

How to Install Ubuntu on VirtualBox

This wikiHow teaches you how to install Ubuntu Linux on a computer by using VirtualBox. VirtualBox is a program which allows you to install an operating system without changing your computer's main operating system. Open the Ubuntu...

Part 1 of 4:

Downloading Ubuntu



1.

Open the Ubuntu website. Go to <https://www.ubuntu.com/download/desktop> in your computer's web browser. You can download the Ubuntu disk image (also known as an ISO file) here.

- 2 GHz dual core processor or better
- 2 GB system memory
- 25 GB of free hard drive space
- Either a DVD drive or a USB port for the installer media
- Internet access is helpful

Ubuntu 19.04

The latest version of the Ubuntu operating system for desktop PCs and laptops, Ubuntu 19.04 comes with nine months, until January 2020, of security and maintenance updates.

[Ubuntu 19.04 release notes](#)

Recommended system requirements are the same as for [Ubuntu 18.04.2 LTS](#).

[Download](#)

[Alternative downloads and torrents](#)

2.

Easy ways to switch to Ubuntu

wikiHow

Scroll down to the latest version of Ubuntu. You'll find it near the bottom of the page.

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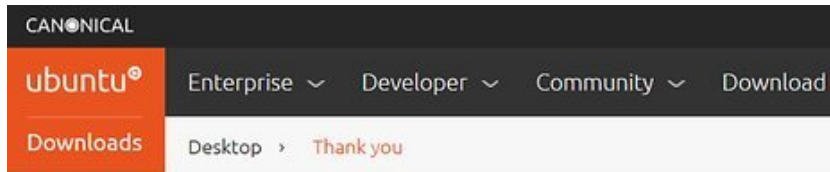
[Alternative downloads and torrents](#)

3.

Easy ways to switch to Ubuntu

wikiHow

Click [Download](#). It's a green button to the right of your selected version of Ubuntu. Doing so takes you to the support page.



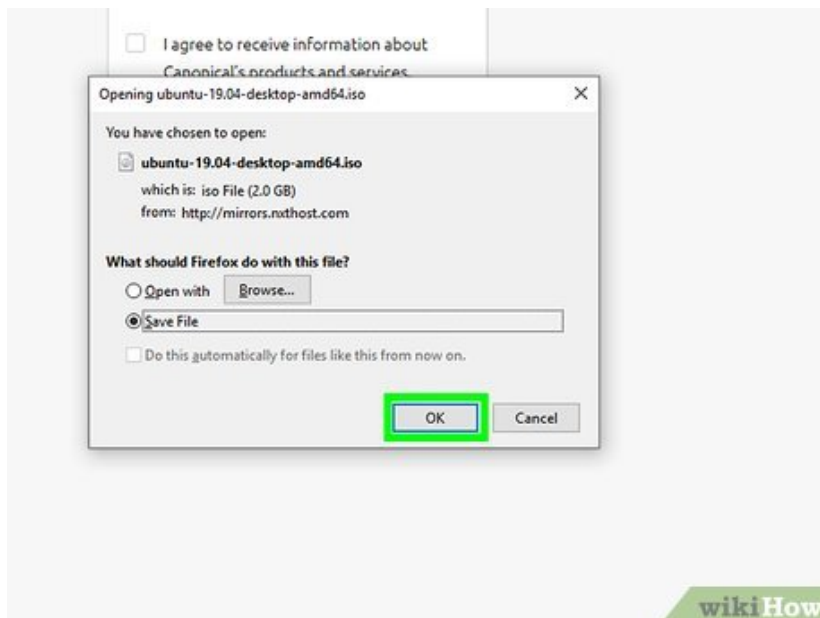
Thank you for downloading Ubuntu Desktop

4. Your download should start automatically. If it doesn't [download now.](#)

Verify your download

wikiHow

Scroll down and click [Download Now](#). This link is in the bottom-left corner of the page.



- 5.

Make sure that Ubuntu begins downloading. The Ubuntu ISO should begin downloading immediately, but if it doesn't, you can click the **download now** link at the top of the page. While the Ubuntu ISO downloads, you'll have plenty of time to set up your virtual machine in VirtualBox.

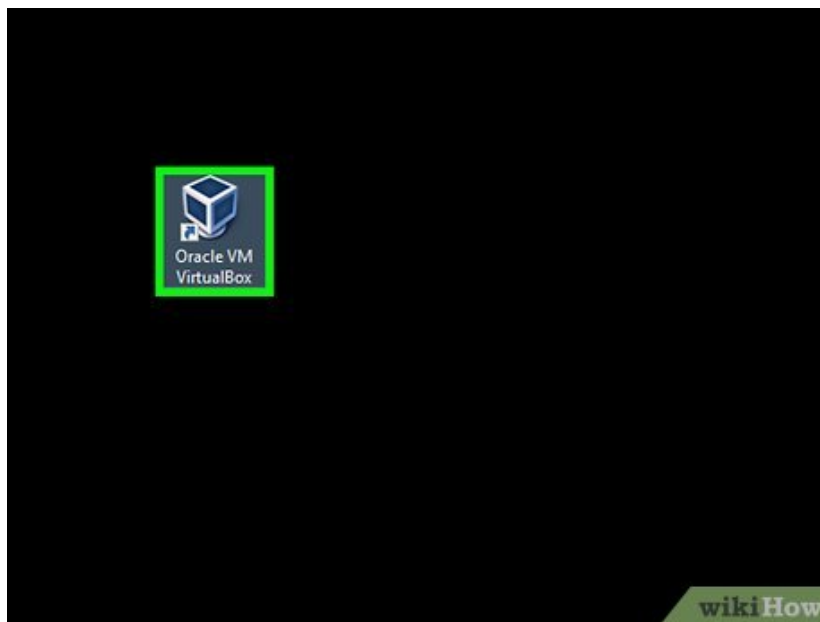
Part 2 of 4:

Creating a Virtual Machine



1.

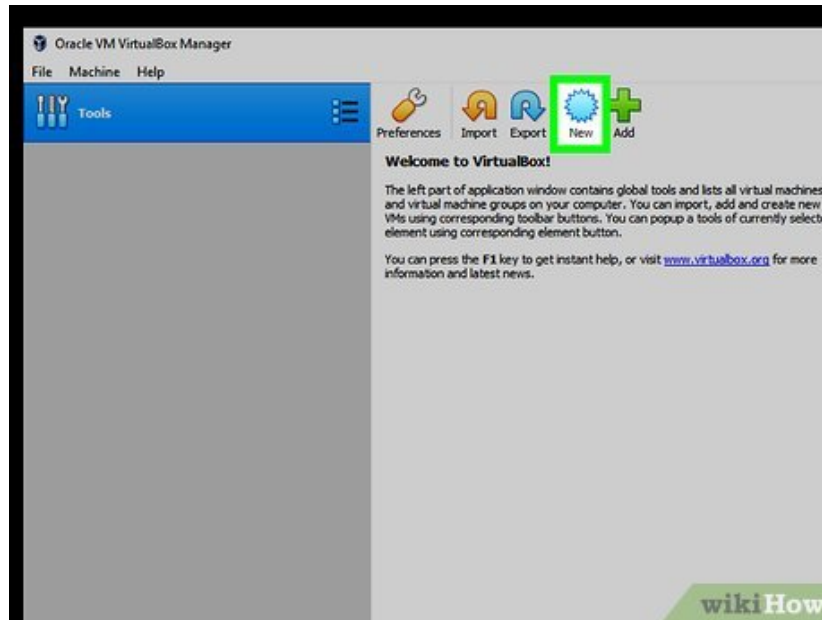
Install VirtualBox if you haven't yet done so. If you don't already have VirtualBox installed on your Windows or Mac computer, you'll need to install it before proceeding.



