

Parallels® Virtual Automation 4.5 Beta Read Me

This document provides the first-priority information on Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta and supplements the included documentation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

1. Distribution Contents
 2. Licensing
 3. System Requirements
 4. Installing Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta
 5. Removing Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta
 6. Further reading
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1. Distribution Contents

The following components are included in the Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta distribution:

- PVA Management Server. This component ensures the communication between the slave physical servers and their virtual environments.
 - PVA Agent for Parallels Server Bare Metal. The component ensures the interaction between this physical server, the Master Server and your client computer. Without this component a physical server cannot be registered in the system.
 - PVA Agent for Virtuozzo. This component ensures the interaction between this physical server, the Master Server and your client physical computer. Without this component a physical server cannot be registered in the system.
 - PVA Power Panel. An auxiliary tool designed for managing a single virtual machine or a single Container. It can be installed only together with the PVA Agent component.
 - documentation. Contains the Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta documentation.
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2. Licensing

Parallels virtual Automation 4.5 is a management tool for Parallels virtualization technologies and is distributed without a license. Nevertheless, the license is needed for Parallels virtualization software being managed. Physical servers running Parallels Virtuozzo Containers technology demand Parallels Virtuozzo Containers licenses to create and work with Containers. Physical servers running Parallels Server Bare Metal technology demand Parallels Server Bare Metal license

to create and work with virtual machines and Containers.

3. System Requirements

Software Requirements

If a Windows- or Linux-based computer serves as a Client Server, it should have a supported Web-browser client:

- Internet Explorer 6.x and 7.x for Windows
- Mozilla Firefox 2.x and 3.x for all platforms
- Safari 3.x for Mac

Although other browsers will most likely work, only those listed above have been extensively tested for compatibility with Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5.

If a Windows- or Linux-based computer serves as a Slave Server where virtual environments will be stored and managed, then Parallels Virtual Automation will call for more complex requirements, as the creation and management of Containers and virtual machines demand more complex software resources. So, in choosing an appropriate Windows- and Linux-based computer, you should be guided by the Parallels Virtuozzo Containers system requirements. For the detailed and more concrete information on the requirements, see **Parallels® Virtuozzo Containers for Linux** and **Parallels® Virtuozzo Containers for Windows** user guides.

Note: You can install PVA Power Panel only together with PVA Agent.

Any physical server that will be managed via PVA as a Slave Server should have a virtualization technology installed: Parallels Virtuozzo Containers software for Linux- and Windows-based computers and Parallels Serve Bare Metal software for a bare metal computer.

If a Windows-based computer serves as a Master Server, it should meet the following requirements:

- dedicated server running a 32-bit or x86-64-bit version of Microsoft Windows Server 2003 (with Service Pack 2).

If a Linux-based computer serves as a Master Server, it should meet the following requirements:

- a physical server without virtualization technology running 32-bit, x86-64-bit

versions of RHEL 3, RHEL 4, RHEL 5.0, RHEL 5.1, RHEL 5.2, SLES 10.1, CentOS 3.4.

A Linux-based computer may also serve as a Master Server even if it has a virtualization technology - Parallels Virtuozzo Containers software. In this case, you should create a Container and start the PVA component installation there. The Container should be created on the basis of the **ve-slm.2048MB.conf-sample** template.

Note: At the moment, Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 doesn't support Security Enhanced (SE) Linux, so make sure its working mode is set to *Permissive* before trying to install the product. To set the SE Linux mode to *Permissive*, enter the following command: `/usr/bin/setenforce Permissive`.

Hardware Requirements

If a Windows-based, Linux-based, or bare metal computer serves as a Master Server, there are no special requirements for it. However, below is the list of the basic hardware requirements you can use as a checklist:

- Intel Celeron, Pentium III, Pentium 4, Xeon, or AMD Athlon CPU;
- at least 128 MB of RAM;
- hard drive with at least 15 GB of free disk space;
- network card.

If a Windows-based, Linux-based, or bare metal computer serves as a Slave Server where virtual environments will be stored and managed, then Parallels Virtual Automation will call for more complex hardware. The general considerations regarding the configuration of your physical servers could be as follows:

- CPUs. The more virtual environments you plan to run simultaneously, the more CPUs you need.
- Memory. The more memory you have, the more virtual environments you can run. The exact figure depends on the number and nature of applications you are planning to run in your virtual environments.
- Disk space. Each virtual environment occupies 40-150 MB of hard disk space for system files in addition to the user data inside the virtual environment (for example, web site content). You should consider it when planning disk partitioning and the number of virtual environments to run.
- Intel VT-x or AMD-V hardware virtualization technology support.

For the detailed and more concrete information on the requirements for the computer, see **Parallels® Server Administration Guide**, **Parallels® Virtuozzo Containers for Linux** and **Parallels® Virtuozzo Containers for Windows** user guides.

4. Installing Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta

If you purchased Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta from the Parallels online store, download the latest build and when the download is complete, go to the directory where the installation files are stored and start the installation.

If you purchased a boxed copy of Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta, insert the Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 installation disk into the optical drive of your physical server. Go to the directory where the installation files are stored and start the installation.

In general, to install Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5:

1. Carefully plan your Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 management system.
2. Go to the directory where the Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 installation files are stored and start the installation.
3. Select the Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 components which you are going to install.
4. Install the chosen components on your physical servers.

Complete installation instructions on how to set up Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 on a physical server are provided in Parallels Virtual Automation Installation Guide included in the current distribution.

5. Removing Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 beta

To uninstall Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 from your physical server, go to the directory where the installation files are stored and start the Parallels Virtual Automation uninstallation.

Complete instructions on how to uninstall Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 from your physical server are provided in Parallels Virtual Automation Installation Guide included in the current distribution.

7. Further Reading

In addition to this README, there are a number of other resources shipped with Parallels

Virtual Automation 4.5 which can help you use the product more effectively. These resources include:

Parallels Virtual Automation Administrator's Guide.

This guide is destined to introduce you to the main features of Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5. It contains comprehensive information on all the necessary theoretical conceptions and all practical aspects of working with Parallels Virtual Automation functionality, physical servers and virtual environments. This guide does not include information on installing Parallels Virtual Automation components.

Getting Started With Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 Guide.

This guide provides brief instructions on how to install and run Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 software on your server. It also explains the basics of working with physical servers (Hardware Nodes), Containers and virtual machines: how to register a server, to create and manage a virtual environment, and the like.

Parallels Power Panel Guide.

This guide is destined to introduce you to the Power Panel working principles. Power Panel is a means for administering individual Containers and virtual machines through a common web browser on any platform..

Parallels Virtual Automation Installation Guide.

This guide provides extensive information on the process of installing Parallels Virtual Automation 4.5 components. It helps to plan the structure of the Parallels virtual Automation network, explains the interconnections between all components and contains detailed description of installation procedures.

Parallels virtual Automation Agent XML API Reference.

This document is a complete reference on all Parallels Virtual Automation configuration files and physical server command-line utilities.

Parallels Virtual Automation Agent Programmer's Guide.

This is a task-oriented guide that provides information on all Parallels Virtual Automation configuration files and physical server command-line utilities.