Parallels Desktop for Mac – Installation and Setup

This tutorial explains how to install Parallels Desktop for Mac and setup of a Windows XP virtual machine.

Getting Started

You will need:

1. A **complete, fully licensed copy** of Parallels Desktop for Mac. You can either buy a copy directly from Parallels, Inc. at www.parallels.com/en/buyonline or download a free, 15-day trial from www.parallels.com/en/download.

2. A **complete, fully licensed retail copy** of Windows or other operating system (OS) of your choice. Parallels Desktop for Mac currently supports:
   - Windows 3.1, 95, 98, Me, NT, 2000, XP, 2003, and Vista Ultimate, Business, and Enterprise
   - All distributions of Linux, as well as FreeBSD, OS/2, eComStation, Solaris, and MS-DOS

This tutorial walks you through downloading and installing a copy of Parallels Desktop for Mac and setting up a virtual machine in which to install Windows XP.

Downloading

1. Download Parallels Desktop for Mac at http://www.parallels.com/en/download/desktop/. Click the **DMG Package** link, which is located towards the middle of the page under Download Package. See Figure 1. A DMG package containing your copy of Parallels Desktop for Mac will download onto your Mac desktop.
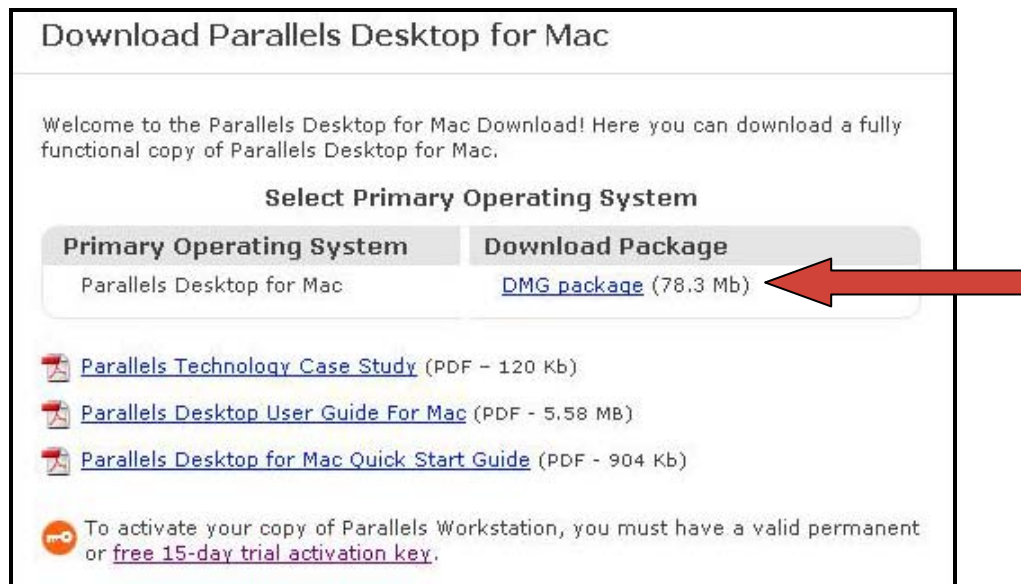

Figure 1

![Parallels logo]

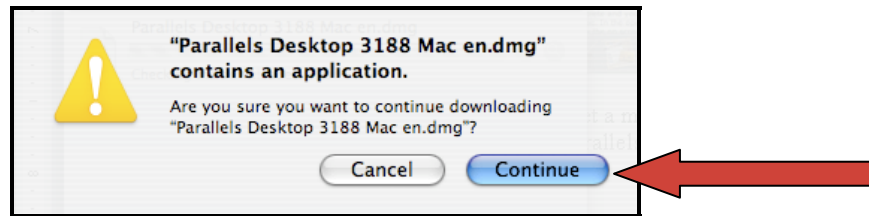2. When the download is complete, the following message will display:

Figure 2

3. Click **Continue**.

4. A window with four items will display. Double-click the **Install Parallels Desktop** icon. See Figure 3.
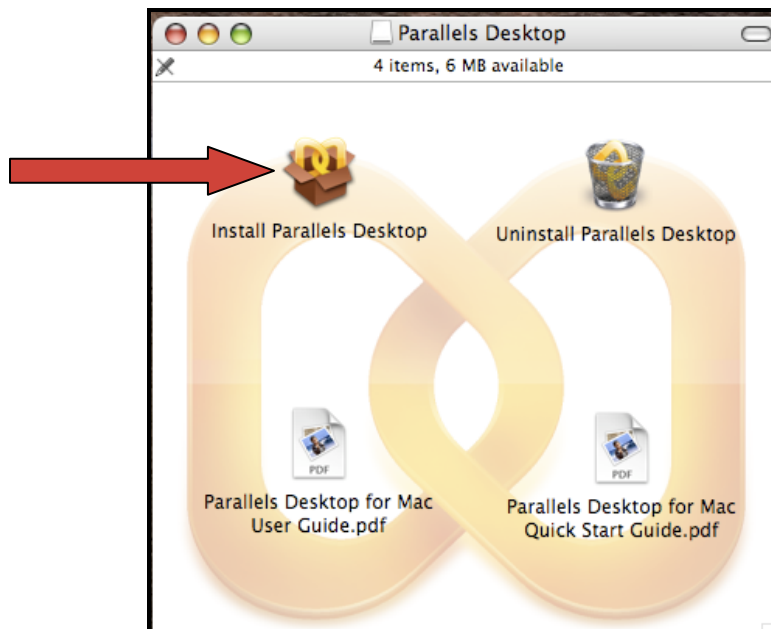

Figure 3

Installing Parallels Desktop

1. Double-clicking the Install Parallels Desktop icon launches the Parallels Desktop Installer and displays the introduction page. Click **Continue**.

2. Parallels will prompt you to read and agree to the software license agreement. Read the agreement, click **Continue**, and click **Agree**. See Figure 4.
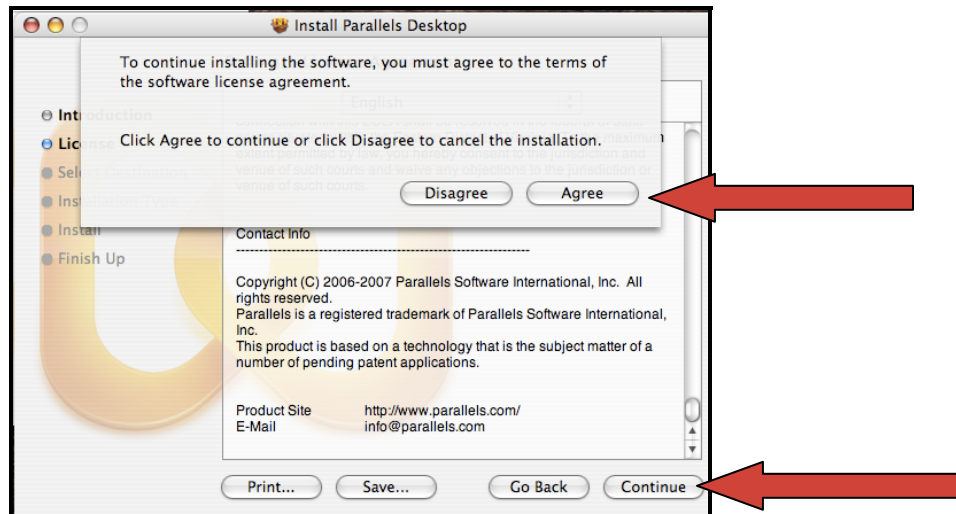