2.

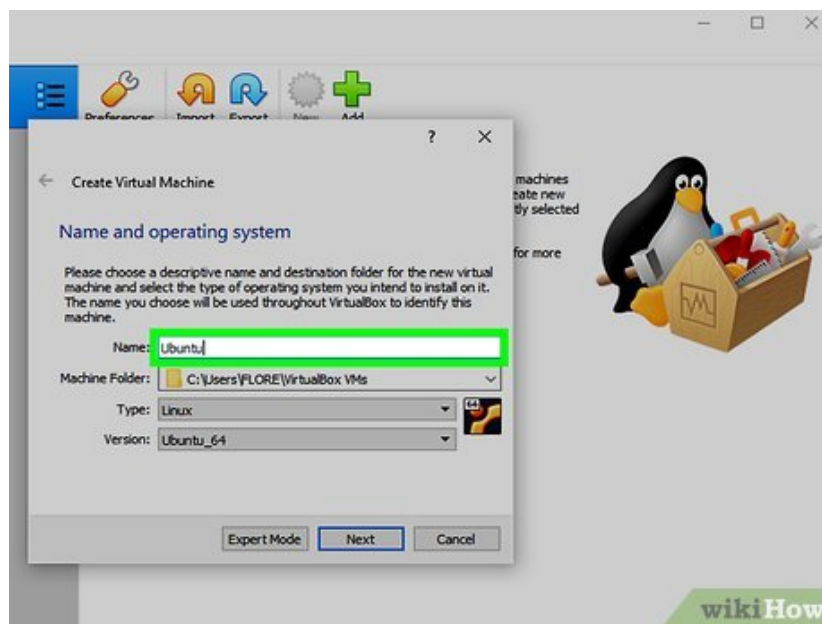
Open VirtualBox. Double-click (or click once on a Mac) the VirtualBox app icon.

3.



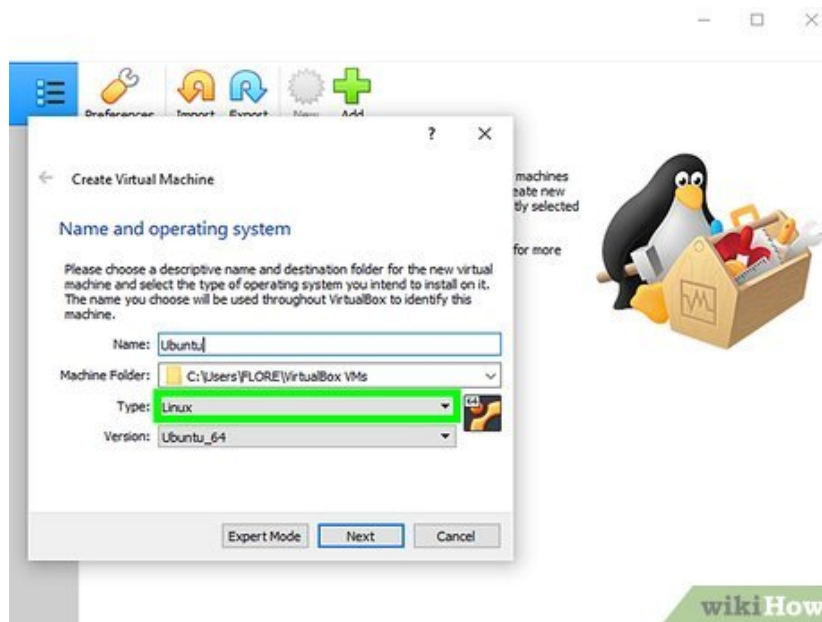
Click **New**. It's a blue badge in the upper-left corner of the VirtualBox window. Doing so opens a pop-up menu.

4.



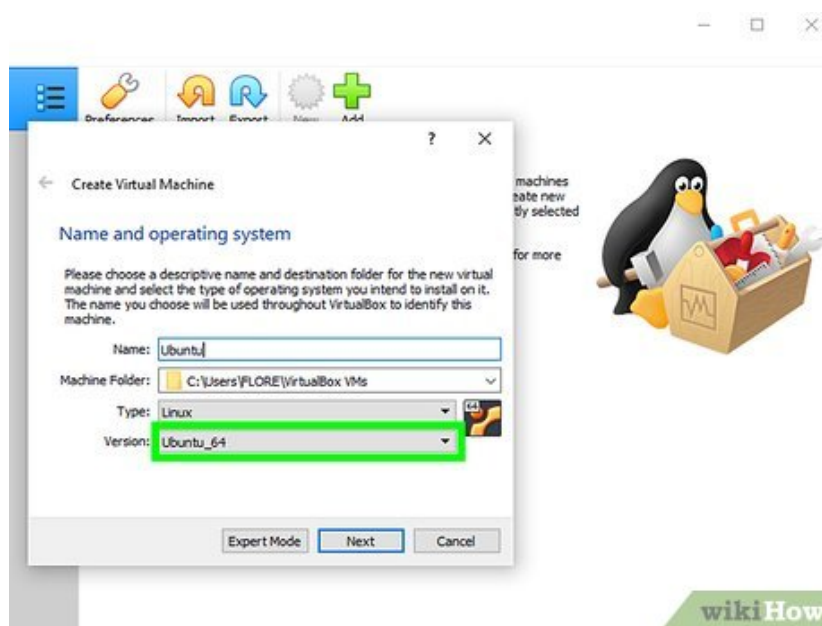
Enter a name for your virtual machine. Type whatever you want to name your virtual machine (e.g., `Ubuntu`) into the "Name" text field that's near the top of the pop-up menu.

5.



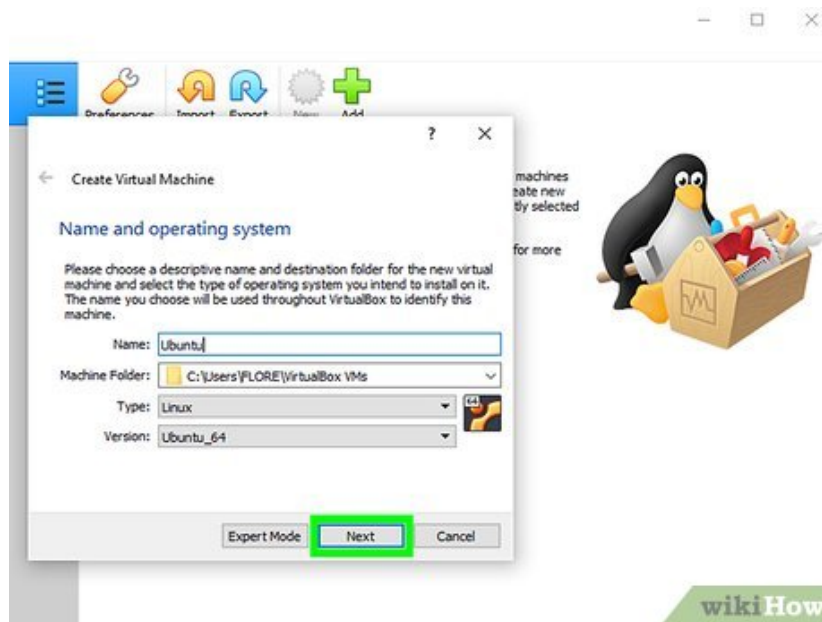
Select **Linux** as the "Type" value. Click the "Type" drop-down box, then click **Linux** in the resulting drop-down menu.

6.



