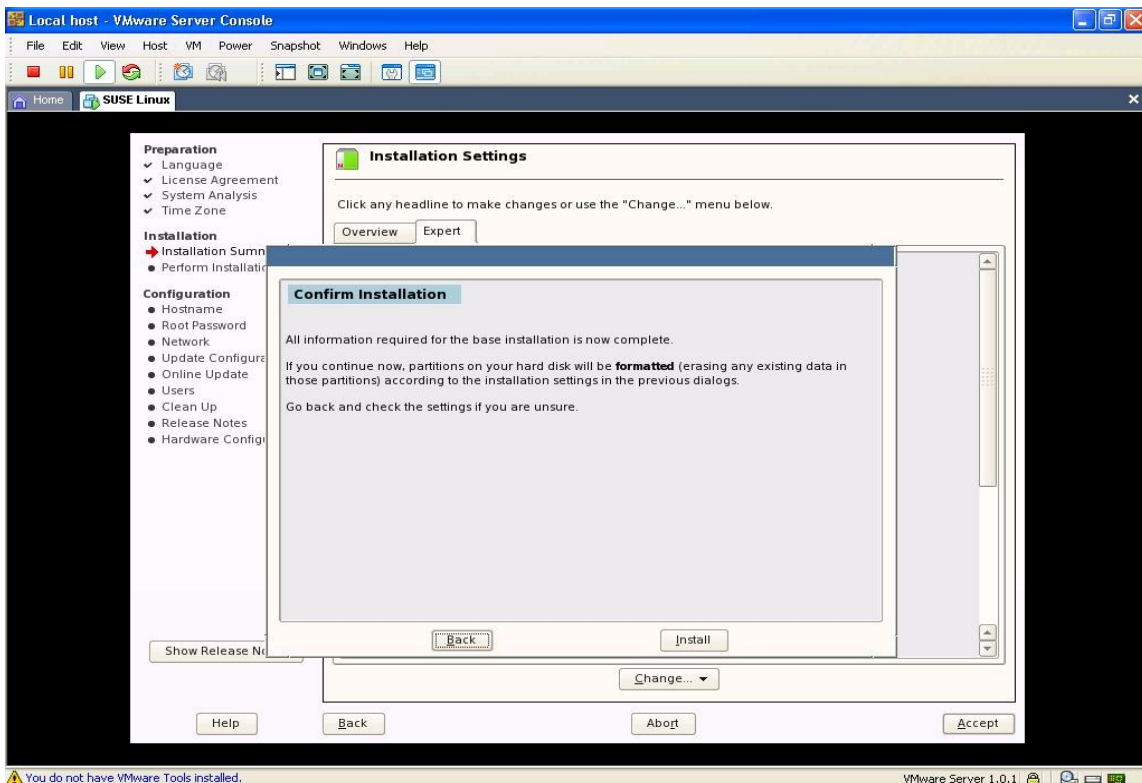
Agree to the license agreement, select new installation, and set up the time zone. Make sure to set it in local time, not Unix Time.



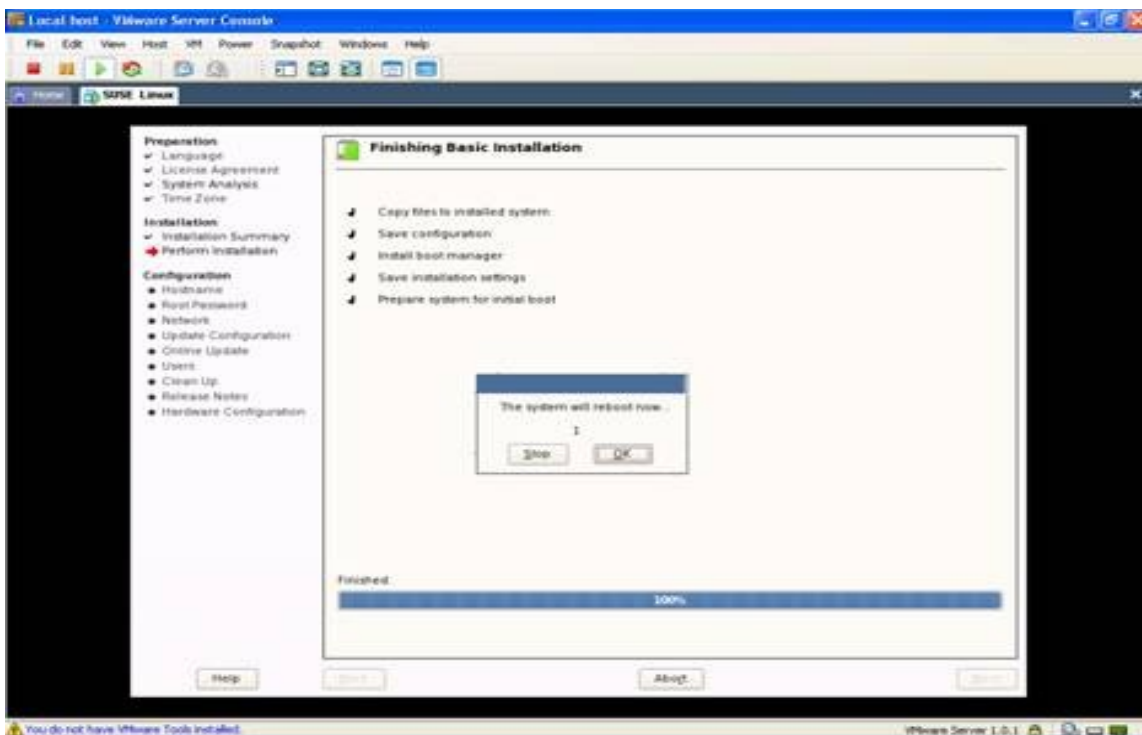
In the next screen, click “Expert”, and then click software. I suggest selecting all of the packages, for a full install. But if you have problems with the installation or have different needs, by all means change the packages installed. As shown, I selected Gnome as my desktop environment. This is the default on many systems. But if you prefer KDE, another desktop environment similar to Mac OSX, feel free to select those packages. You can select both if you please and switch between the two if you prefer.



