

# How to Display Hidden Files and Folder Sizes on Linux?

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

To see the total size of a folder in Linux usually sysadmin uses the command `du -sh*`. However, this command has a drawback because it only displays the size of all files and folders visible in the Linux folder but cannot display the size of the files and folders hidden in a Linux folder.

## Problem

How to display hidden files and folder sizes on Linux?

## Solution

I have a **BACKUP** folder with a total folder size of 1.4GB, but, when I go to the folder and run the command `du -sh *`, it turns out that the size of all the files and folders in the folder is only 261 MB as shown in the image below:

```
root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP# cd /
root@LinuxMint:/# du -shc * 2>/dev/null | grep BACKUP
1,4G  BACKUP
root@LinuxMint:/# cd /BACKUP/
root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP# du -shc * | sort -hr
261M  total
158M  Downloads
103M  Documents
72K   Pictures
4,0K  Videos
4,0K  Templates
4,0K  sysadmin
4,0K  Public
4,0K  Music
4,0K  Desktop
```

root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP#  
Total size of the folder

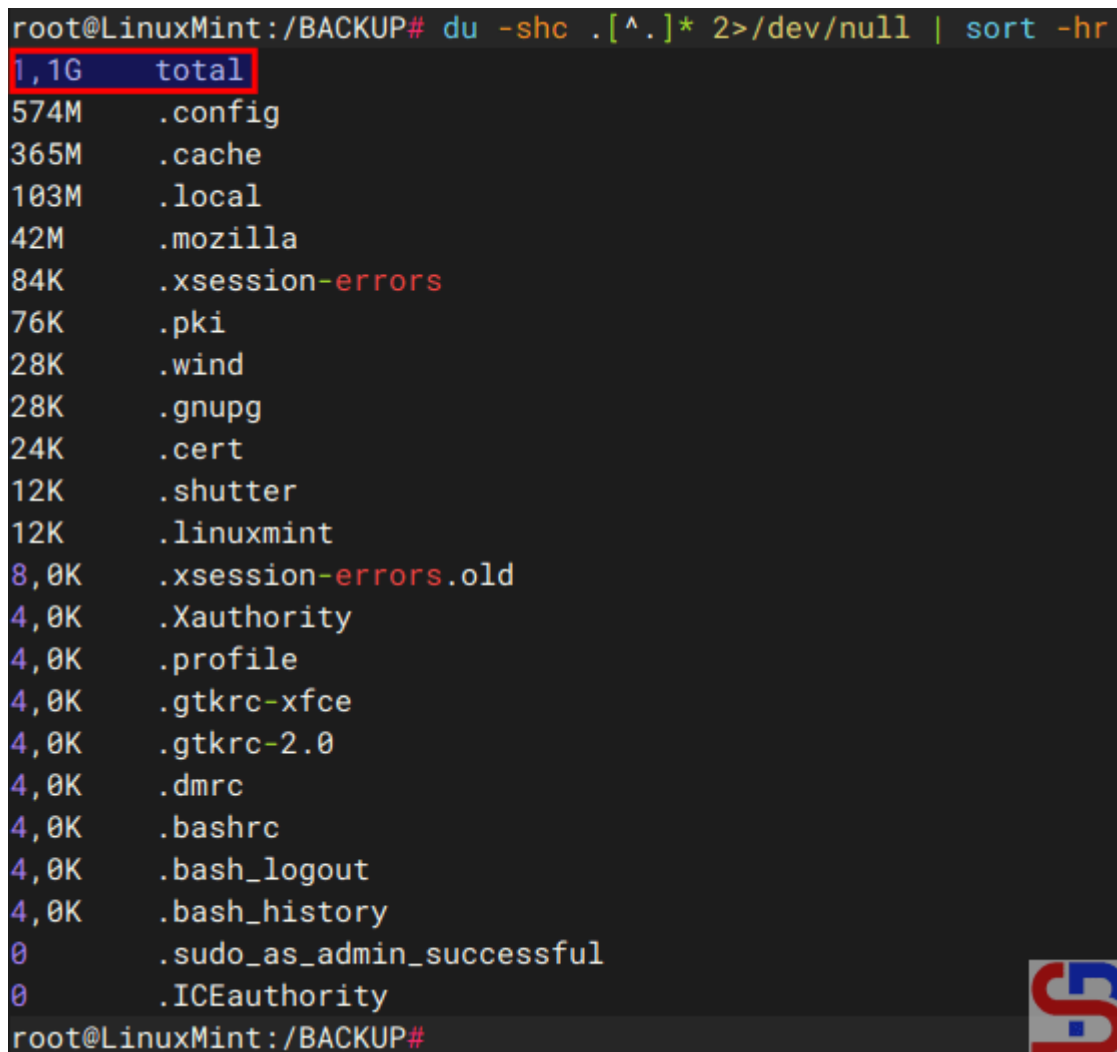


So there is a difference of 1.1 GB from the total size of the BACKUP folder. The difference is that the `du -sh*` command does not count the hidden files and folders in a Linux folder. To display hidden files and folder sizes on Linux, use the command below:

```
du -shc .[^.]* 2>/dev/null | sort -hr
```

and it will look like in the image below:

```
root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP# du -shc .[^.]* 2>/dev/null | sort -hr
1,1G total
574M .config
365M .cache
103M .local
42M .mozilla
84K .xsession-errors
76K .pki
28K .wind
28K .gnupg
24K .cert
12K .shutter
12K .linuxmint
8,0K .xsession-errors.old
4,0K .Xauthority
4,0K .profile
4,0K .gtkrc-xfce
4,0K .gtkrc-2.0
4,0K .dirc
4,0K .bashrc
4,0K .bash_logout
4,0K .bash_history
0 .sudo_as_admin_successful
0 .ICEauthority
root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP#
```



Total size of the hidden files/folders

As seen in the image above, the command only displays hidden files and directories and shows a total of 1.1 GB of hidden files and folders. If you want to display the size of the entire file or folder, both hidden and visible, use the command below:

```
du -shc * .* 2>/dev/null | sort -hr
```

there will be a display like the image below:

```
root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP# du -shc * .* 2>/dev/null | sort -hr
1,4G total
574M .config
365M .cache
158M Downloads
103M .local
103M Documents
42M .mozilla
84K .xsession-errors
76K .pki
72K Pictures
28K .wind
28K .gnupg
24K .cert
12K .shutter
12K .linuxmint
8,0K .xsession-errors.old
4,0K .Xauthority
4,0K Videos
4,0K Templates
4,0K sysadmin
4,0K Public
4,0K .profile
4,0K Music
4,0K .gtkrc-xfce
4,0K .gtkrc-2.0
4,0K .dirc
4,0K Desktop
4,0K .bashrc
4,0K .bash_logout
4,0K .bash_history
0 .sudo_as_admin_successful
0 .ICEauthority
root@LinuxMint:/BACKUP#
```

Total size of all the files/folders

You can see the total size of a file and folder, both visible and hidden, like the image above.

## Note

You can view file sizes and directories on Linux by using an application named **ncdu**. To install it, enter the following command:

### Ubuntu/Debian

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt ncd
```

### RockyLinux/AlmaLinux/CentOS

```
sudo dnf install epel-release  
sudo dnf update  
sudo dnf install ncd
```

### OpenSUSE

```
sudo zypper refresh  
sudo zypper install ncd
```

Next, choose the folder you wish to view to see the overall size of the files and folders included within. If you want to see the total of all folders in Linux, log in as a root user and type the command below:

```
ncdu -x /
```

then the application will scan and after the scanning process is complete it will display the total size of all folders in Linux as shown in the image below:

```
ncdu 1.19 ~ Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
--- /BACKUP/sysadmin -----
/..
574,0 MiB [#####] /.config
364,4 MiB [#####] /.cache
157,9 MiB [#####] /Downloads
102,7 MiB [#####] /.local
102,4 MiB [#####] /Documents
41,9 MiB [##] /.mozilla
84,0 KiB [ ] .xsession-errors
76,0 KiB [ ] /.pki
72,0 KiB [ ] /Pictures
28,0 KiB [ ] /.wind
28,0 KiB [ ] /.gnupg
24,0 KiB [ ] /.cert
12,0 KiB [ ] /.linuxmint
12,0 KiB [ ] /.shutter
8,0 KiB [ ] .xsession-errors.old
e 4,0 KiB [ ] /Videos
e 4,0 KiB [ ] /Templates
e 4,0 KiB [ ] /Public
e 4,0 KiB [ ] /Music
e 4,0 KiB [ ] /Desktop
4,0 KiB [ ] .bashrc
4,0 KiB [ ] .profile
4,0 KiB [ ] .gtkrc-xfce
4,0 KiB [ ] .bash_logout
4,0 KiB [ ] .bash_history
4,0 KiB [ ] .Xauthority
4,0 KiB [ ] .dircache
4,0 KiB [ ] .gtkrc-2.0
0,0 B [ ] .sudo_as_admin_successful
0,0 B [ ] .ICEauthority
```



Total size of all folders in Linux

Please select the folder you want to enter and press the **Enter** key to enter the folder. I choose the BACKUP folder and push the Enter button, it will display like the image below:

```
ncdu 1.14.1 ~ Use the arrow keys to navigate, press ? for help
----- / -----
16.6 GiB [#####] /opt
 9.0 GiB [##### ] /var
 4.6 GiB [##      ] /usr
 2.6 GiB [#       ] /root
219.2 MiB [        ] /boot
137.6 MiB [        ] /home
 7.2 MiB [        ] /etc
 60.0 KiB [        ] /tmp
 36.0 KiB [        ] /snap
e 16.0 KiB [        ] /lost+found
 8.0 KiB [        ] /.cache
e 4.0 KiB [        ] /temp
e 4.0 KiB [        ] /srv
e 4.0 KiB [        ] /mnt
e 4.0 KiB [        ] /media
@ 0.0 B [        ] libx32
@ 0.0 B [        ] lib64
@ 0.0 B [        ] lib32
@ 0.0 B [        ] sbin
@ 0.0 B [        ] lib
@ 0.0 B [        ] bin
> 0.0 B [        ] /sys
> 0.0 B [        ] /run
> 0.0 B [        ] /proc
> 0.0 B [        ] /dev
```



Enter into the BACKUP folder

The `-x` option in the above command means that he will ignore other mounted filesystems outside where the root filesystem is hosted. If you want to use more options in this application, please read the description using the command below:

`man ncdu`

## References

- [askubuntu.com](http://askubuntu.com)
- [unix.stackexchange.com](http://unix.stackexchange.com)
- [stackoverflow.com](http://stackoverflow.com)

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# How to Display a Partition That is Not Visible in Linux?

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

I installed dual-boot Windows 11 with Linux Mint on my laptop and allocated almost 110 GB of hard disk size for Linux Mint. However, after Linux Mint is installed, only 49 GB of hard disk size is displayed.

## Problem

How to display a partition that is not visible in Linux?

## Solution

I have a hard disk of almost 500GB and I installed dual-boot Linux Mint alongside Windows Boot Manager where the last two partitions are used as Linux partitions like in the image below:

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ lsblk
NAME          MAJ:MIN RM  SIZE RO TYPE MOUNTPOINTS
sda           8:0    1  233G  0 disk
└─sda1        8:1    1  233G  0 part
nvme0n1       259:0   0 476,9G  0 disk
├─nvme0n1p1  259:1   0   260M  0 part /boot/efi
├─nvme0n1p2  259:2   0    16M  0 part
├─nvme0n1p3  259:3   0 365,9G  0 part
├─nvme0n1p4  259:4   0    1,1G  0 part
├─nvme0n1p5  259:5   0    60,3G  0 part
└─nvme0n1p6  259:6   0   49,4G  0 part /
```

Display the partitions

From the image above you can see that 2 partitions in Linux have a hard disk size of 60 GB and 49 GB respectively. But

when I display the hard disk size using `df -h` command, I just see only one partition like in the image below:

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ df -h
Filesystem      Size  Used Avail Use% Mounted on
tmpfs           1,6G  2,1M  1,6G   1% /run
efivarfs        246K  173K   69K  72% /sys/firmware/efi/efivars
/dev/nvme0n1p6  49G   13G   34G  28% /
tmpfs           7,7G   98M  7,6G   2% /dev/shm
tmpfs           5,0M   12K  5,0M   1% /run/lock
/dev/nvme0n1p1  256M   41M  216M  16% /boot/efi
tmpfs           1,6G  152K  1,6G   1% /run/user/1000
```

Only one partition appears

After I searched on the internet, the root cause of the invisible partition was not mounted. Here are the steps to display an invisible Linux partition and I want to mount it to my `/home` folder:

## 1. Backup the folder

Backup first the folder you want and in this case the `/home` folder I will backup first:

```
sudo cp -a /home /home_backup
```

## 2. Check the filesystem

Check the filesystem of the partition using the command below:

```
sudo lsblk -f
```

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo lsblk -f
NAME            FSTYPE FSVER LABEL      UUID                                FSAVAIL FSUSE% MOUNTPOINTS
nvme0n1
├─nvme0n1p1     vfat   FAT32  SYSTEM     9880-7480                            215,3M   16% /boot/efi
├─nvme0n1p2
├─nvme0n1p3     ntfs                   Windows 01DBD5689C080D10
├─nvme0n1p4     ntfs                   C2B09422B0941ECB
├─nvme0n1p5     ext4    1.0    3416fa98-d574-42f7-b9f3-8f1980fc8c43
└─nvme0n1p6     ext4    1.0    a7ddf674-e331-41fb-94ca-1e5084b156f9  30,6G   32% /
```

Check the filesystem

From the image above, the “invisible” partition has an ext4 format type. If the partition is not formatted, format it using the command below if you want an ext4 format for the partition and adjust it to the name of your Linux partition:

```
sudo mkfs.ext4 /dev/nvme0n1p5
```

### 3. Create a temporary mount

Now, create a temporary mount and move existing home data using the commands below:

```
sudo mkdir /mnt/new_home  
sudo mount /dev/nvme0n1p5 /mnt/new_home  
sudo cp -a /home/. /mnt/new_home/
```

### 4. Unmount the temporary mount

Use the command below to unmount the temporary mount:

```
sudo umount /mnt/new_home
```

### 5. Update the fstab file

Now, update the **/etc/fstab** file to it at /home on boot so the folder remains after the device restarts. Copy the script below and paste to the file:

```
/dev/nvme0n1p5 /home ext4 defaults 0 2
```

### 6. Mount the folder

Now, mount the /home folder using the commands below:

```
sudo mount /home  
sudo systemctl daemon-reload  
df -h
```

For more details see the image below:

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo mkdir /mnt/new_home
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo mount /dev/nvme0n1p5 /mnt/new_home
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo cp -a /home/. /mnt/new_home/
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo umount /mnt/new_home
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ df -h
Filesystem      Size  Used Avail Use% Mounted on
tmpfs           1,6G  2,1M  1,6G   1% /run
efivarfs       246K  173K   69K  72% /sys/firmware/efi/efivars
/dev/nvme0n1p6  49G   16G   31G  34% /
tmpfs           7,7G  118M  7,6G   2% /dev/shm
tmpfs           5,0M   12K  5,0M   1% /run/lock
/dev/nvme0n1p1 256M   41M  216M  16% /boot/efi
tmpfs           1,6G  160K  1,6G   1% /run/user/1000
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo vi /etc/fstab
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo mount /home
mount: (hint) your fstab has been modified, but systemd still uses
the old version; use 'systemctl daemon-reload' to reload.
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ sudo systemctl daemon-reload
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ df -h
Filesystem      Size  Used Avail Use% Mounted on
tmpfs           1,6G  2,1M  1,6G   1% /run
efivarfs       246K  173K   69K  72% /sys/firmware/efi/efivars
/dev/nvme0n1p6  49G   16G   31G  34% /
tmpfs           7,7G  118M  7,6G   2% /dev/shm
tmpfs           5,0M   12K  5,0M   1% /run/lock
/dev/nvme0n1p1 256M   41M  216M  16% /boot/efi
tmpfs           1,6G  160K  1,6G   1% /run/user/1000
/dev/nvme0n1p5  59G  3,3G   53G   6% /home
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$
```

The commands to mount /home

From the image above, you see that the invisible partition is already mounted to the /home folder.

## Note

Try to reboot the device to make sure the folder remains after the device reboots and the /home folder should be mounted from /dev/nvme0n1p5. If something goes wrong, you can restore the old home with the command below:

```
sudo mv /home_backup /home
```

And then remove the fstab entry to boot normally. Once you have restarted the appliance and you see that there is no error so that you can access the folder you just created (in this case the /home folder), you can delete the `/home_backup` folder by using the command below:

```
rm -rf /home_backup
```

## References

[geeksforgeeks.org](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org)

[hivelocity.net](https://hivelocity.net)

[forums.linuxmint.com](https://forums.linuxmint.com)

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# [How to Share a Folder Between a Windows Host and a Linux Guest in VirtualBox?](#)

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

[The previous article](#) explained how a folder is shared between a Windows host and a Windows guest in VirtualBox. This article will explain how to share a folder between a Windows host and a Linux guest in VirtualBox.

## Problem

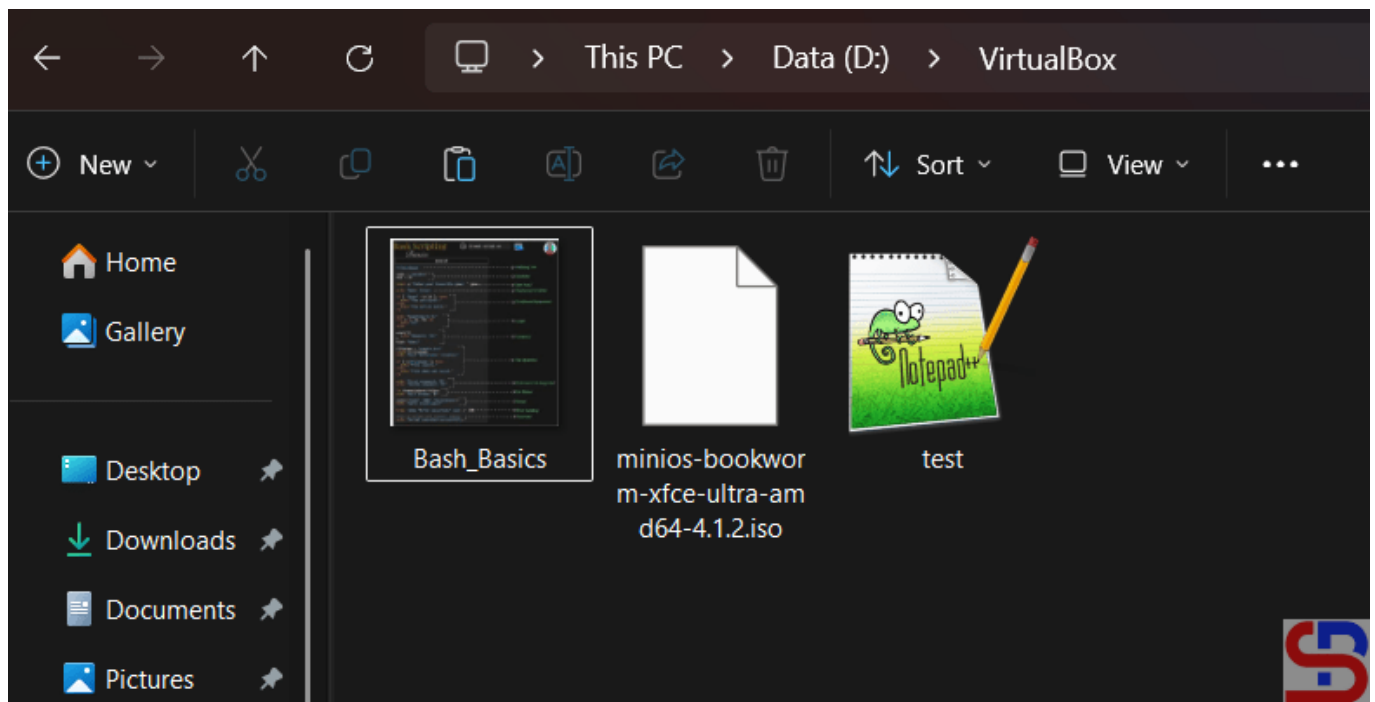
How to share a folder between a Windows host and a Linux guest in VirtualBox?

## Solution

I use **VirtualBox version 7.1.4** in this article and below are the steps so that you can share a folder between a Windows host and a Windows guest in VirtualBox:

## A. In the Host

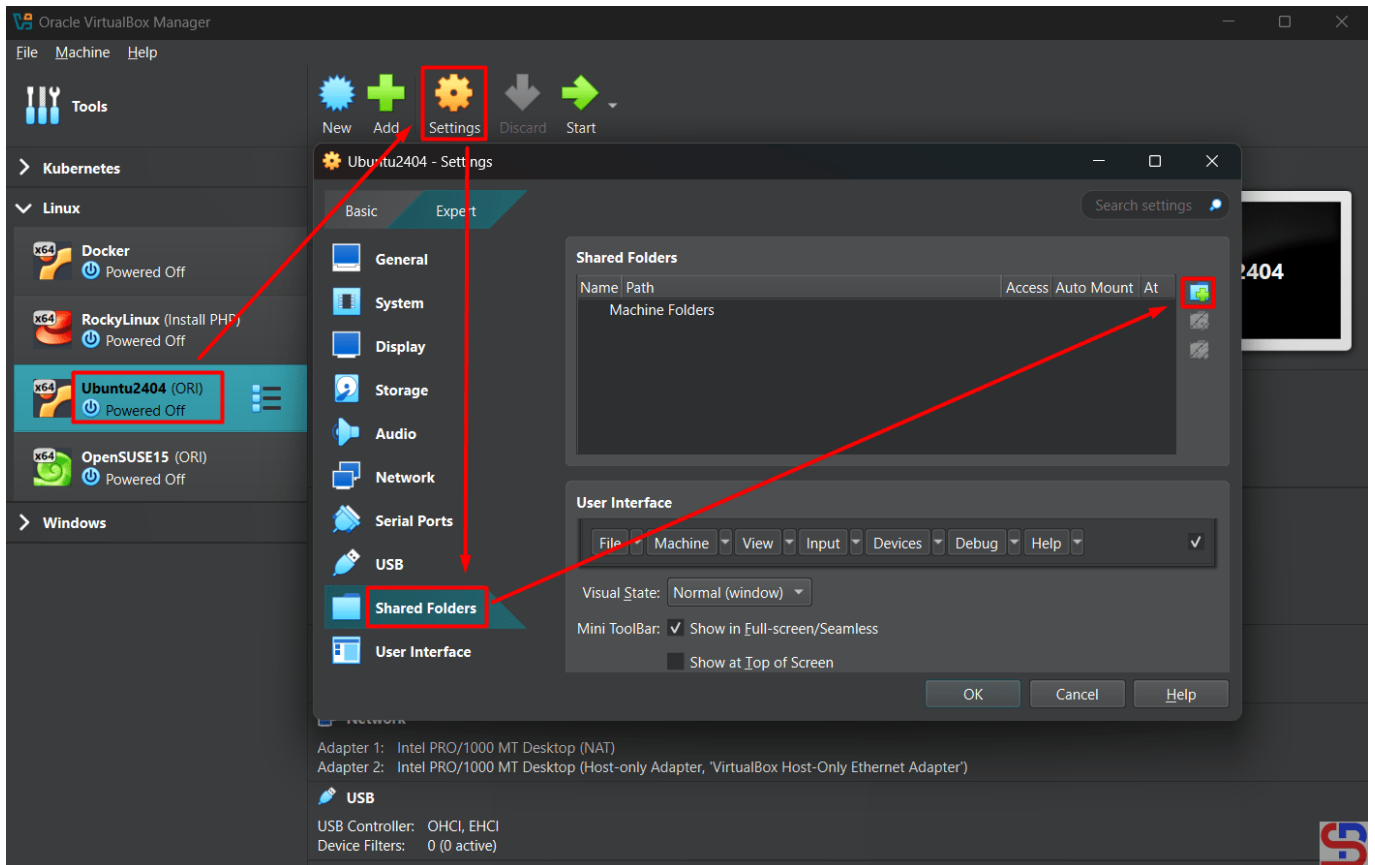
Create a folder on your host and I create a VirtualBox folder on drive D like in the image below:



The shared folder

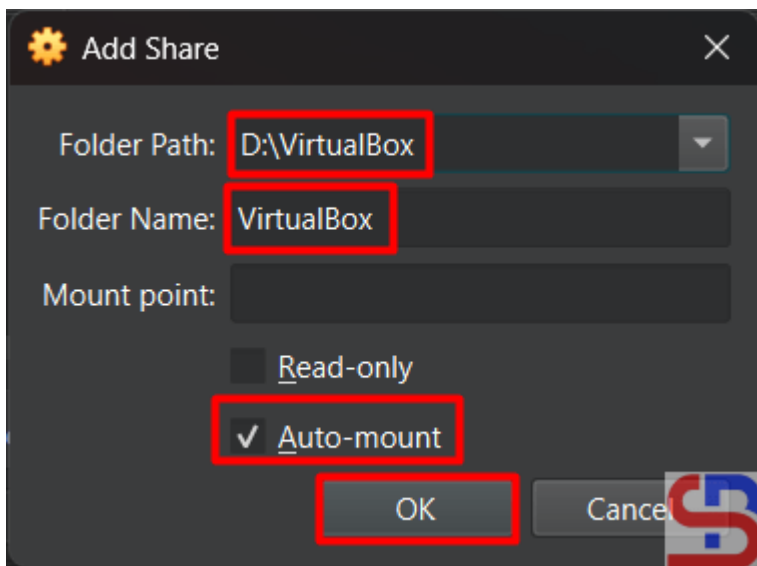
## B. In the Guest

You don't need to install a driver if you use Linux as a guest. You need to configure the shared folder in VirtualBox. Go to **Settings – Shared Folders** and click the icon like in the image below:



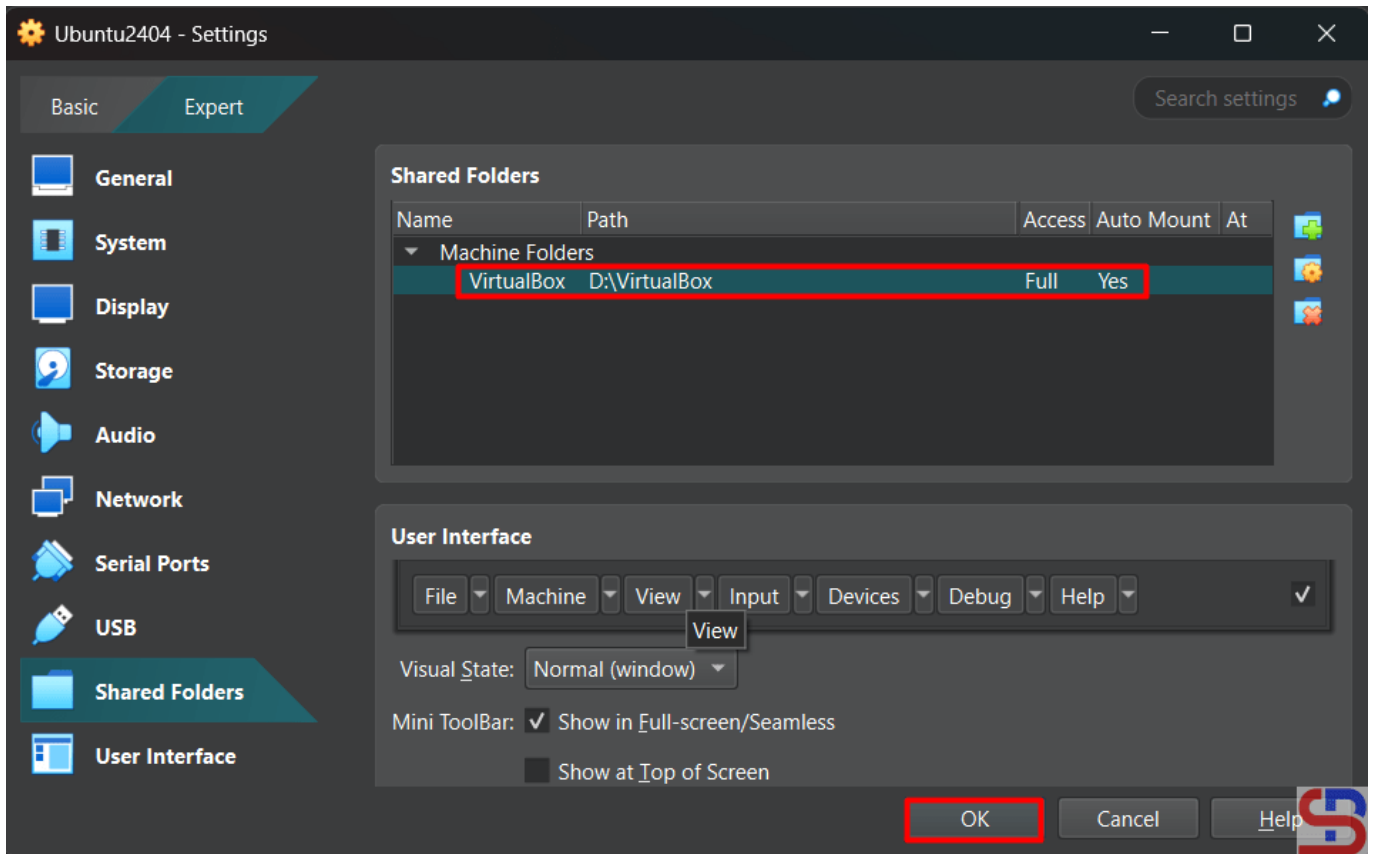
Click the icon in the Shared Folders section

Fill the columns like in the image below:



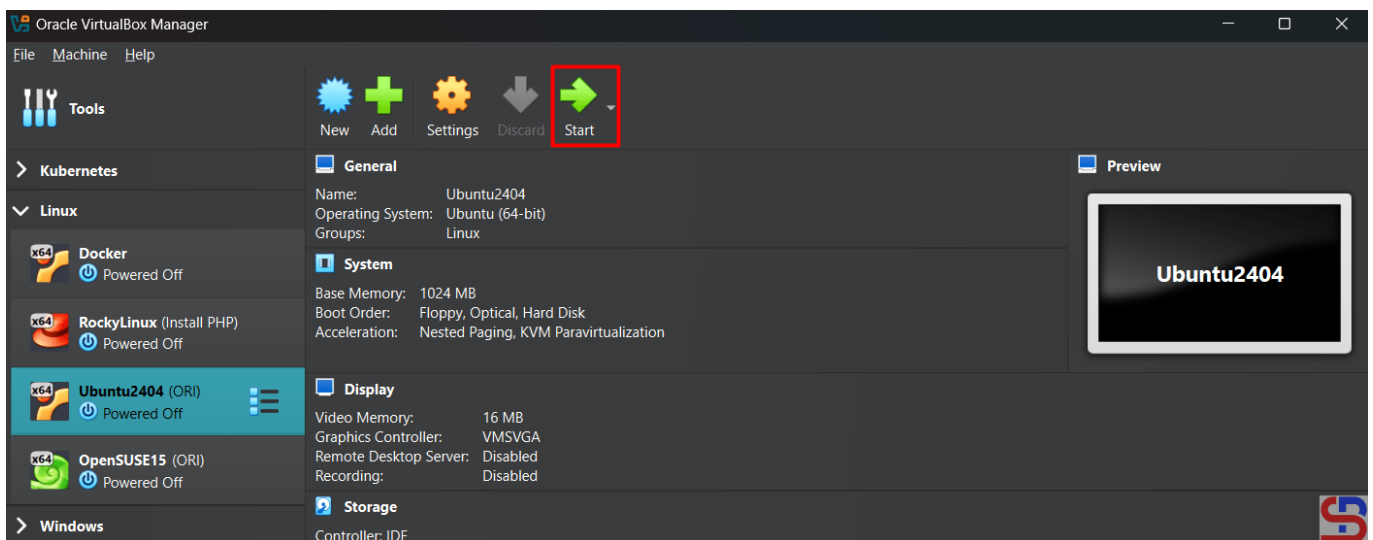
Settings the shared folders

Click the **OK** button and the shared folder will appear like in the image below:



The shared folder appears

Click the **OK** button. After that, turn on your virtual machine by clicking the **Start** button like in the image below:



Turn on the VM

Make a folder in Linux and I created a folder `/mnt/shared` using the command below:

```
sudo mkdir /mnt/shared
```

Execute the below command to mount the shared folder with your folder:

```
sudo mount -t vboxsf VirtualBox /mnt/shared
```

And you should be able to access the shared folder as shown in the image below:

```
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ sudo mkdir /mnt/shared
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ sudo mount -t vboxsf VirtualBox /mnt/shared
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ ls -al /mnt/shared/
total 1463561
drwxrwxrwx 1 root root      4096 May 31 15:53
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root      4096 May 31 16:01 ..
-rwxrwxrwx 1 root root    84756 Dec 13 10:58 Bash_Basics.jpg
-rwxrwxrwx 1 root root 1498591232 May 31 09:37 minios-bookworm-xfce-ultra-amd64-4.1.2.iso
-rwxrwxrwx 1 root root       40 Dec 17 08:11 test.txt
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ df -h
Filesystem                Size      Used Avail Use% Mounted on
tmpfs                     97M        1.1M   96M   2% /run
/dev/mapper/ubuntu--vg-ubuntu--lv 9.8G      4.7G   4.7G  51% /
tmpfs                     481M         0   481M   0% /dev/shm
tmpfs                     5.0M         0   5.0M   0% /run/lock
/dev/sda2                 1.7G      184M   1.5G  12% /boot
tmpfs                     97M         12K   97M   1% /run/user/1000
VirtualBox                246G     204G   42G   84% /mnt/shared
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$
```

Accessing the shared folder

You can add or remove the file in the shared folder like in the image below:

```
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ cd /mnt/shared/
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:/mnt/shared$ ls
Bash_Basics.jpg  minios-bookworm-xfce-ultra-amd64-4.1.2.iso  System Volume Information  test.txt
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:/mnt/shared$ touch file_from_linux_cli.txt
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:/mnt/shared$ ls
Bash_Basics.jpg  file_from_linux_cli.txt  minios-bookworm-xfce-ultra-amd64-4.1.2.iso  System Volume Information  test.txt
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:/mnt/shared$
```

Create a new file in the shared folder

## Note

If you restart the Linux on your virtual machine, you will lose your shared folder and you have to be recreated. To avoid that, then use the command below to configure the **/etc/fstab** file so that the shared folder is not lost when this virtual machine is restarted:

```
echo 'VirtualBox          /mnt/shared      vboxsf  rw 0 0' | sudo tee -a /etc/fstab
```

Any guest using any Linux distribution should be able to follow the above instructions.

## References

[docs.oracle.com](https://docs.oracle.com)  
[debugpoint.com](https://debugpoint.com)

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# [How to Share a Folder Between a Windows Host and a Windows Guest in VirtualBox?](#)

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

VirtualBox has a feature where you can access the files on a folder in your host from your virtual machine. For example, your host is Windows and you want to send some files to your Windows virtual machine.

## Problem

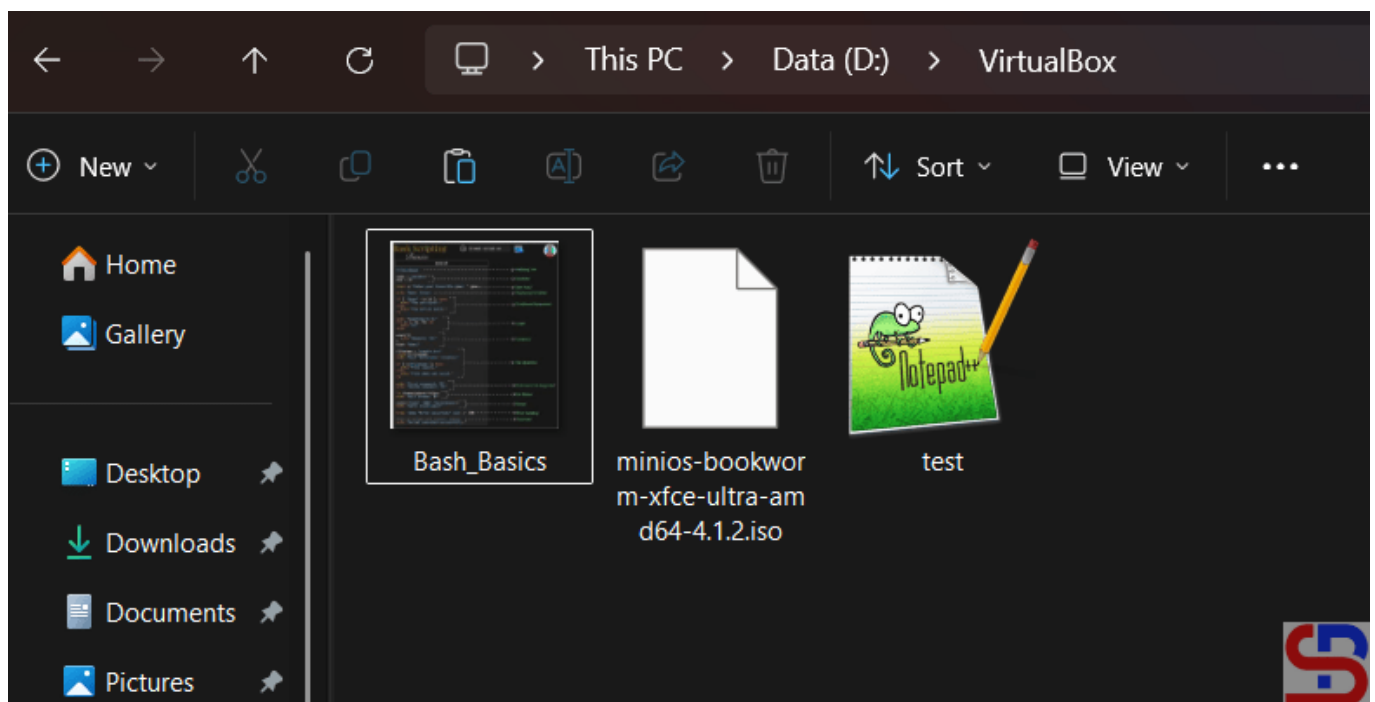
How to share a folder between a Windows host and a Windows guest in VirtualBox?

## Solution

You can view or change the files from your host system from within the guest system using Oracle VM VirtualBox's shared folders capability. Shared folders physically reside on the host and are then shared with the guest, which uses a special file system driver in the Guest Additions to talk to the host. For Windows guests, shared folders are implemented as a pseudo-network redirector and the Guest Additions provide a virtual file system. For Linux and Oracle Solaris guests, I use **VirtualBox version 7.1.4** in this article and below are the steps so that you can share a folder between a Windows host and a Windows guest in VirtualBox:

### A. In the Host

Create a folder on your host and I create a VirtualBox folder on drive D like in the image below:

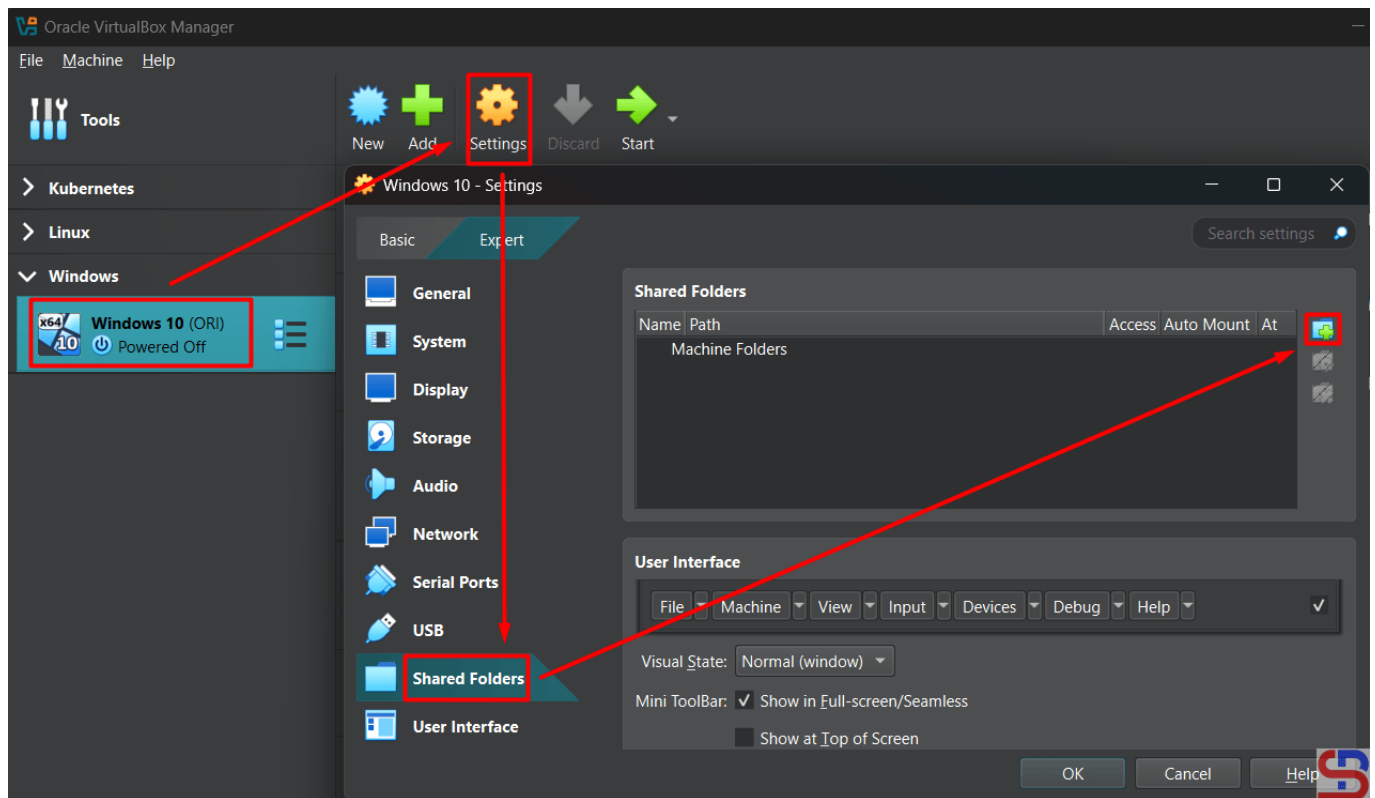


The shared folder

### B. In the Guest (VirtualBox)

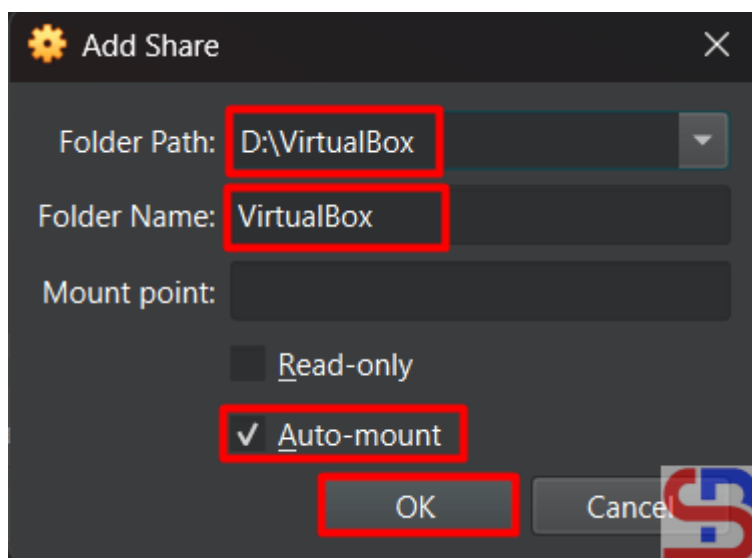
To connect the folder, you need the driver to connect them and the driver has been provided by VirtualBox that is available in an ISO file. Go to [this page](#) to install the driver. After you install the driver, configure the shared

folder in VirtualBox. Go to **Settings – Shared Folders** and click the icon like in the image below:



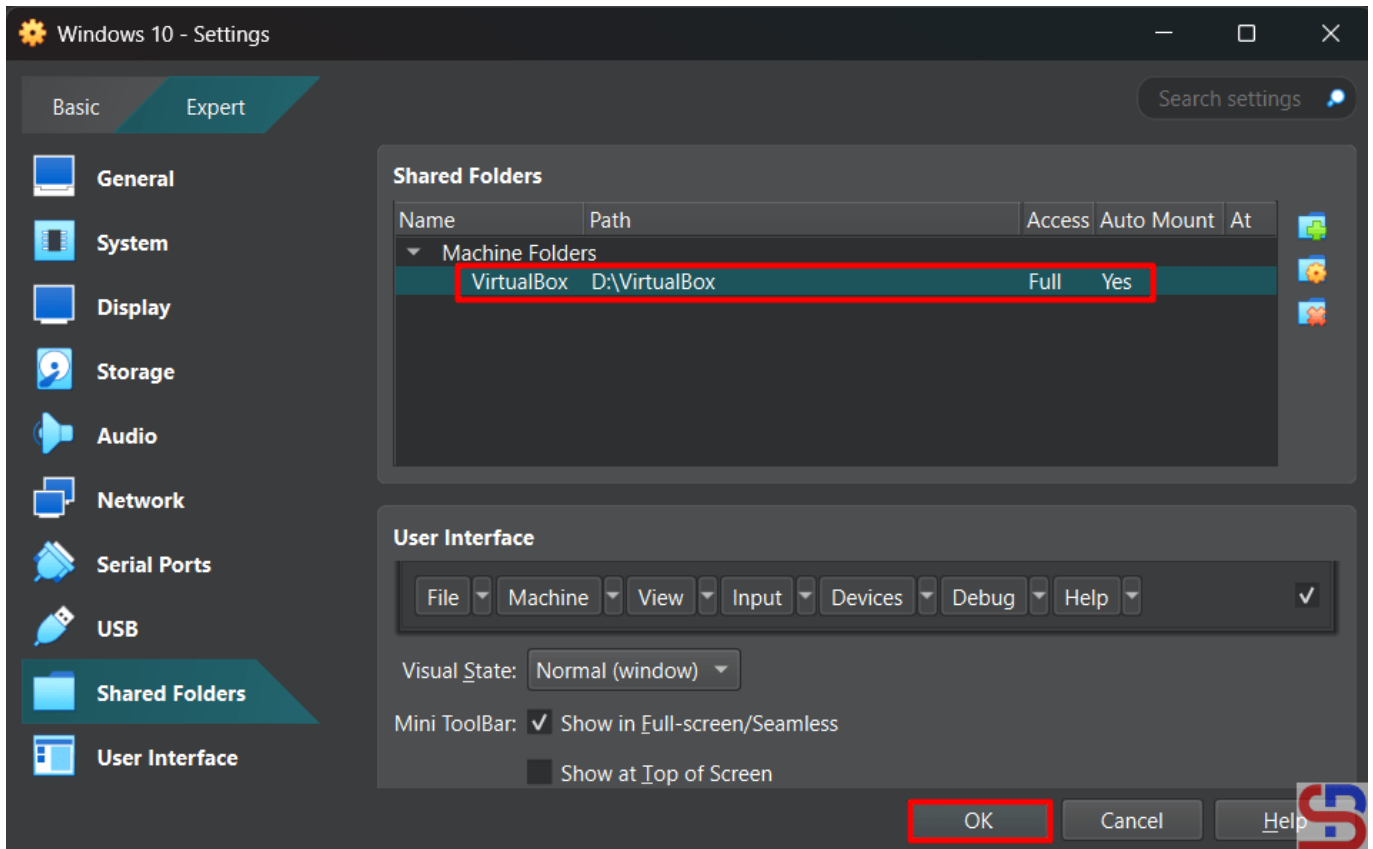
Click the icon in the Shared Folders section

Fill the columns like in the image below:



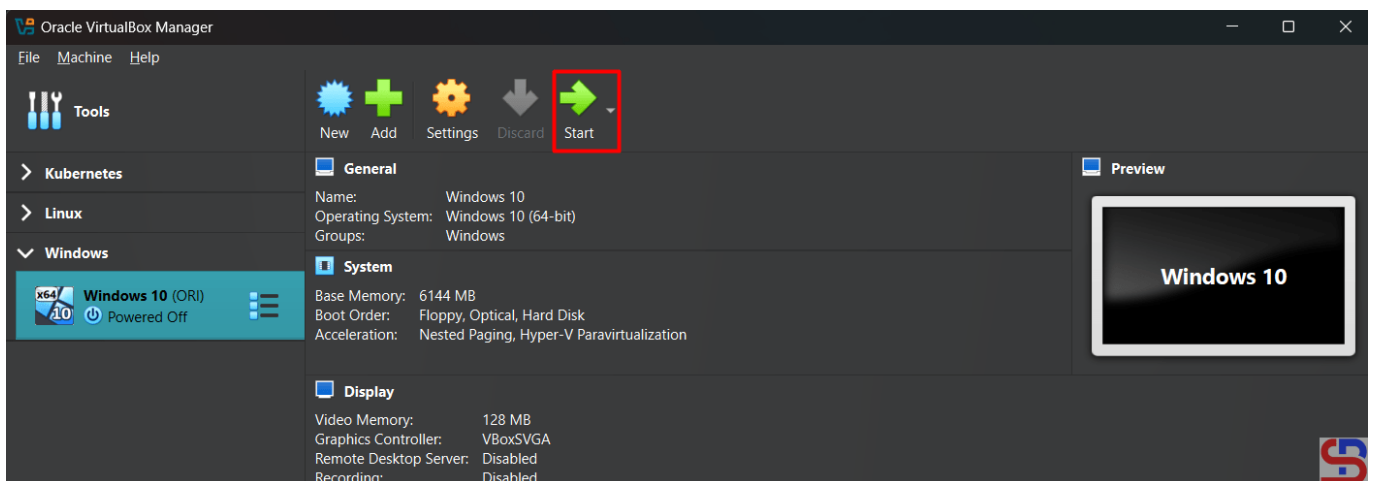
Settings the shared folders

Click the **OK** button and the shared folder will appear like in the image below:



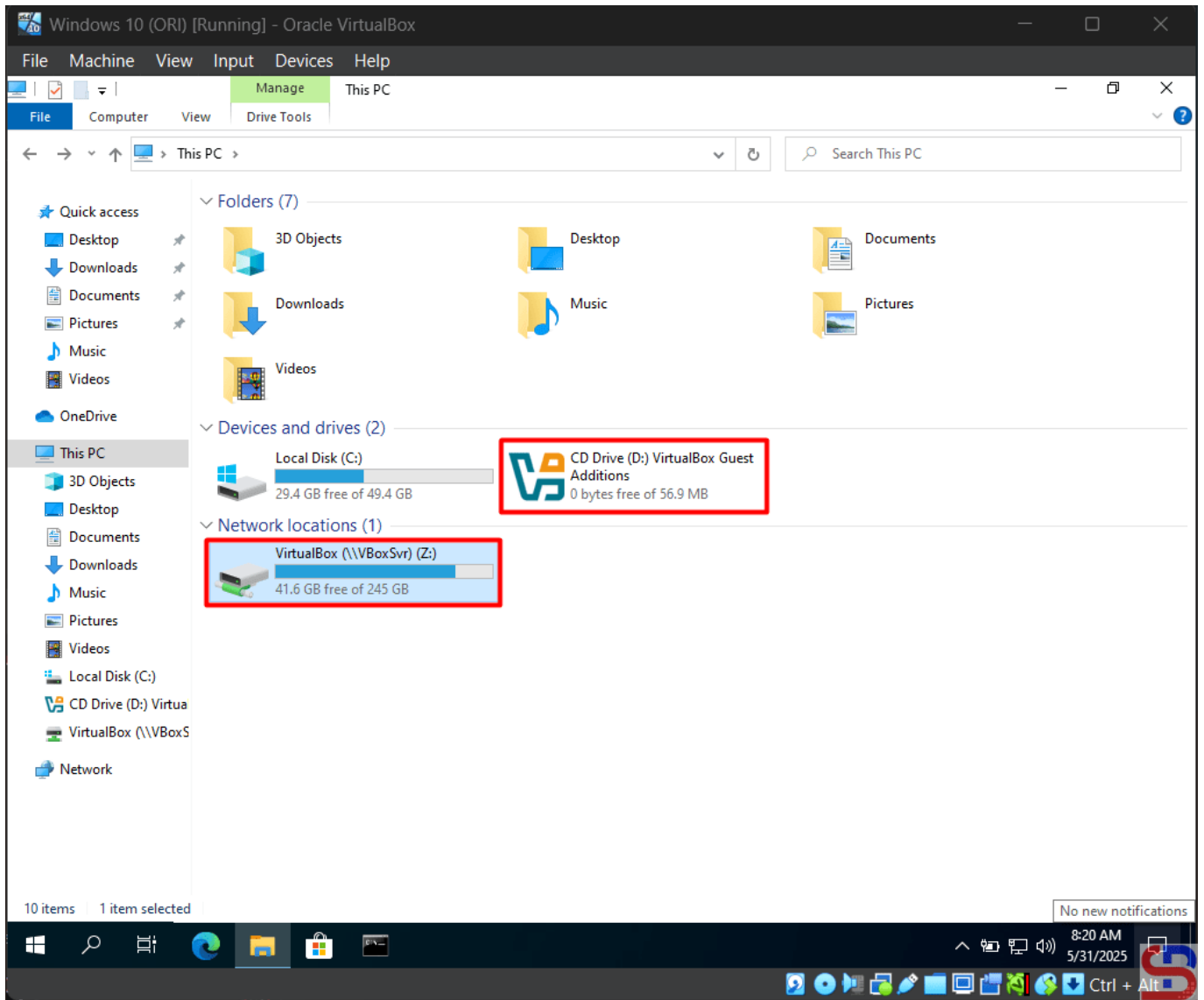
The shared folder appears

Click the **OK** button. After that, turn on your virtual machine by clicking the **Start** button like in the image below:



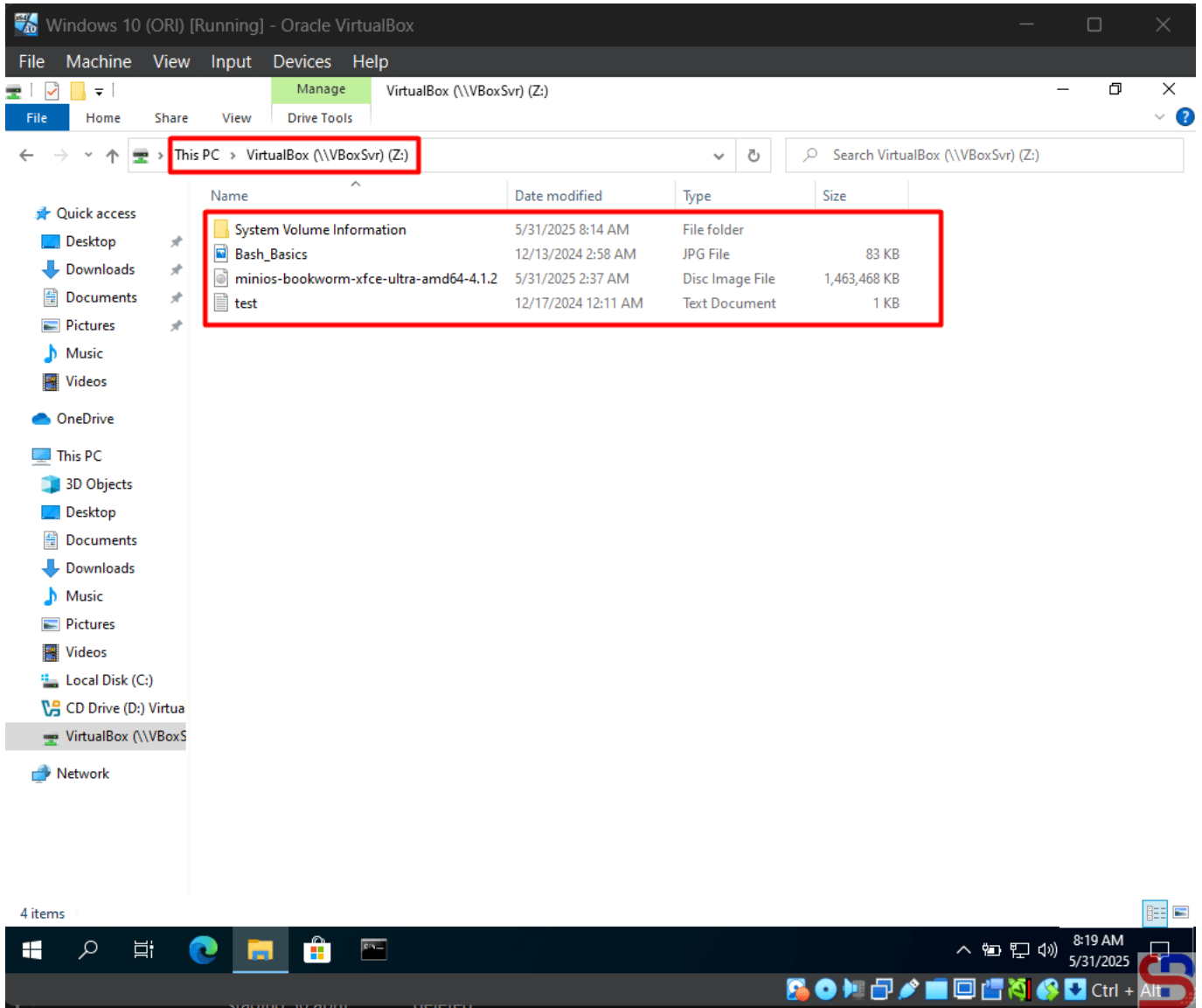
Turn on the VM

Go to **This PC** page and you will see the view in the image below:



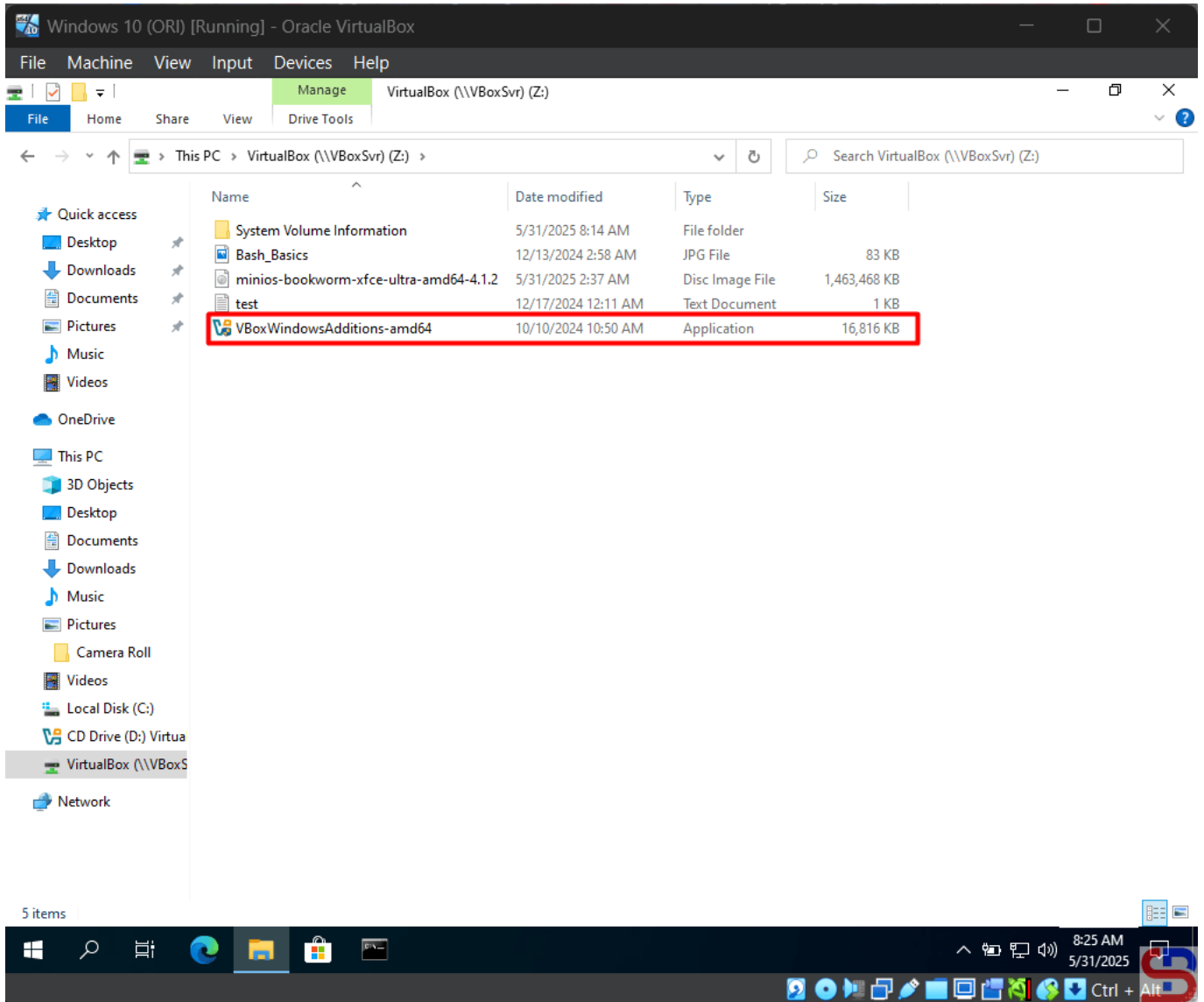
This PC image

Double-click the **VirtualBox (Z:)** and you should be able to access the folder like in the image below:



Access the shared folder

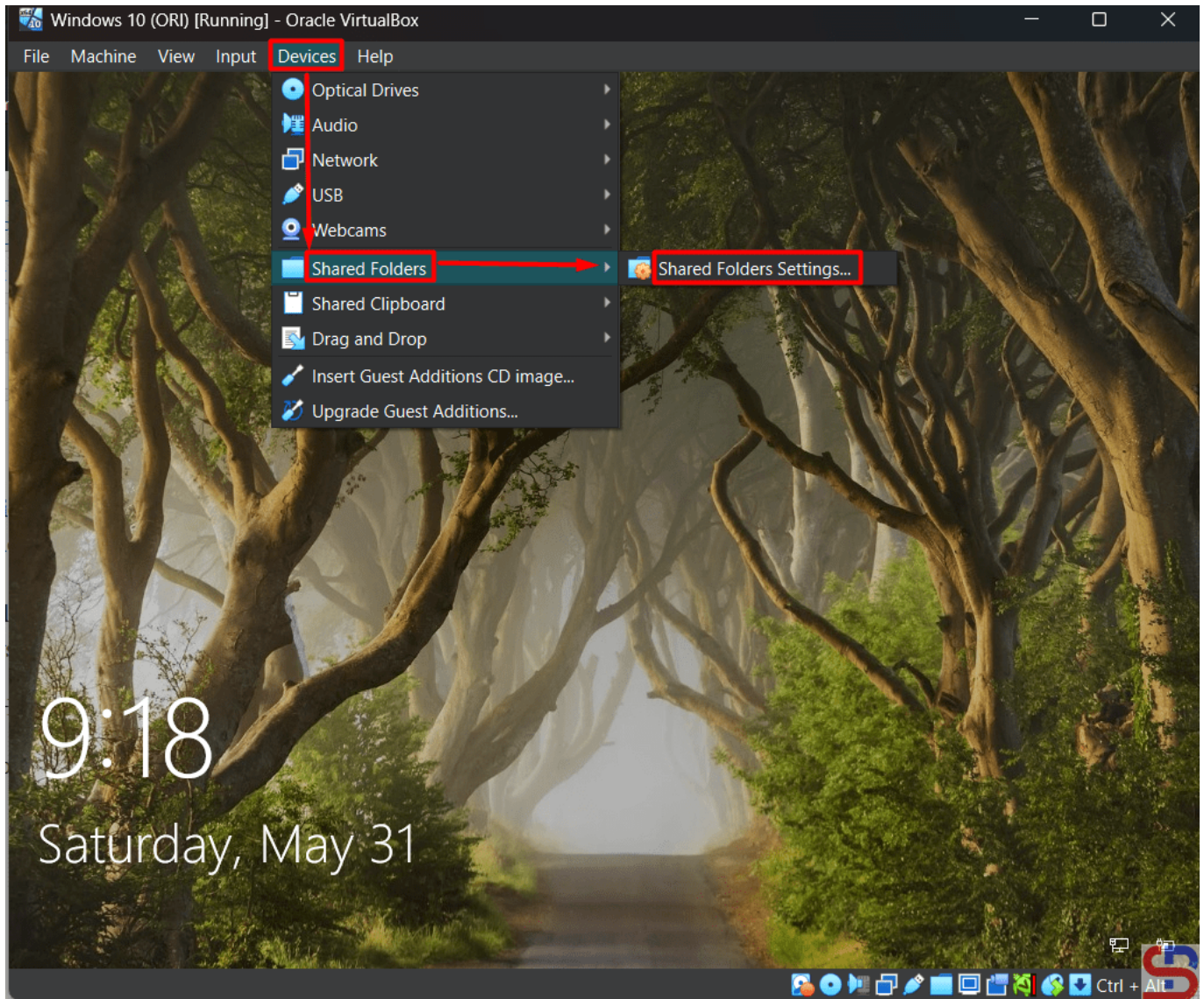
Now, you can access the shared folder and you should add the file like in the image below:



Add the file to the shared folder