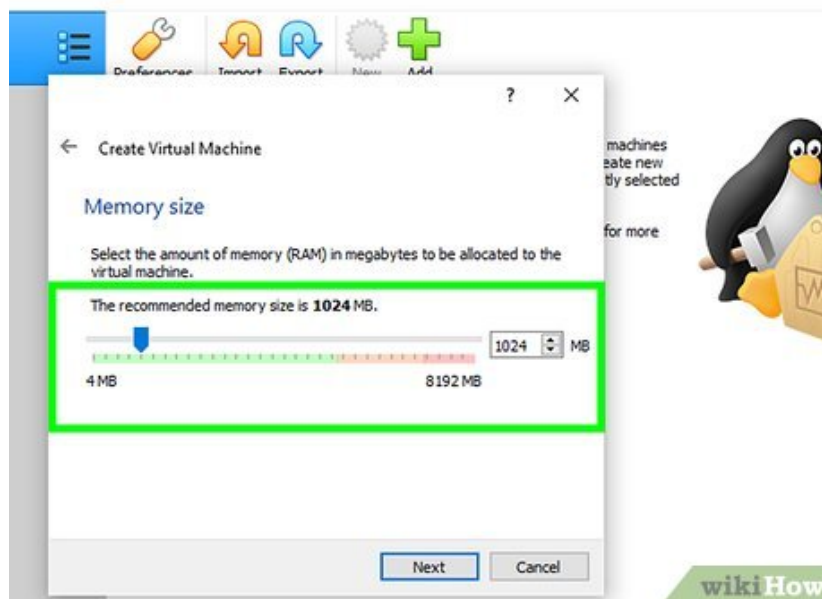
Select **Ubuntu** as the "Version" value. Ubuntu should be selected by default after you set the "Type" value to **Linux**, but if it isn't, click the "Version" drop-down box and click **Ubuntu (64-bit)** before proceeding.

7.



Click **Next**. It's at the bottom of the menu.

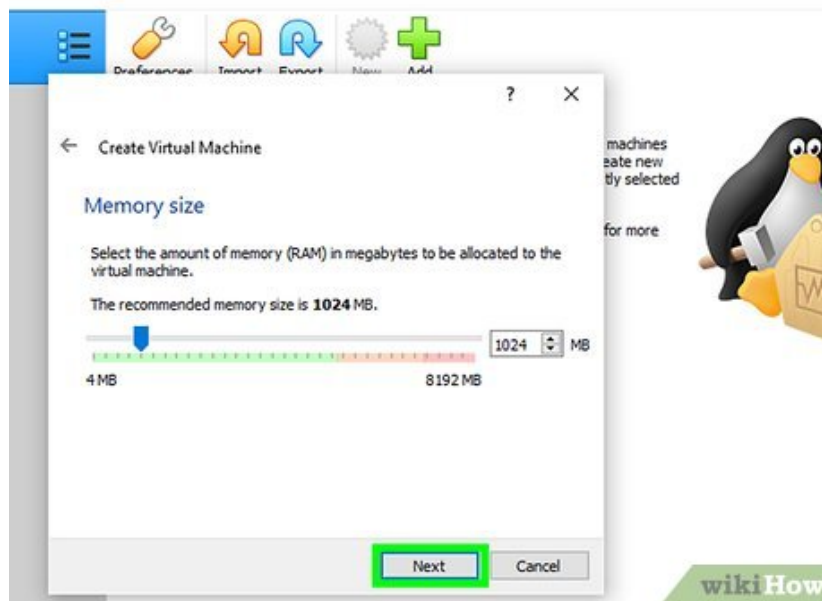
8.



Select an amount of RAM to use. Click and drag the slider left or right to decrease or increase the amount of RAM that VirtualBox will have available for your Ubuntu virtual machine.

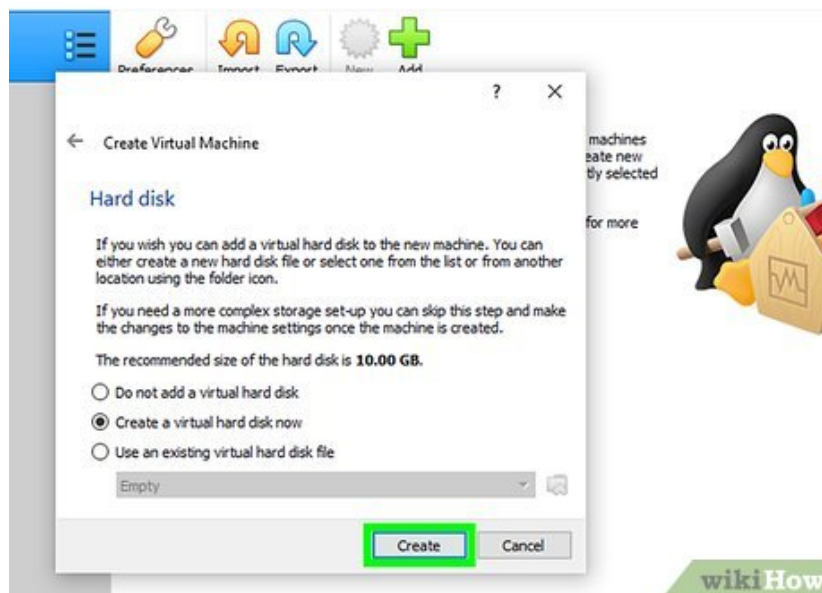
1. The ideal amount of RAM will automatically be selected when you get to this page.
2. Make sure not to increase the RAM into the red section of the slider; try to keep the slider in the green.

9.



Click **Next**. It's at the bottom of the menu.

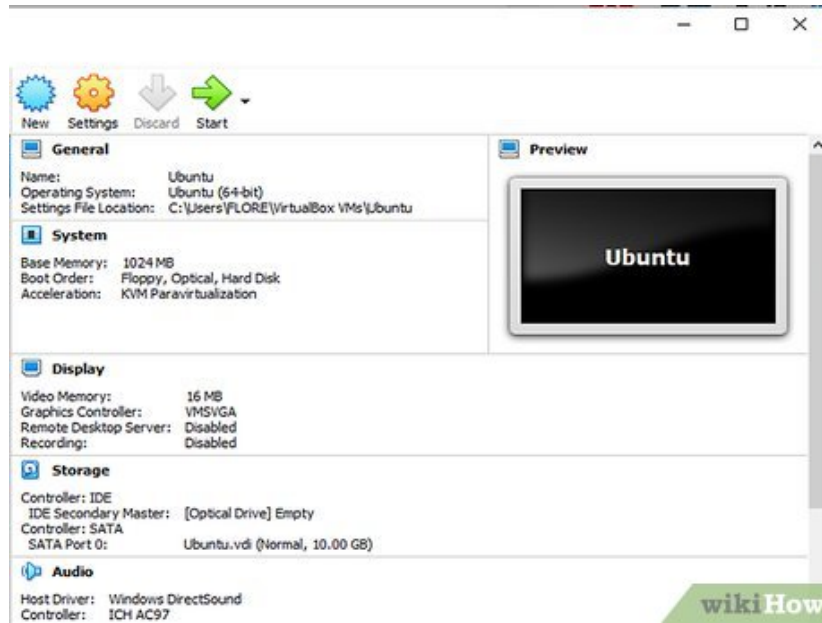
10.



Create your virtual machine's virtual hard drive. The virtual hard drive is a section of your computer's hard drive space which will be used to store your virtual machine's files and programs:

1. Click **Create**
2. Click **Next**
3. Click **Next**
4. Select an amount of space to use.
5. Click **Create**

11.