Figure 4

3. The Select a Destination screen will display. Do not make any changes; simply click **Continue**. See Figure 5**.**
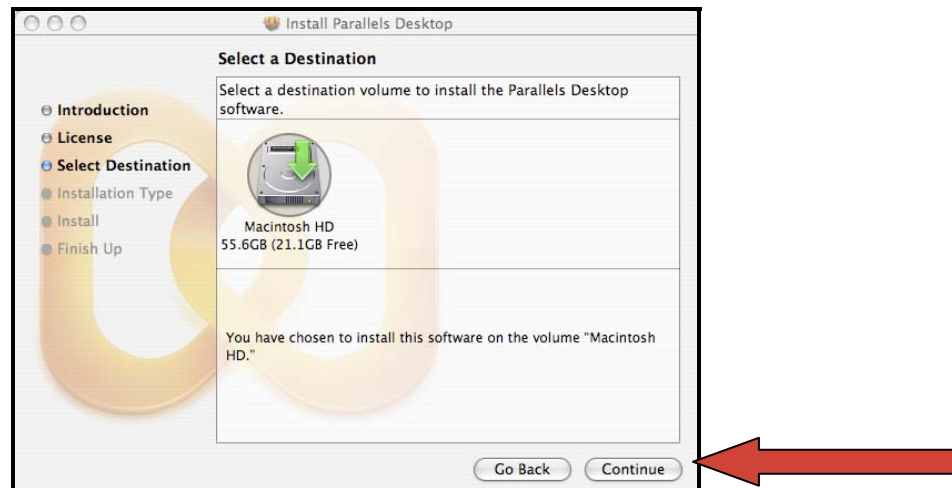

Figure 5

4. The Authenticate window may appear asking for your user name and password. Enter the same name and password that you use to log onto your Mac computer. Click **OK,** and click **Install**. See Figure 6.
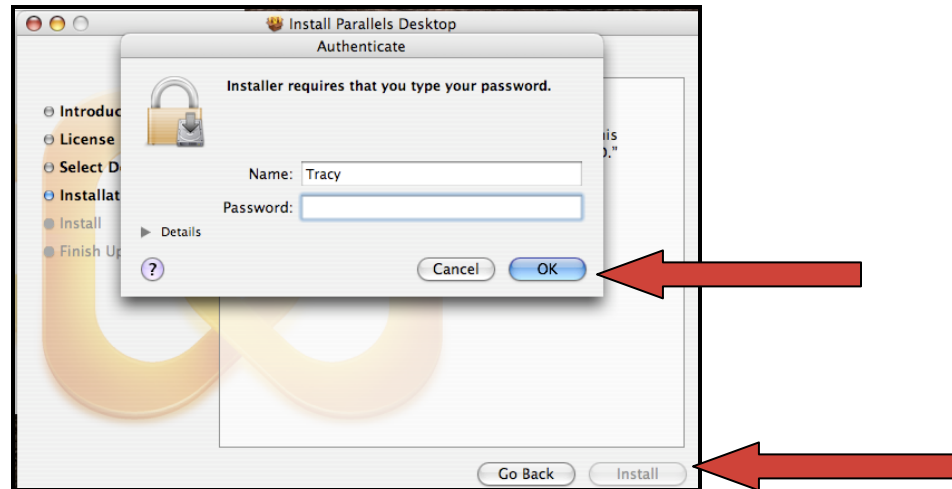

Figure 6

5. Parallels will begin installing. While Parallels Desktop for Mac installs, the following screen will display, which indicates the progress already made and the approximate time remaining (see Figure 7):