## Note

You can configure the shared folder or mount the iso after you turn on the virtual machine like in the image below:



Configure the shared folder after turning on the VM

## References

[virtualbox.org](https://www.virtualbox.org)  
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)  
[docs.oracle.com](https://docs.oracle.com)  
[blogs.oracle.com](https://blogs.oracle.com)

# [How to Install the VirtualBox Guest Additions?](#)

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

The Guest Additions in VirtualBox is used to optimize the

guest operating system for better performance and usability.

## Problem

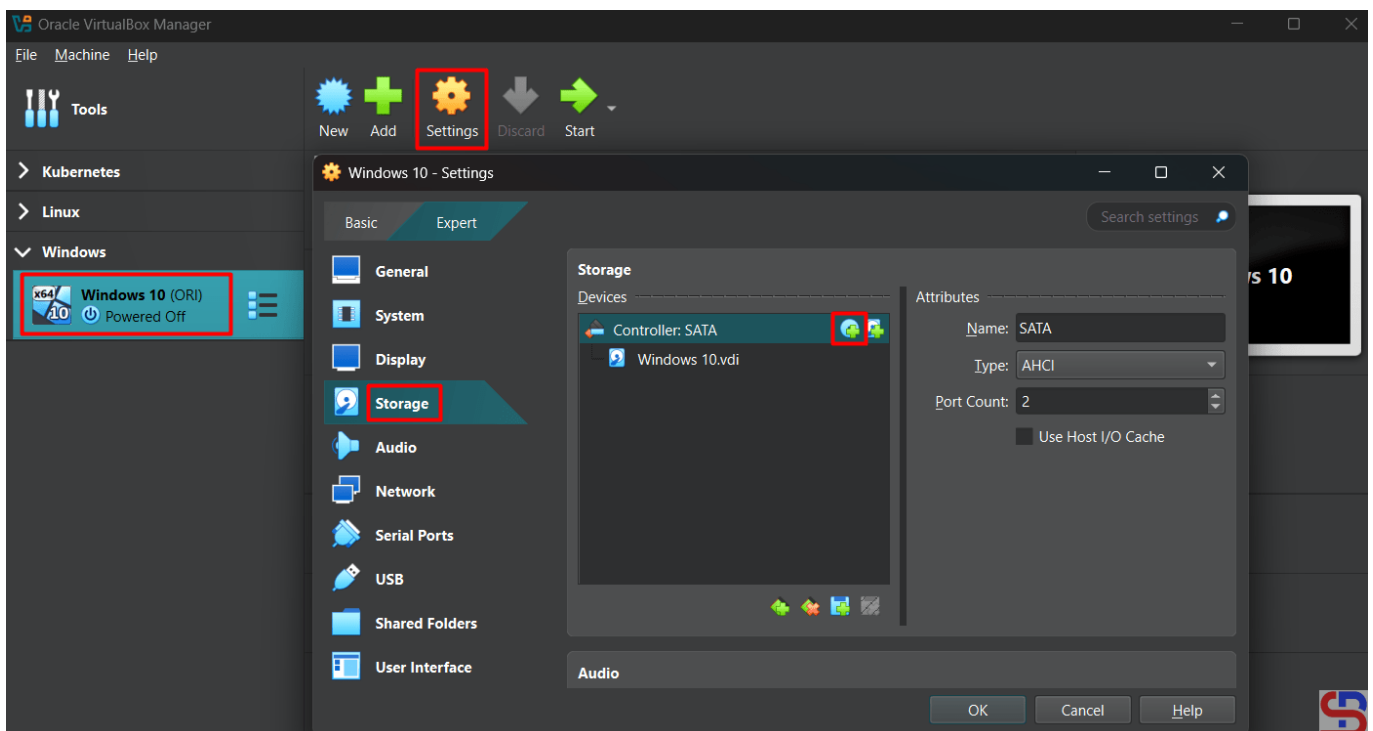
How to install the VirtualBox Guest Additions?

## Solution

The Oracle VM VirtualBox Guest Additions for all supported guest operating systems are provided as a single CD-ROM image file which is called `VBoxGuestAdditions.iso`. This image file is located in the installation directory of Oracle VM VirtualBox. These are the steps to install the ISO in the Windows and Linux guests.

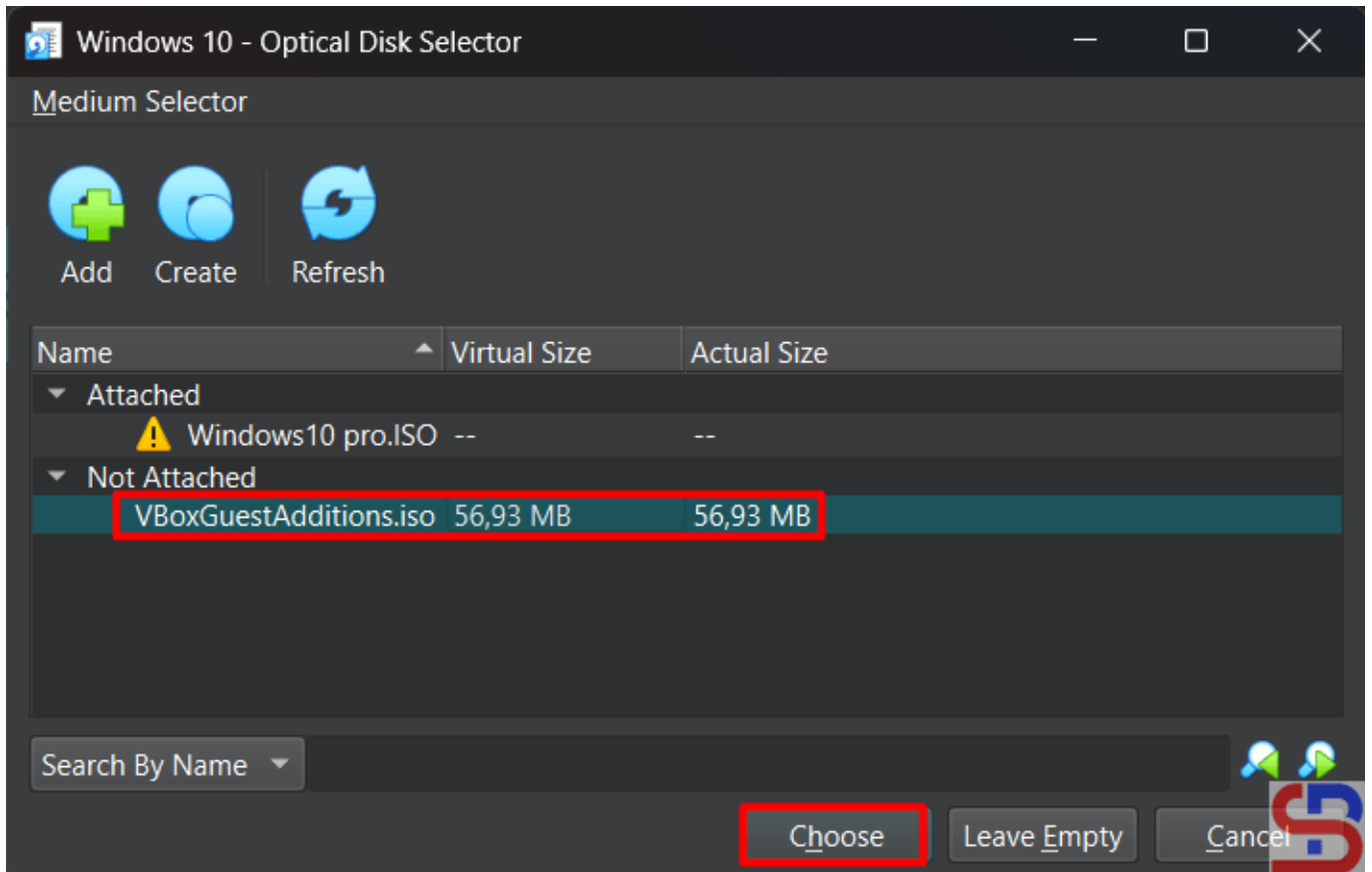
### A. In the Windows guest

Open your VirtualBox, click your guest or your virtual machine, click **Settings** – **Storage**, and then click the icon like in the below image:



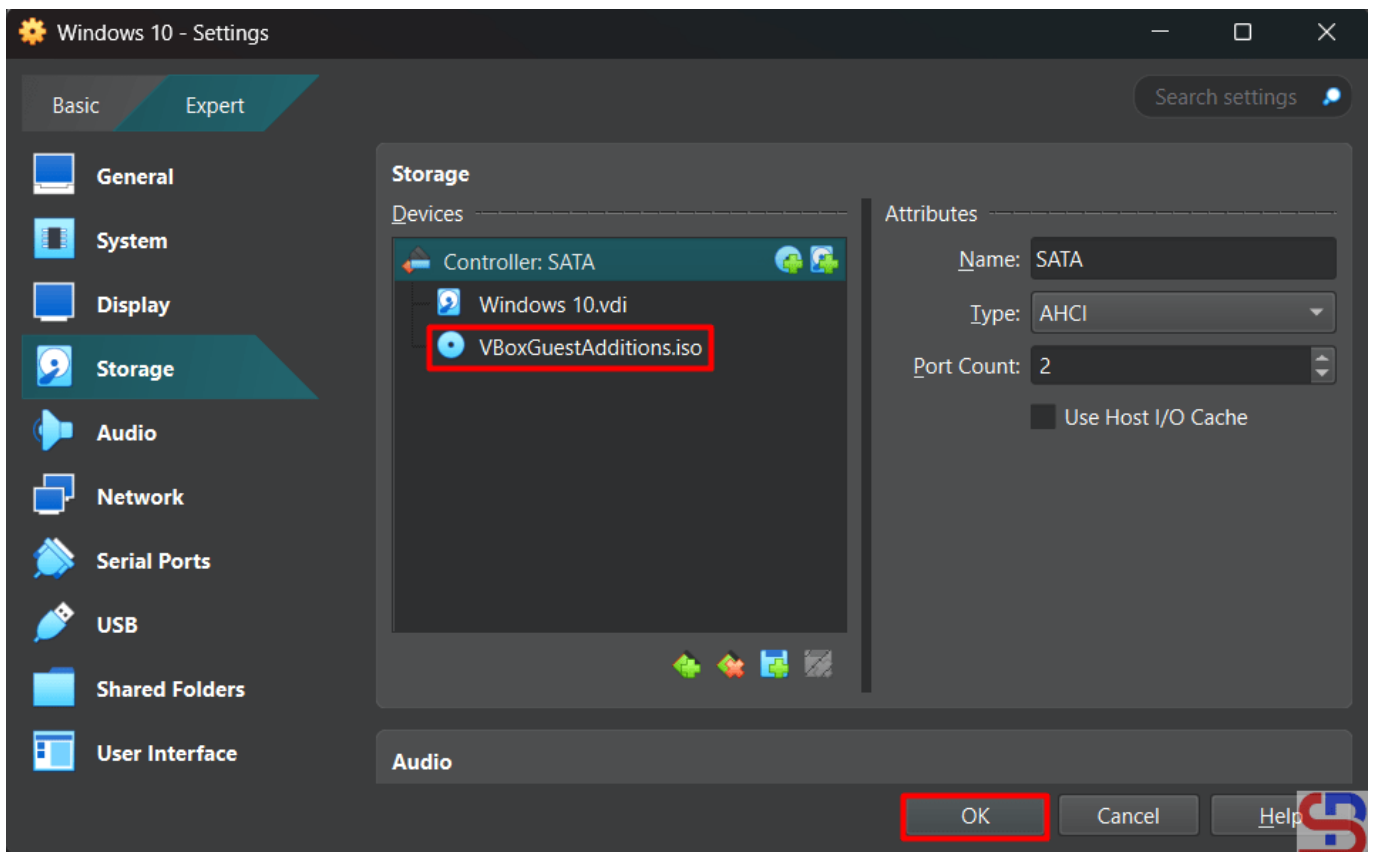
Click the icon in the Storage

Choose the **VBoxGuestAdditions.iso** like in the below image:



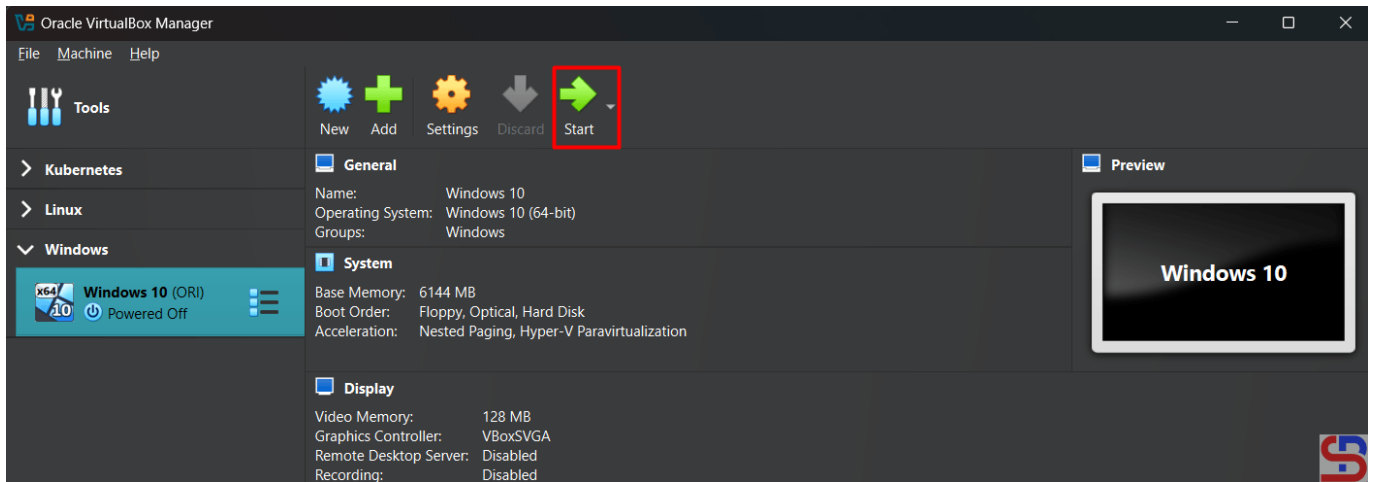
Choose the iso

Click the **Choose** button and the iso will appear like in the image below:



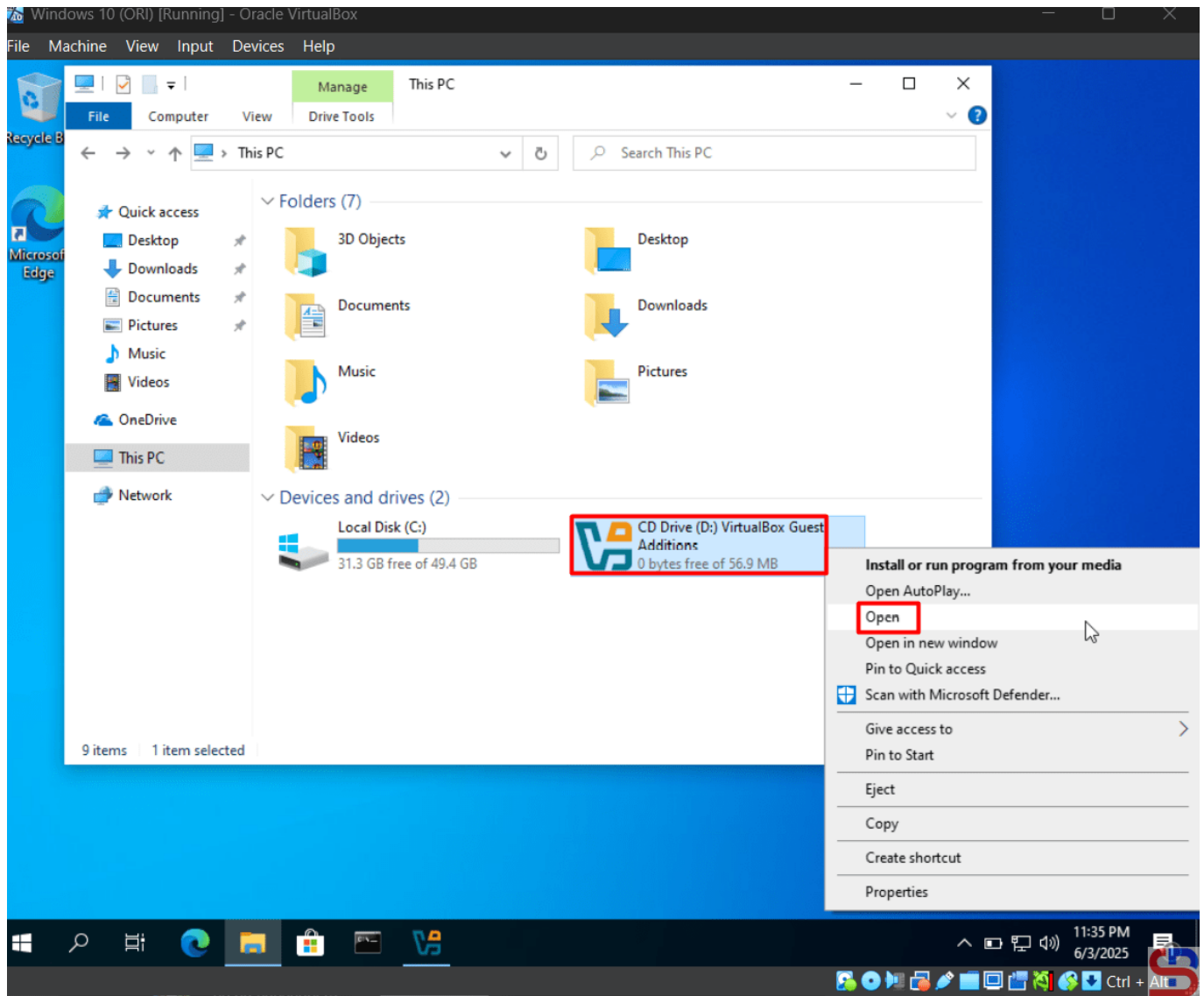
The iso appear