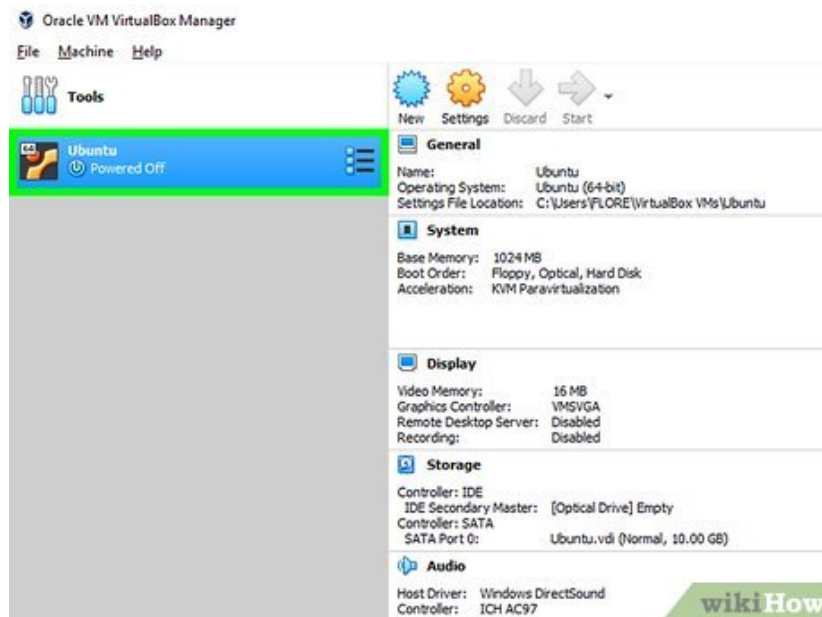


Make sure that your Ubuntu file is done downloading. Once the Ubuntu ISO finishes downloading, you can proceed with installing it to VirtualBox.

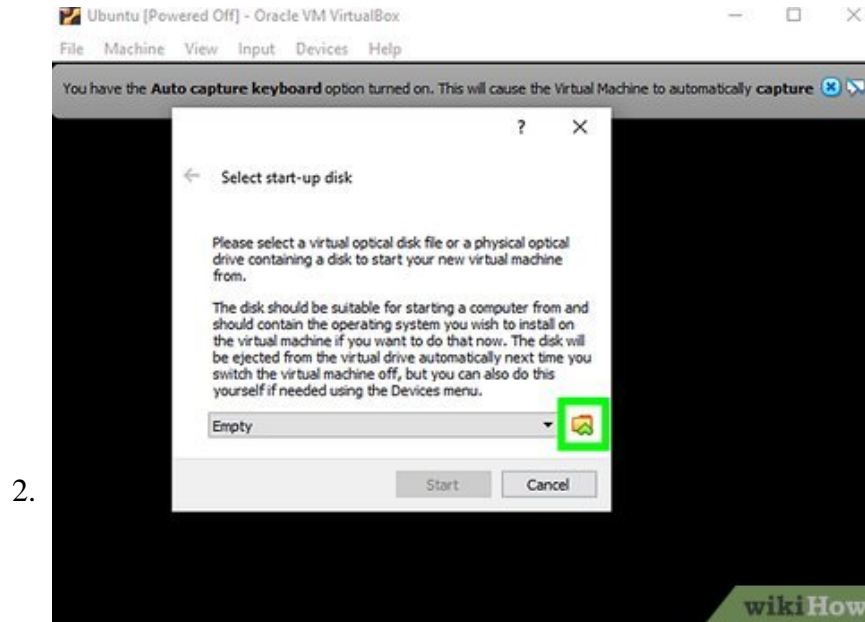
Part 3 of 4:

Installing Ubuntu

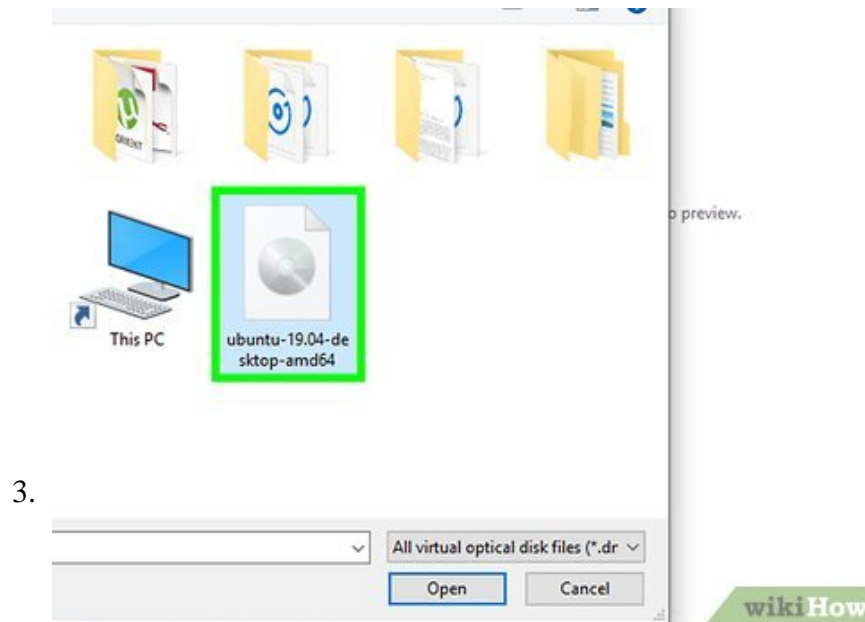
1.



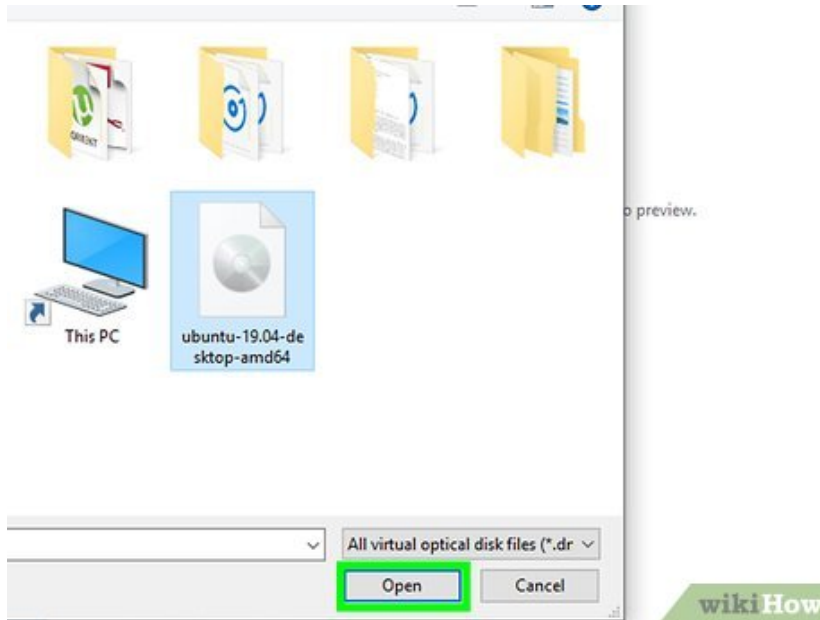
Double-click your virtual machine's name. It's on the left side of the VirtualBox window. Doing so will open a menu.



Click the folder-shaped icon. This icon is in the lower-right side of the menu. A new window in which you can select the Ubuntu ISO will open.