Figure 7

6. After the installation is complete, a Finder window containing six items will display. At this time, you can drag the Parallels Desktop icon to your Mac Dock for easy launching. Double-click the **Parallels Desktop** icon to launch the application. See Figure 8.
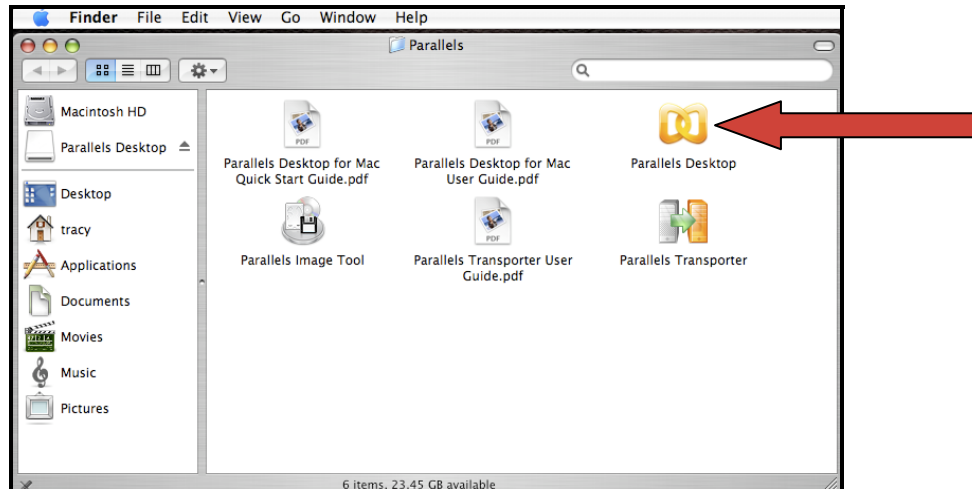

Figure 8

7. You are now ready to set up a virtual machine!

Setting Up a Virtual Machine

1. Double-clicking the Parallels Desktop icon launches the OS Installation Assistant. To follow this tutorial, select **Typical** and click **Next**. See Figure 9.
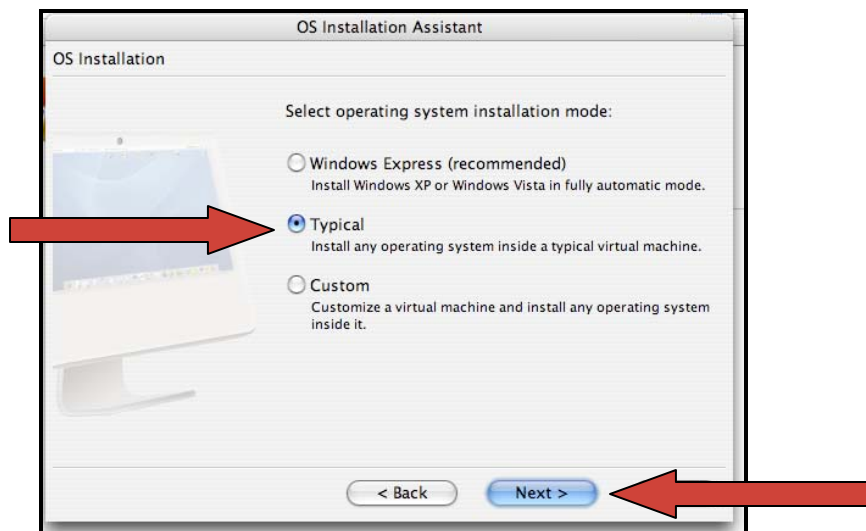

Figure 9

2. Select the correct OS Type and OS Version – for this tutorial, select **Windows** and **Windows XP**. Click **Next**. See Figure 10.
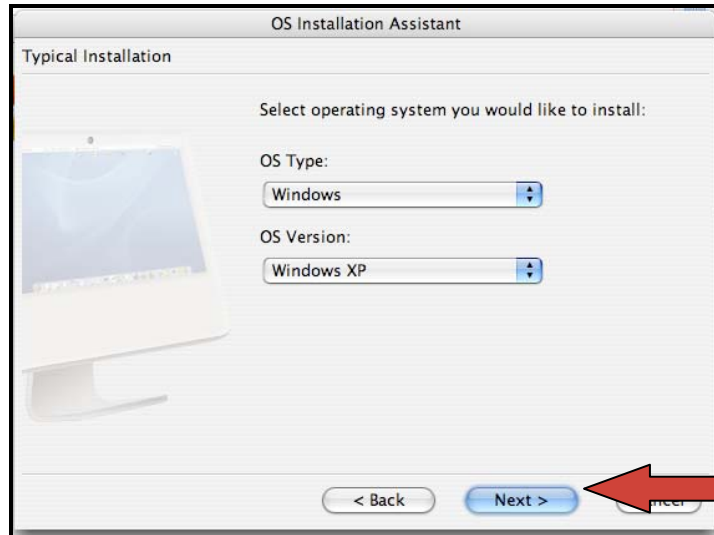