After that, turn on your virtual machine by clicking the **Start** button like in the image below:



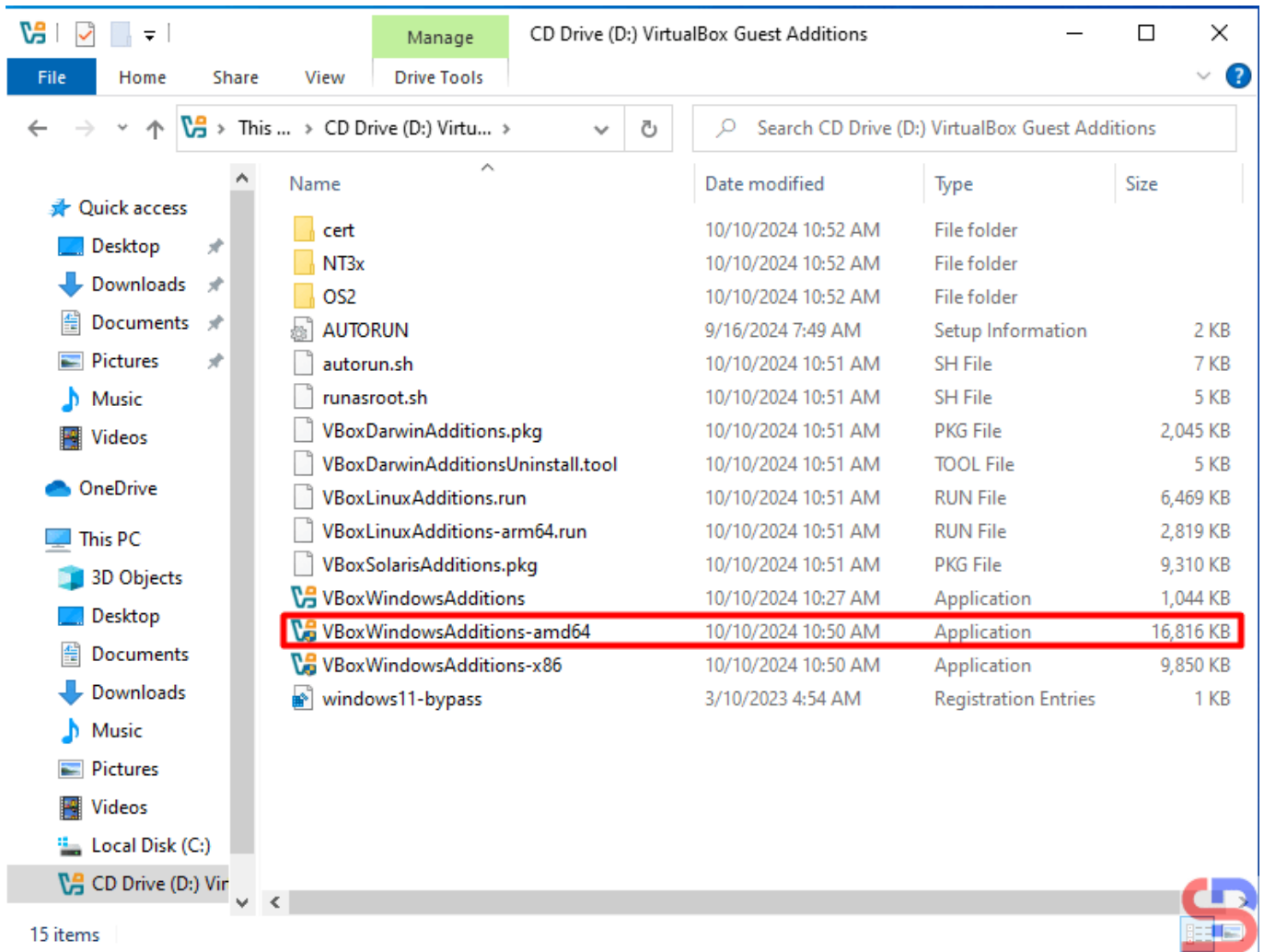
Turn on the VM

Go to [This PC page](#) and you will see the view in the image below:



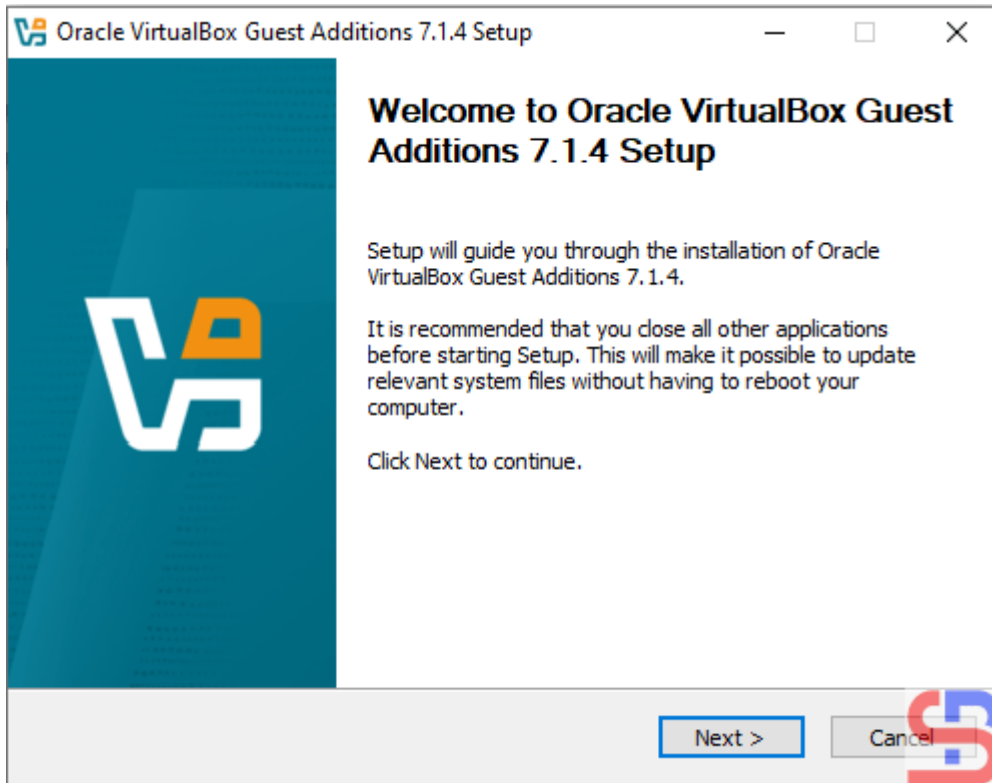
Right-click the CD

Right-click the CD Drive and click **Open**, so there is a display like in the image below:



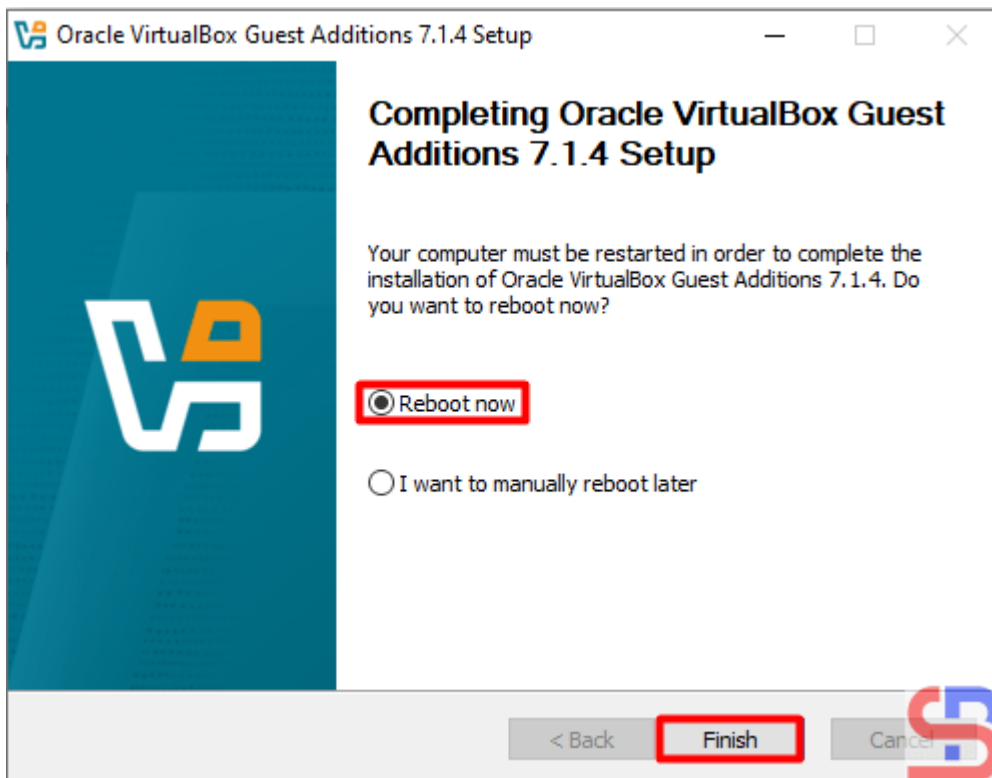
Choose the installer

Double-click on the installer in the red box if your guest is 64-bit, and display it like in the image below:



The installation will start

Click the **Next** button and continue until the driver installation is successful until it displays as shown in the image below:

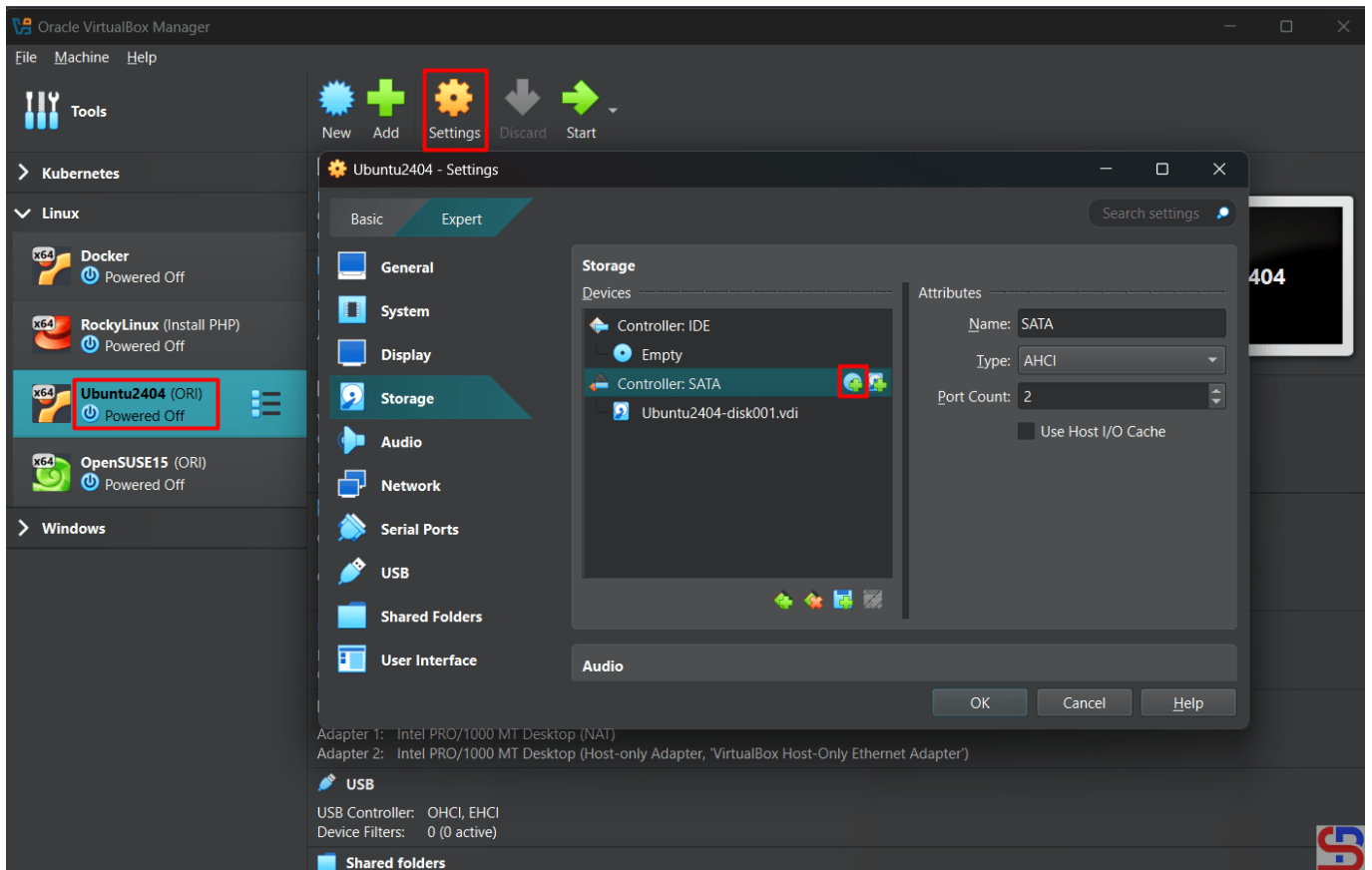


The installation ends

Choose the **Reboot** now and click the Finish button.

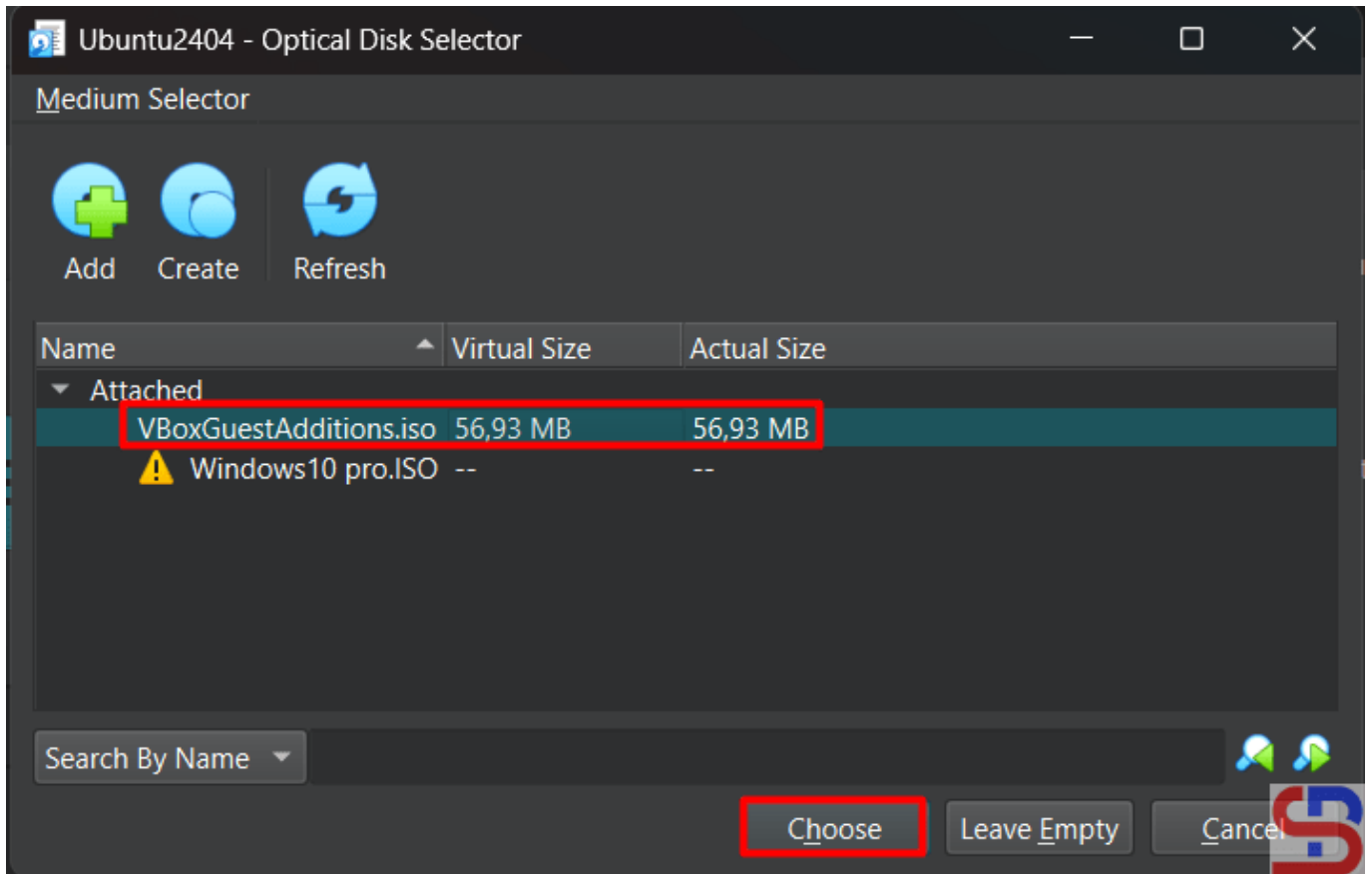
## B. In the Linux guest

Open your VirtualBox, click your guest or your virtual machine, click **Settings – Storage**, and then click the icon like in the below image:



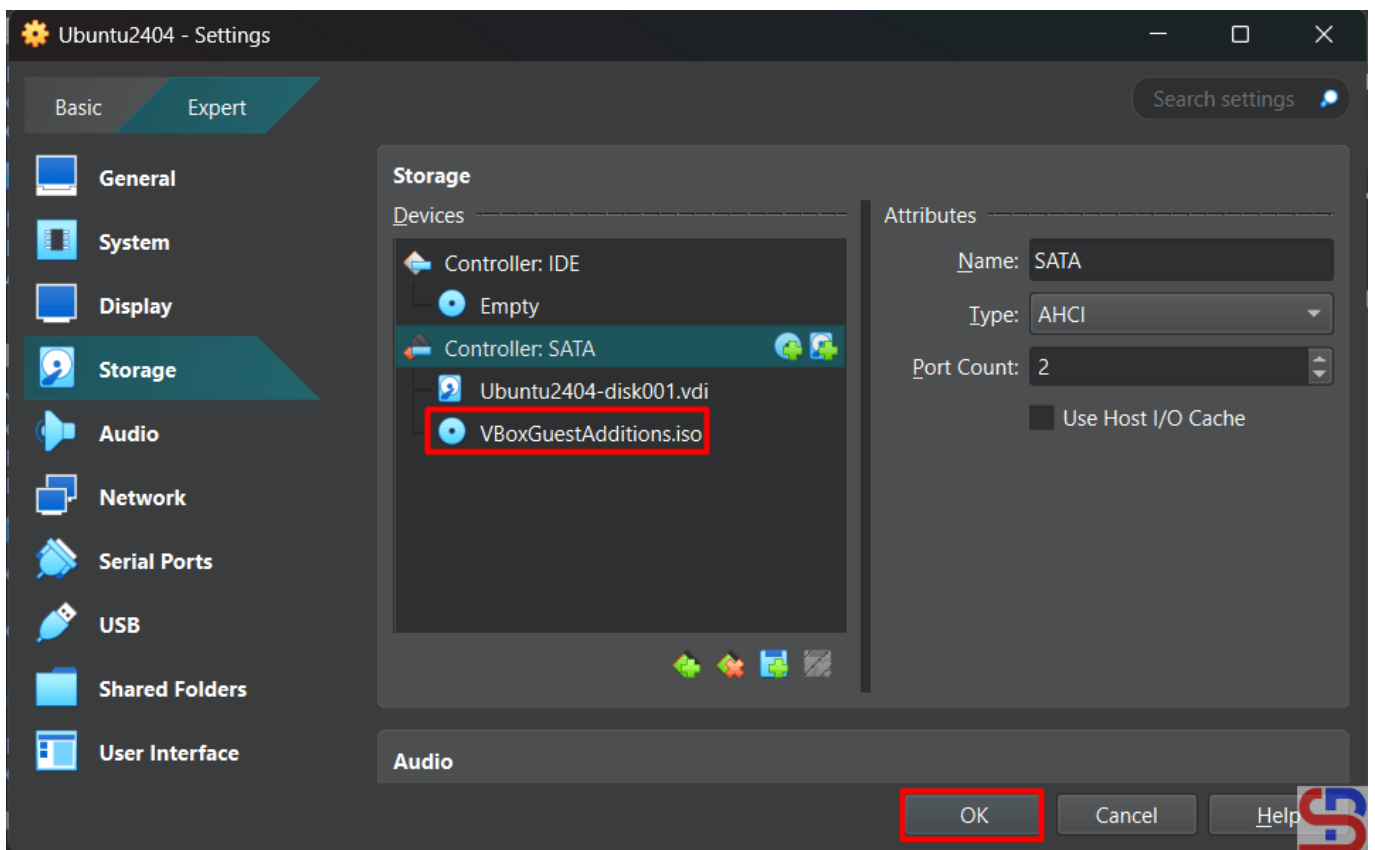
Click the icon in the Storage section

Choose the **VBoxGuestAdditions.iso** like in the below image:



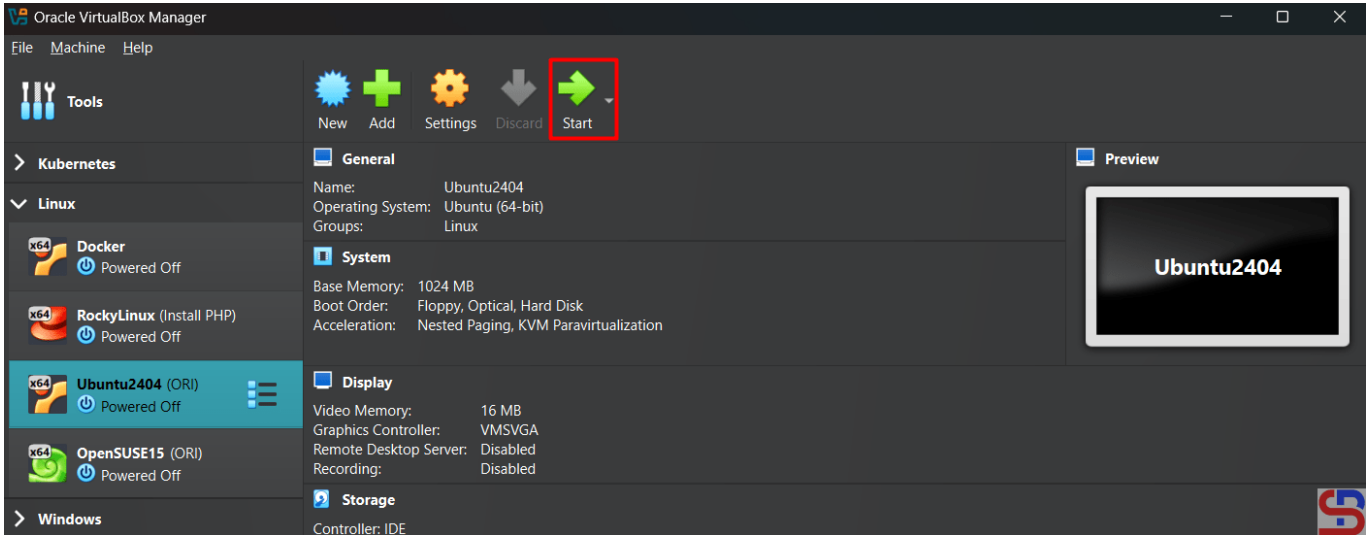
Choose the ISO

Click the **Choose** button and the iso will appear like in the image below:



The ISO appear

After that, turn on your virtual machine by clicking the **Start** button like in the image below:



Turn on the VM

Make a folder in Linux and I created a folder `/mnt/cdrom` using the command below:

```
sudo mkdir /mnt/cdrom
```

Execute the below command to mount the shared folder with your folder:

```
sudo mount /dev/sr0 /mnt/cdrom/
```

Install some packages by running the command below:

### **Ubuntu**

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt install -y bzip2 tar gcc make perl
```

### **RockyLinux/AlmaLinux/CentOS**

```
sudo dnf install -y bzip2 tar gcc make perl
```

## **OpenSUSE**

```
sudo zypper install -y bzip2 tar gcc make perl
```

After installation, go to the folder cdrom:

```
cd /mnt/cdrom
```

Execute the command below and wait until finish:

```
sudo sh VBoxLinuxAdditions.run
```

After that, reboot your virtual machine.

## **Note**

Guest Addition will be very useful if your guest uses graphics such as Windows OS or Linux that have graphics because it will improve performance and usability such as Mouse pointer integration, better video support, shared clipboard, and so on. But if you use the Linux CLI in the guest, this guest addition will not be useful.

## **References**

[virtualbox.org](http://virtualbox.org)  
[blogs.oracle.com](http://blogs.oracle.com)  
[greenwebpage.com](http://greenwebpage.com)

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## **[How to Configure UFW to be Port](#)**

# Forwarding?

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

[The previous article](#) explained how to configure the firewalld to become a port forwarding. This article will explain how to configure ufw applications in Ubuntu to become a port forwarding.

## Problem

How to configure ufw to be port forwarding?

## Solution

There are 2 methods of port forwarding: [forward the connection of a port to one IP/device](#) and [forward the connection of a port to a different IP/device](#).

### A. Forward to the same IP/device

Suppose you have an Ubuntu server with IP address 192.168.56.102 and want to close port 22 but open port 43210 if someone wants to access the server via SSH. Change the SSH port like in [this article](#), and you have to enable ufw in the server using the command below:

```
sudo ufw enable
```

Answer the question by pushing the **y** button. Now type the below commands to open port 22 and port 43210:

```
sudo ufw allow 43210/tcp
```

Check the SSH port using the below command and make sure the SSH port is pointed to the new port (port 43210) like in the below image:

```
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo ss -tulnp | grep sshd
tcp LISTEN 0      128          0.0.0.0:43210  0.0.0.0:*    users:(("sshd",pid=1003,fd=3))
tcp LISTEN 0      128          [::]:43210    [::]:*      users:(("sshd",pid=1003,fd=4))
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```

Check the port

If the port is still connected to port 22, you can go to [this article](#) to change the SSH port. Now, try to access the server using the command below:

```
ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102 -p 43210
```

```
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.100 -p 43210
sysadmin@192.168.56.100's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-59-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are
not required on a system that users do not log into.

To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.
Last login: Wed May 14 16:39:09 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```

Access to the server via SSH using the port

You should access the server like in the image above. Now, you want to implement the port forwarding in the ufw so the sysadmin doesn't need to write **-p 43210** anymore. So, you have to configure the **before.rules** file in the **/etc/ufw** folder. In short, **before.rules** typically contains rules that handle essential network traffic before ufw's User-Defined Rules are applied. I think you have to backup the file before you configure the file using the below command:

```
sudo cp /etc/ufw/before.rules /etc/ufw/before.rules.ori
sudo vi /etc/ufw/before.rules
```

After that, copy the script below to the file **before the \*filter** section:

```
# Port forwarding from port 22 to port 43210
*nat
:PREROUTING ACCEPT [0:0]
-A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 22 -j REDIRECT --to-port 43210
COMMIT
```

```
#
# rules.before
#
# Rules that should be run before the ufw command line added rules. Custom
# rules should be added to one of these chains:
# ufw-before-input
# ufw-before-output
# ufw-before-forward
#
# Port forwarding from port 22 to port 43210
*nat
:PREROUTING ACCEPT [0:0]
-A PREROUTING -p tcp --dport 22 -j REDIRECT --to-port 43210
COMMIT
# Don't delete these required lines, otherwise there will be errors
*filter
:ufw-before-input - [0:0]
:ufw-before-output - [0:0]
:ufw-before-forward - [0:0]
:ufw-not-local - [0:0]
# End required lines
```

Configure the before.rules file

Restart ufw using the command below:

```
sudo ufw reload
```

Now, try to access using the command below:

```
ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
```

You should access to the server without writing the port anymore like in the image below:



```
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-60-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are
not required on a system that users do not log into.

To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.
Last login: Sat May 17 08:10:38 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```



Access to the server without writing the port

### B. Forward to the different IP/device

Suppose you have a Ubuntu server with IP address 192.168.56.102 and port 22 is available. You would like users who access the server using SSH to forward to port 22 with IP address 192.168.56.2 using RockyLinux. So, these are the steps:

#### 1. Configure ufw

Check your Ubuntu server to see whether UFW is running on the server using the command below:

```
sudo ufw status
```

If it still doesn't run, use the command below to have ufw run on that server:

```
sudo ufw enable
```

Answer the question by pushing the y button. Then, open port 22 by using the command below:

```
sudo ufw allow 22/tcp
```

To run the forwarding port on UFW, you must configure the **before.rules** file in the `/etc/ufw` folder. In short, `before.rules` typically contains rules that handle essential network traffic before ufw's User-Defined Rules are applied. I think you have to backup the file before you configure the file using the below command:

```
sudo cp /etc/ufw/before.rules /etc/ufw/before.rules.ori
sudo vi /etc/ufw/before.rules
```

After that, copy the script below to the file **before the \*filter** section:

```
*nat
:PREROUTING ACCEPT [0:0]
:POSTROUTING ACCEPT [0:0]

# Forward traffic from 192.168.56.102:22 → 192.168.56.2:22
-A PREROUTING -d 192.168.56.102 -p tcp --dport 22 -j DNAT --to-destination
192.168.56.2:22

# Masquerade outgoing traffic (adjust eth0 to your outgoing interface)
-A POSTROUTING -s 192.168.56.0/24 -o eth0 -j MASQUERADE

COMMIT
```

```

#
# rules.before
#
# Rules that should be run before the ufw command line added rules. Custom
# rules should be added to one of these chains:
#   ufw-before-input
#   ufw-before-output
#   ufw-before-forward
#
*nat
:PREROUTING ACCEPT [0:0]
:POSTROUTING ACCEPT [0:0]

# Forward traffic from 192.168.56.102:22 → 192.168.56.2:22
-A PREROUTING -d 192.168.56.102 -p tcp --dport 22 -j DNAT --to-destination 192.168.56.2:22

# Masquerade outgoing traffic (adjust eth0 to your outgoing interface)
#-A POSTROUTING -s 192.168.56.0/24 -o enp0s8 -j MASQUERADE
-A POSTROUTING -s 192.168.56.0/24 -j MASQUERADE
COMMIT

# Don't delete these required lines, otherwise there will be errors
*filter
:ufw-before-input - [0:0]
:ufw-before-output - [0:0]
:ufw-before-forward - [0:0]
:ufw-not-local - [0:0]
# End required lines

```

Configure the before.rules file

## 2. Enable IP Forwarding

Go to the `/etc/default/ufw` file and change the file from:

```
DEFAULT_FORWARD_POLICY="DROP"
```

to

```
DEFAULT_FORWARD_POLICY="ACCEPT"
```

After that, go to the `/etc/sysctl.conf` file and uncomment or add in the file:

```
net.ipv4.ip_forward=1
```

And run the below commands:

```
sudo sysctl -p
sudo ufw reload
```

### 3. Test the result

Now, try to access the Ubuntu server which has an IP 192.168.56.102 and you should be forwarded to the Rockylinux server that uses IP 192.168.56.2 like the below image:

```
ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
```

```
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Last login: Fri May 16 04:15:08 2025 from 192.168.56.102
[sysadmin@RockyLinux9 ~]$ ip a
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: enp0s3: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:17:8f:a9 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 10.0.2.15/24 brd 10.0.2.255 scope global dynamic noprefixroute enp0s3
        valid_lft 60975sec preferred_lft 60975sec
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe17:8fa9/64 scope link noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
3: enp0s8: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
    link/ether 08:00:27:38:ad:88 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.56.2/24 brd 192.168.56.255 scope global noprefixroute enp0s8
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:fe38:ad88/64 scope link noprefixroute
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
[sysadmin@RockyLinux9 ~]$
```

Test access

If you have a display like the image above, you have succeeded in making ufw as a forwarding port to a different IP/device.

### Note

If you get an error like this:

**WARNING: REMOTE HOST IDENTIFICATION HAS CHANGED!**

```
sysadmin@ubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
@  WARNING: REMOTE HOST IDENTIFICATION HAS CHANGED!  @
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOMEONE IS DOING SOMETHING NASTY!
Someone could be eavesdropping on you right now (man-in-the-middle attack)!
It is also possible that a host key has just been changed.
The fingerprint for the ED25519 key sent by the remote host is
SHA256:ndxaZMWD2t9l6QY56d5xRzEEBpnd3rRBCdMBxIbZXlg.
Please contact your system administrator.
Add correct host key in /home/sysadmin/.ssh/known_hosts to get rid of this message.
Offending ED25519 key in /home/sysadmin/.ssh/known_hosts:6 1
  remove with:
  ssh-keygen -f '/home/sysadmin/.ssh/known_hosts' -R '192.168.56.102' 2
Host key for 192.168.56.102 has changed and you have requested strict checking.
Host key verification failed.
sysadmin@ubuntu:~$
```

Error when connecting the server via SSH

When you get this error, the system gives the clue to solve this error. Based on the picture above, you can go to the `/home/sysadmin/.ssh/known_hosts` file and **delete line 6** or you run the command below:

```
ssh-keygen -f '/home/sysadmin/.ssh/known_hosts' -R '192.168.56.102'
```

## References

- [baeldung.com](http://baeldung.com)
- [gist.github.com](https://gist.github.com)
- [tecadmin.net](http://tecadmin.net)
- [bobcares.com](http://bobcares.com)

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# [How to Access the Server via SSH After Changing the SSH Port?](#)

written by sysadmin | 9 July 2025

[The previous article](#) explained how to change the SSH port. Nevertheless, after I changed the port, I could not access the server via SSH using the new port.

## Problem

How to access the server via SSH after changing the SSH port?

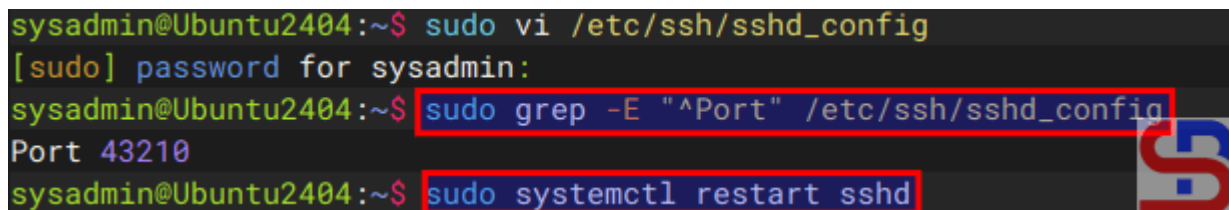
## Solution

Let's say you have changed the SSH port from **port 22 to port 43210** by changing it in the `/etc/ssh/sshd_config` file and checking the port by typing the command below:

```
sudo grep -E "^Port" /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

After that, restart the SSH using the command below:

```
sudo systemctl restart sshd
```

A terminal window screenshot from an Ubuntu 24.04 system. The user 'sysadmin' is at the prompt. They run 'sudo vi /etc/ssh/sshd\_config'. After a password prompt, they run 'sudo grep -E "^Port" /etc/ssh/sshd\_config', which outputs 'Port 43210'. Finally, they run 'sudo systemctl restart sshd'. A red box highlights the grep command, and a blue box highlights the systemctl command. A large 'S' logo is visible on the right side of the terminal window.

```
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo vi /etc/ssh/sshd_config
[sudo] password for sysadmin:
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo grep -E "^Port" /etc/ssh/sshd_config
Port 43210
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo systemctl restart sshd
```

Change to the new port in SSH


However, you can't access the server via SSH using port 43210 but can still access via SSH port 22 as shown in the image below:

```
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102 -p 43210
ssh: connect to host 192.168.56.102 port 43210: Connection refused
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-60-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are
not required on a system that users do not log into.

To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.
Last login: Sat May 17 07:07:05 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```




Test the result

In the remote, type the command below to check if the SSH port has changed to Port 43210 or not:

```
sudo ss -tulnp | grep sshd
```

If you find the result as shown in the image below:

```
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo grep -E "^Port" /etc/ssh/sshd_config
Port 43210
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo ss -tulnp | grep sshd
tcp LISTEN 0      4096          *:22          *:~          users:(("sshd",pid=1003,fd=3),("systemd",pid=1,fd=8))
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```



Check the port

It means the SSH is still connected to port 22 and not to port 43210. Therefore, type the commands below:

```
sudo systemctl stop ssh.socket
sudo systemctl disable ssh.socket
sudo systemctl mask ssh.socket
sudo systemctl restart sshd
```

Run the previous command to check the port:

```
sudo ss -tulnp | grep sshd
```

```
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo ss -tulnp | grep sshd
tcp LISTEN 0      4096             *:22              *:~                users:(("sshd",pid=913,fd=3),("systemd",pid=1,fd=88))
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo systemctl stop ssh.socket
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo systemctl disable ssh.socket
Removed "/etc/systemd/system/sockets.target.wants/ssh.socket".
Removed "/etc/systemd/system/ssh.service.requires/ssh.socket".
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo systemctl mask ssh.socket
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/ssh.socket → /dev/null.
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo systemctl restart sshd
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$ sudo ss -tulnp | grep sshd
tcp LISTEN 0      128             0.0.0.0:43210    0.0.0.0:*         users:(("sshd",pid=1003,fd=3))
tcp LISTEN 0      128             [::]:43210      [::]:~            users:(("sshd",pid=1003,fd=4))
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```

Check the port

You can see in the image above that the SSH port has changed to port 43210 and you should be able to access the server via SSH using port 43210.

```
sysadmin@lubuntu:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102 -p 43210
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-60-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

This system has been minimized by removing packages and content that are
not required on a system that users do not log into.

To restore this content, you can run the 'unminimize' command.
Last login: Sat May 17 07:07:32 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@Ubuntu2404:~$
```

Test the result

## Note

The socket statistics, or **ss**, is a tool to display network socket information. This tool has the same function as netstat but has several advantages such as faster, filtering by connection state (e.g., established, time-wait), debugging high-performance networks, and so on.

## References

[askubuntu.com](https://askubuntu.com)

[rome-rohani.medium.com](https://rome-rohani.medium.com)  
[discourse.ubuntu.com](https://discourse.ubuntu.com)  
[community.clearlinux.org](https://community.clearlinux.org)  
[redhat.com](https://redhat.com)