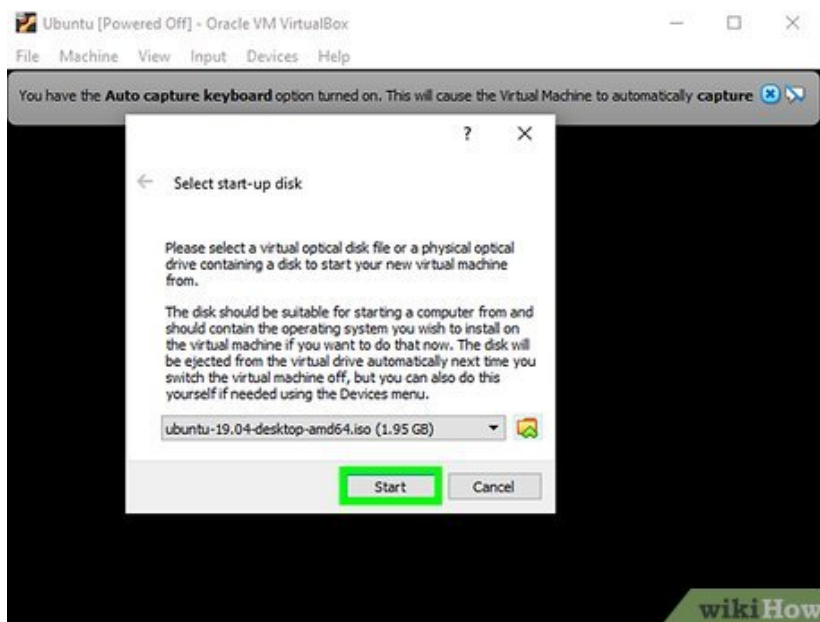


Select your Ubuntu ISO. Go to the folder into which the Ubuntu ISO file downloaded (e.g., **Desktop**), then click the ISO file to select it.



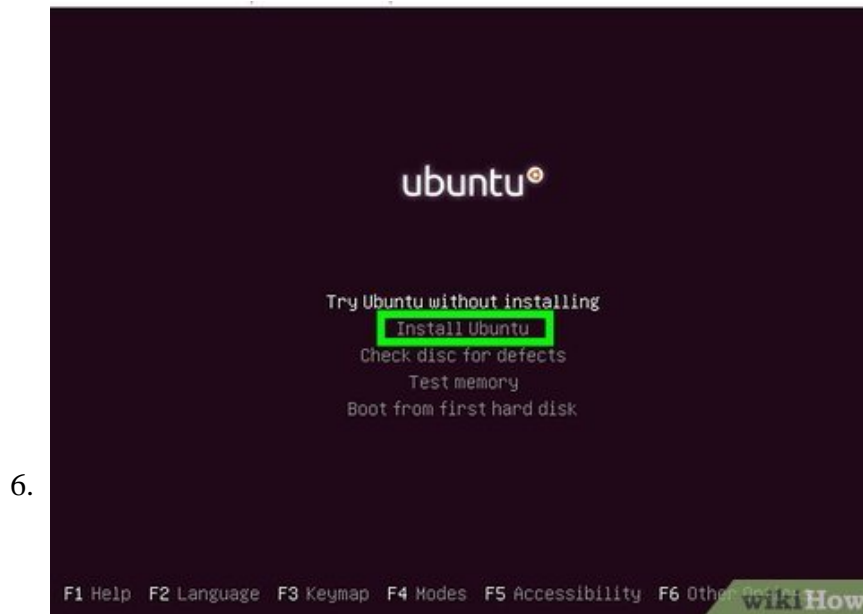
4.

Click **Open**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the window. Doing so opens the Ubuntu ISO file in VirtualBox.

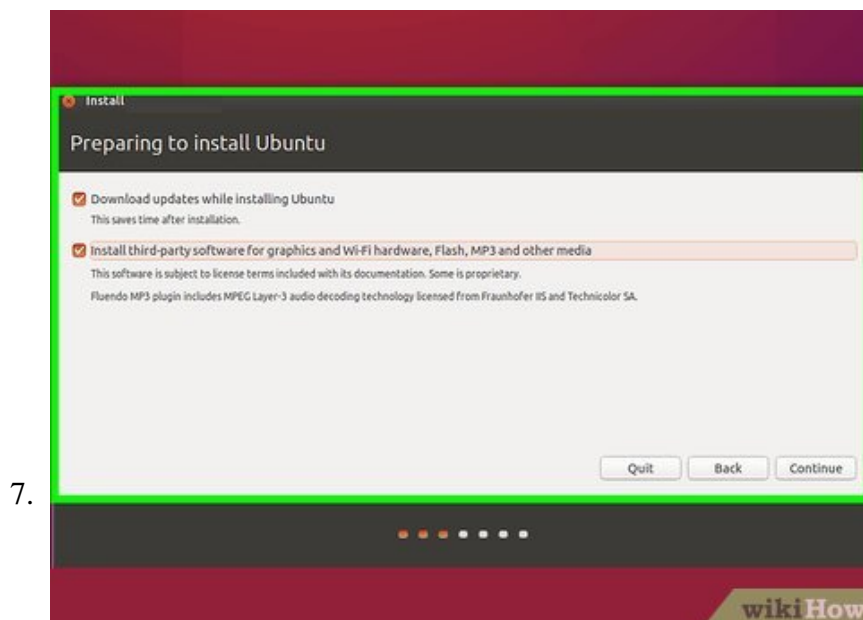


5.

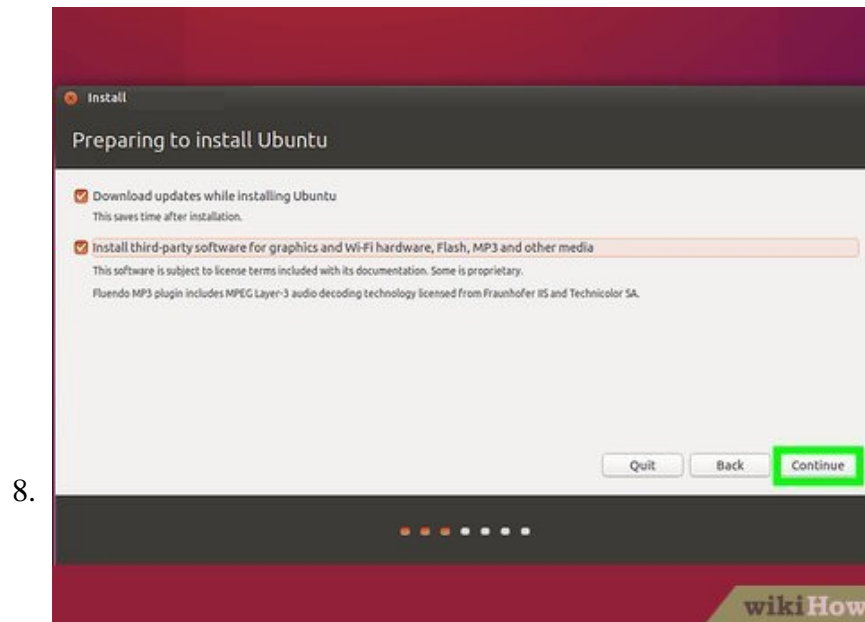
Click **Start**. This option is at the bottom of the menu. Ubuntu will begin running.



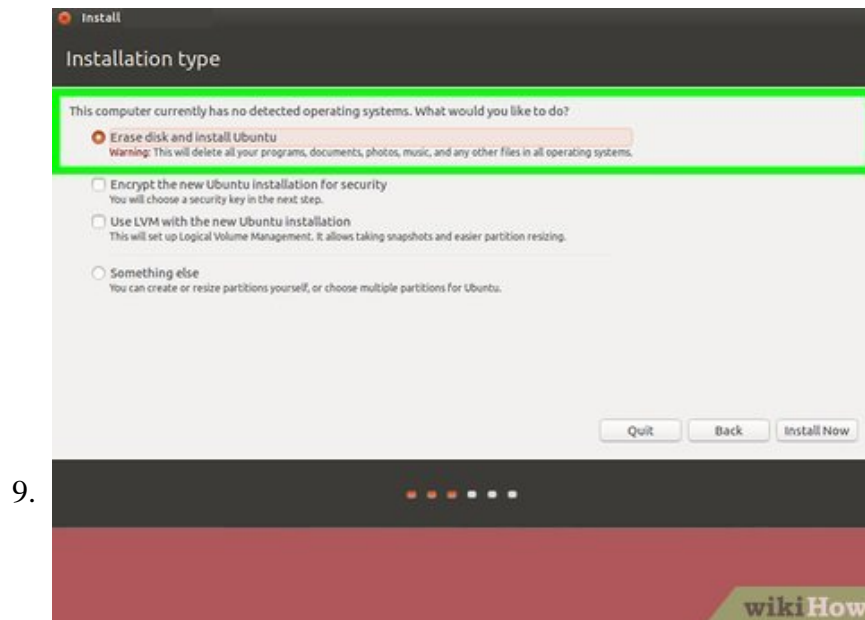
Click **Install Ubuntu**. It's on the right side of the VirtualBox window.