Figure 10

3. Enter a name for your virtual machine (this can be whatever you want) or accept the default name, which is the name of the OS being installed. Click **Next**. See Figure 11.
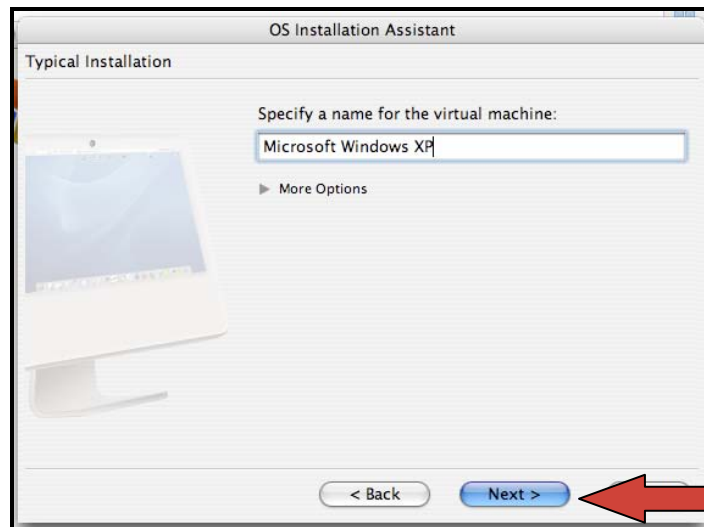

Figure 11

4. Insert the OS disk (in this case, Windows XP) into the CD drive, and wait for the CD to load. Click **Finish**. See Figure 12.
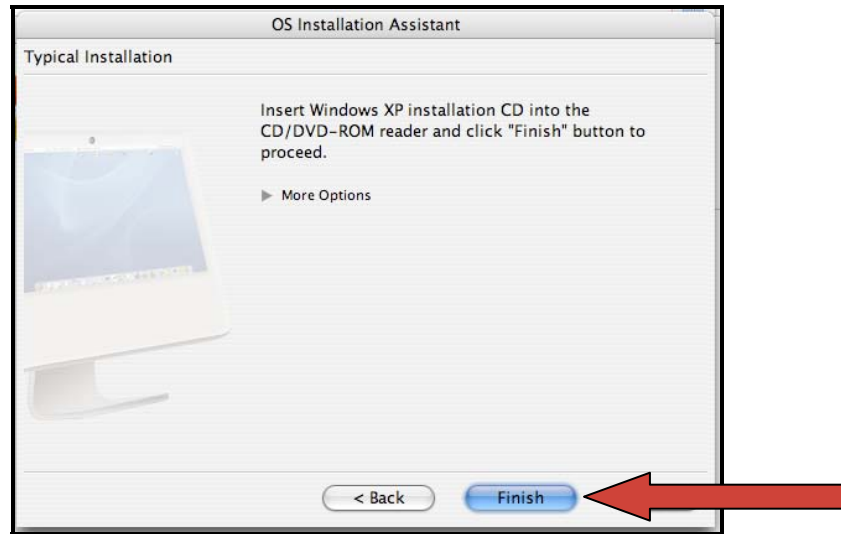

Figure 12

5. Windows Installation should start immediately. Follow the Windows installer to continue.