After accepting the changes, analyze the installation. If it is what you want, select accept and install. Remember that it will not format or repartition your hard drive, because it is running in a virtual system. It will only partition the allotted space from VMWare. It will then begin to install.



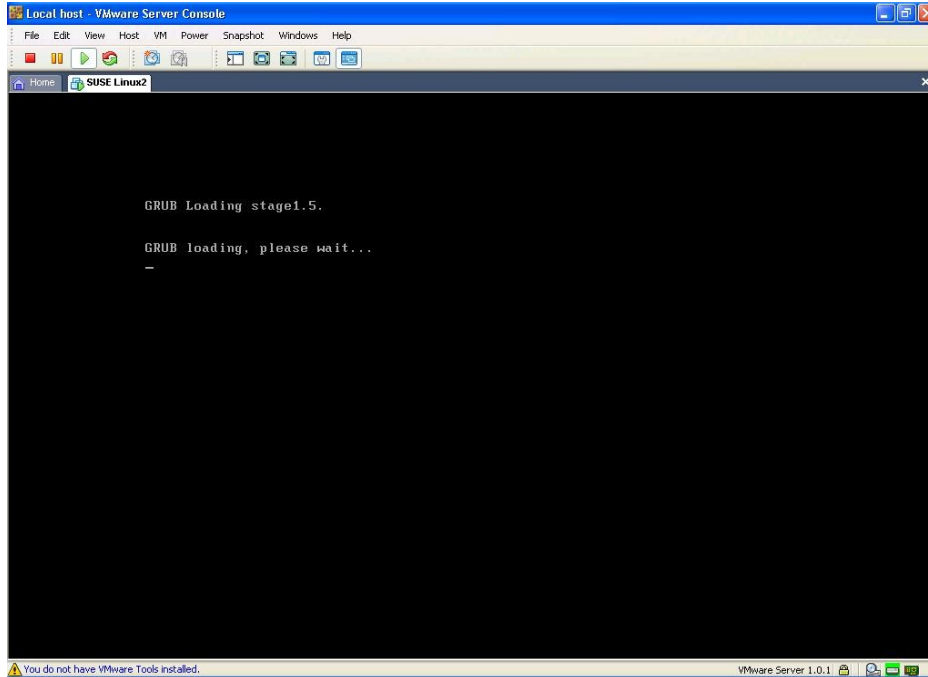
Finishing the basic installation...



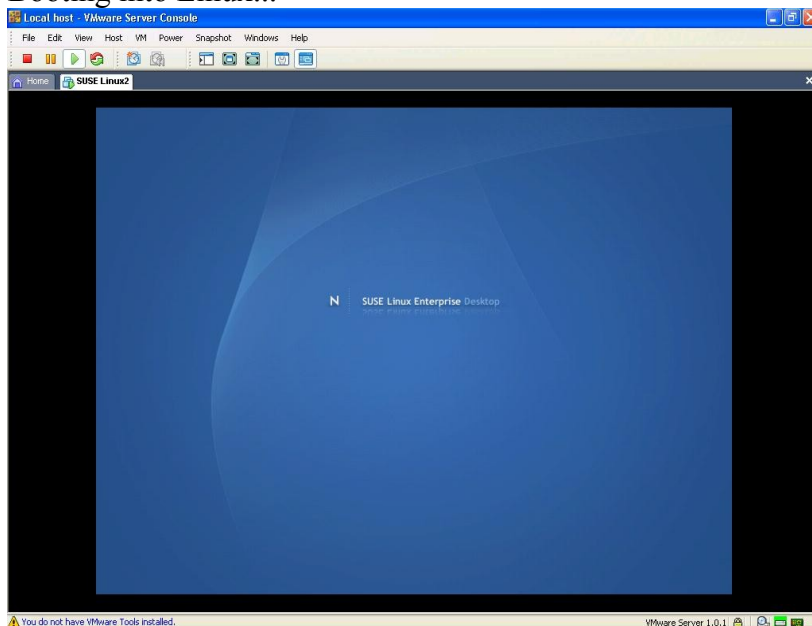
After installation has been completed, use the default hostname, choose a strong password, and use the default settings for the network. This will work well for your NAT conversion. After all of these options are configured, it will test the Internet connection by downloading the latest release notes and

updates. If it can download them, you are doing very well. If not, go back and change the Internet settings. In the next screen, use local authentication (/etc/passwd). Next, fill in a non-root user name to run on the system. This will be your user account with SUSE. Choose a strong password as well, or SUSE will bicker. You will now be taken to the release notes, and then to the hardware configuration wizard. If some piece of hardware is incorrectly listed, you may have to install the hardware later. Linux in general has some issues with driver support, especially with modems, graphics cards and wireless cards, but does a much better job than it has in the past. If everything is correct, continue to the next screen. It will then restart the system.

Grub is the bootloader, and by default it will boot into Linux.



Booting into Linux...



Congratulations!!! You have now entered the Linux world.