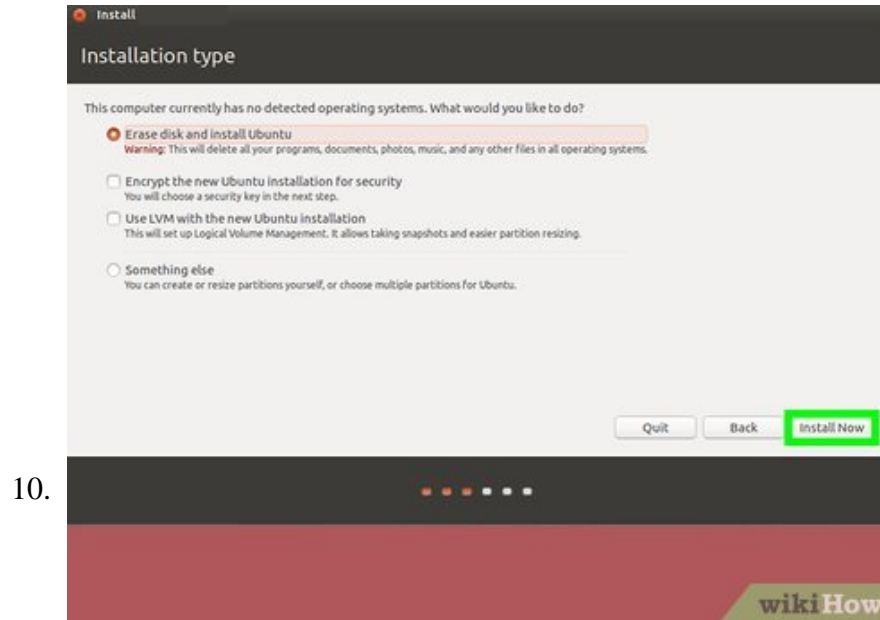
Check both boxes on the "Preparing to install Ubuntu" page. This will ensure that everything Ubuntu needs to run will be installed.



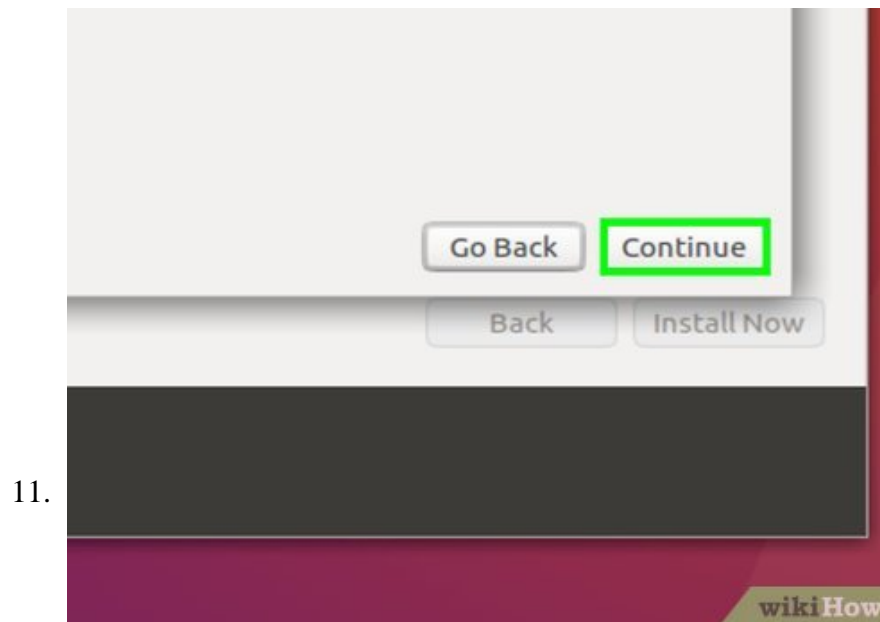
Click **Continue**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the page.



Check the "Erase disk and install Ubuntu" box. This may sound scary, but don't worry—nothing on your computer will be erased.



Click **Install Now**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the page.



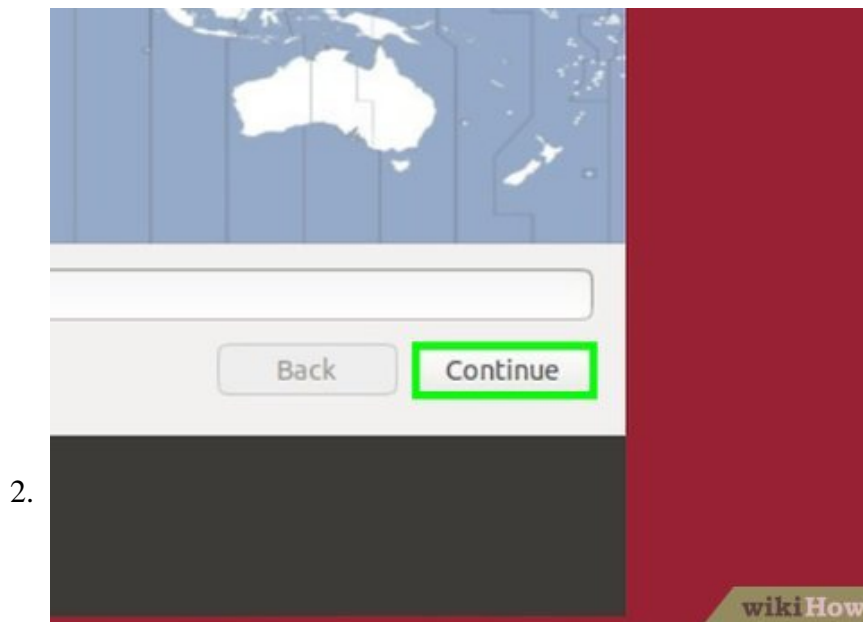
Click **Continue** when prompted. This confirms that you understand that the virtual machine's virtual drive will be "erased" (there's nothing on it anyway) and begins the Ubuntu installation process.

