Introduction to the Virtual Machines for Educational Use

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Overview

The Virtual Machines for Educational Use provides access to a consistent Windows computing environment for students, faculty and staff complete with software, updates and MIT specific configurations.

Three Things To Know About Your VMware Image

One: Store data in My Documents folder or on Desktop

Data should not be stored within the Virtual Machine, as there is no good mechanism for backing up data stored in the VM itself. To make it easy to store data on your host machine, the Virtual Machine has been configured, so that when you access My Documents or the Desktop, you are accessing the Documents and Desktop of your host machine. This is called mirroring, and allows data to be stored on the host machine, where it can be included in regular backups.

Warning: Files deleted from the Virtual Machine Desktop or My Documents folder will be deleted from the Macintosh Desktop or Documents folder as well.

Mirroring must be manually enabled when the VM is run on a Windows Host. See: [Q: How do I enable Mirroring in my Student VM?]

Two: We recommend against overly customizing this environment

Standard troubleshooting practice will be to download a new copy of the Virtual Machine. When you delete the previous copy of the Virtual Machine, all customizations and data will be lost, including additional software that has been installed. Before deleting any previous Virtual Machine, see: Steps to take before deleting a Virtual Machine.

Three: Student Virtual Machine now 64-bit

- The Spring 2014 release of the Student Virtual Machine is now running Windows 7 x64.
- The Spring 2017 release of the Student Virtual Machine is now running Windows 10 x64.
- The Spirng 2017 release of the Student Solidworks Virtual Machine is now running Windows 10 x64.

Related Links

VMware-All Downloads
Windows 7 Virtual Machine for Educational Use
Windows 10 Virtual Machine for Educational Use
Windows 10 Student Solidworks Virtual Machine for Educational Use
Data and Reporting Services at MIT
Exchange Calendaring Help Wizard
VMware Security Recommendations and Best Practices