Part 4 of 4:

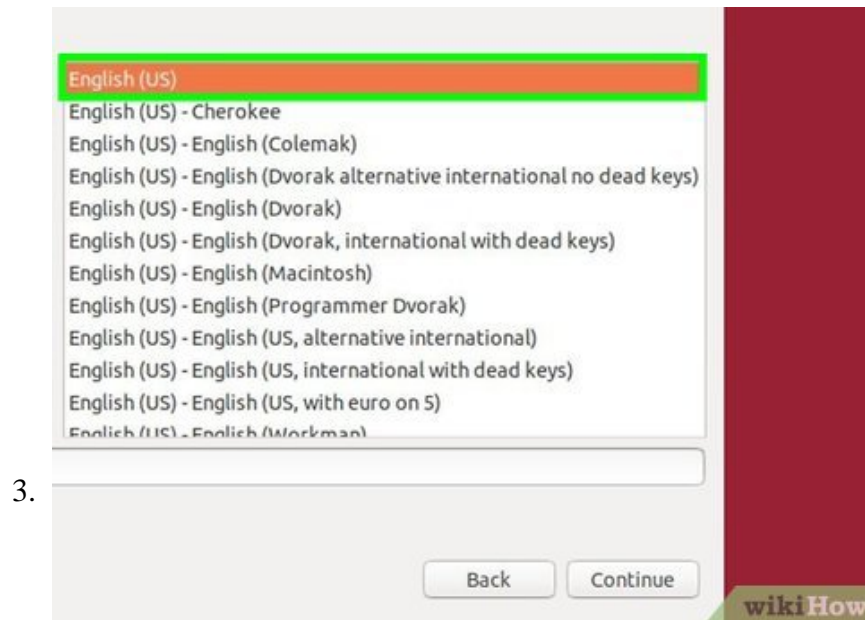
Setting up Ubuntu



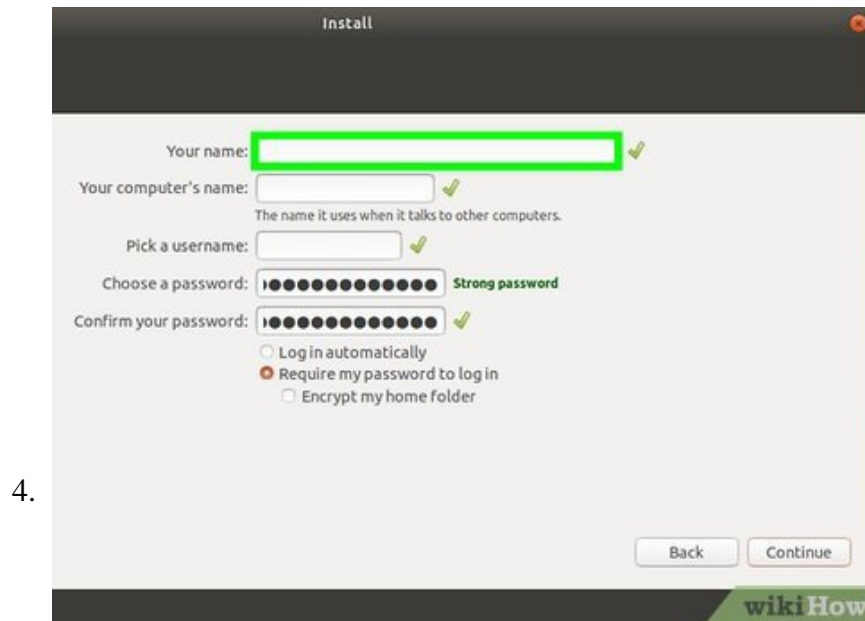
Select a time zone. Click a section that correlates with your position on the map.



Click **Continue**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the page.



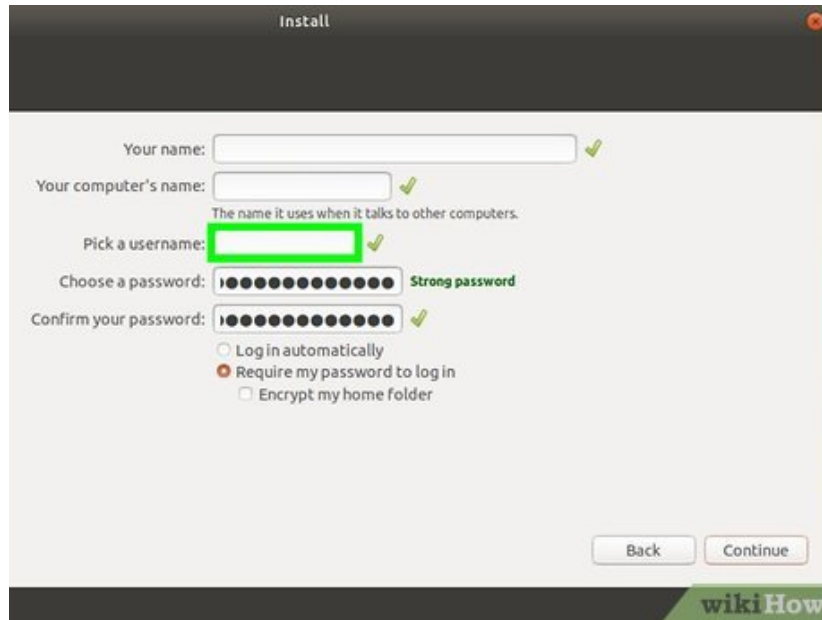
Enable the on-screen keyboard. Click the person-shaped icon in the upper-right side of the window, then click the "Screen Keyboard" switch to place a keyboard on the screen. Since Ubuntu will need to install drivers to work with your keyboard, you won't be able to use your keyboard until it's fully installed.



Enter your name. Do so in the "Your name" text box at the top of the window.

1. Entering a name will also create a computer name for your virtual machine, but you can create your own computer name as well by typing it into the "Your computer's name" box.

5.



The screenshot shows the 'Install' window with the following fields and options:

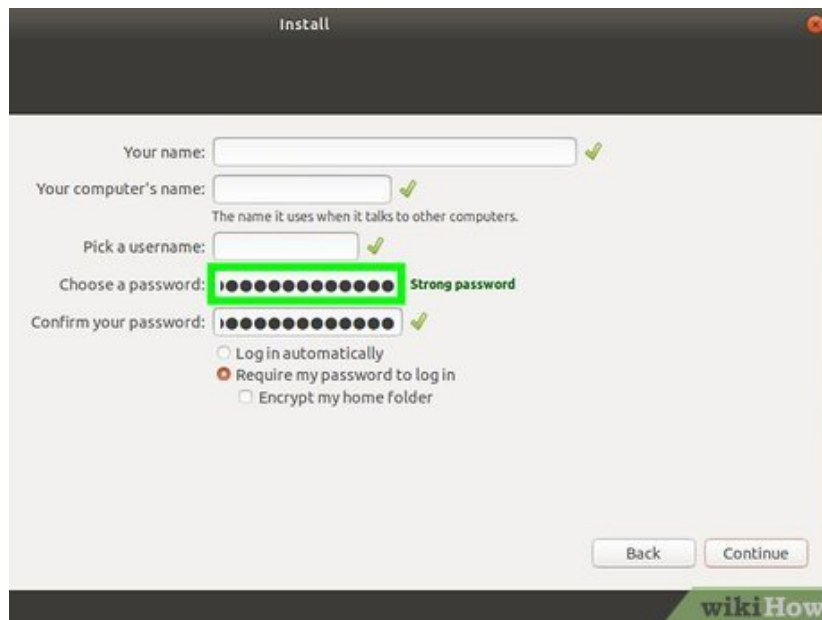
- Your name: [text box] ✓
- Your computer's name: [text box] ✓
The name it uses when it talks to other computers.
- Pick a username: [text box] ✓ (highlighted with a green box)
- Choose a password: [password box] Strong password
- Confirm your password: [password box] ✓
- Log in automatically
- Require my password to log in
- Encrypt my home folder

Buttons: Back, Continue

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Enter a username. In the "Pick a username" text box, type in the username that you want to use.

6.



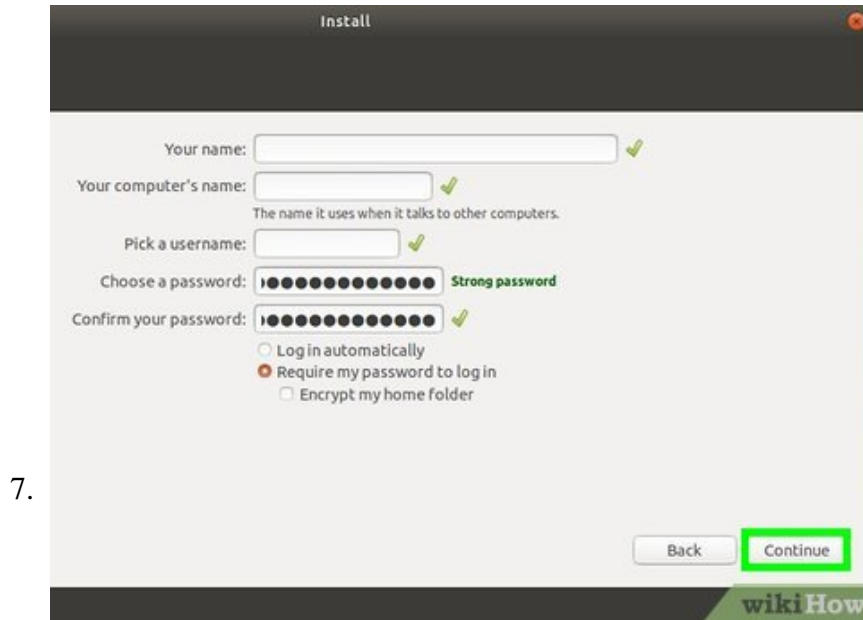
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- Your name: [text box] ✓
- Your computer's name: [text box] ✓
The name it uses when it talks to other computers.
- Pick a username: [text box] ✓
- Choose a password: [password box] Strong password (highlighted with a green box)
- Confirm your password: [password box] ✓
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Buttons: Back, Continue

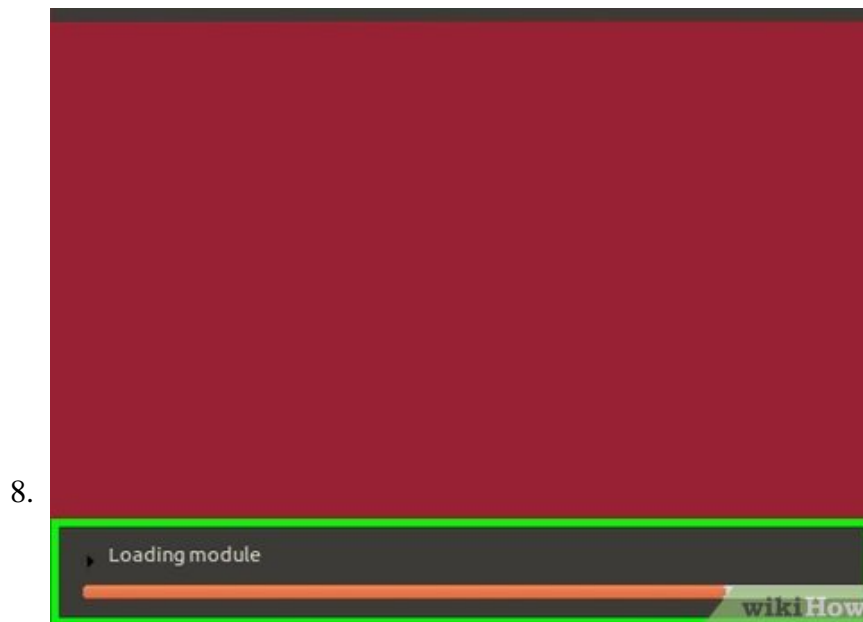
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Create a password. Type your preferred password into the "Choose a password" text box, then re-type it into the "Confirm your password" text box.



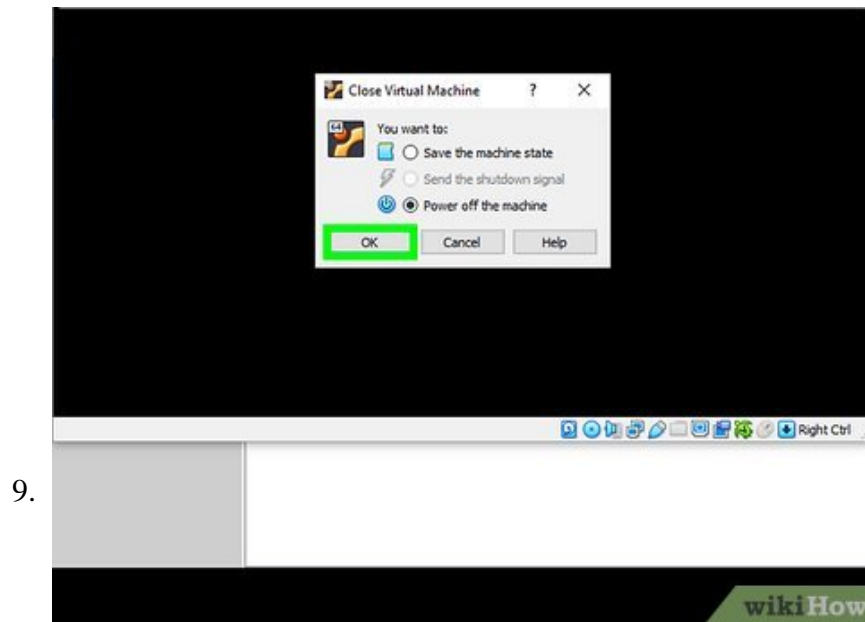
Click **Continue**. It's at the bottom of the page.

1. You can first select login options below the "Confirm your password" text field if need be.

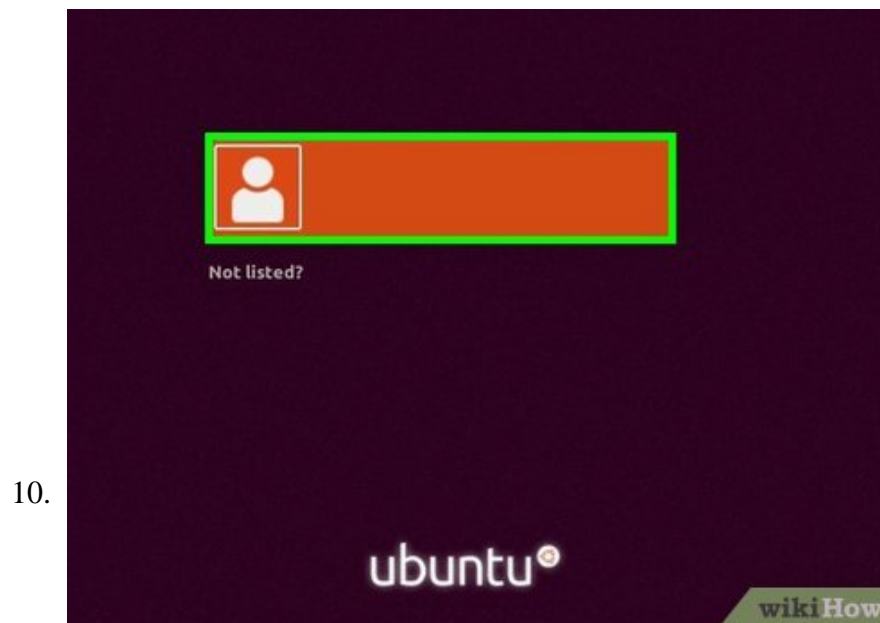


Wait for Ubuntu to finish installing. This process may take anywhere from a couple of minutes to half an hour depending on the speed of your computer.

1. You won't need to do anything during the installation process.



Restart the virtual machine. Once you see the **Restart Now** button, do the following: click the **Exit** button in the upper-right corner of the window (Windows) or the upper-left corner of the window (Mac), check the "Power off the machine" box, click **OK**, and then double-click the virtual machine's name.



Log into your computer. Once your Ubuntu virtual machine is back on, select your name, then enter your password and click **Sign In**. Ubuntu will load your desktop as though you were using a separate computer.

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