

VMware vSphere ESXi

Important Information

Notes, cautions, and warnings

 **NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your product.

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 **WARNING:** A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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Important information

NOTE: Dell EMC recommends that you use the latest BIOS versions listed at Dell.com/support for Dell EMC PowerEdge systems.

NOTE:

- The preinstalled image of ESXi on your Dell EMC PowerEdge system may not contain all the required drivers. More drivers must be installed to enable specific add-on peripherals. You can download the drivers from vmware.com/downloads.
- Ensure that you use the Dell EMC customized ESXi image that carries all the requisite drivers for the Dell EMC PowerEdge systems.

NOTE: By registering or using the VMware product, you agree to the VMware End User License Agreement (EULA) for VMware products and product versions from vmware.com/download/eula.

Download Dell EMC customized ESXi image

To download the Dell EMC customized ESXi image:

NOTE: Ensure that you clear the web browser cache before downloading the drivers and firmware.

- 1 Go to Dell.com/support/drivers.
- 2 In the **Drivers & Downloads** section, type the Service Tag of your system in the **Enter a Service Tag** box, and then click **Submit**.

NOTE: If you do not have the Service Tag, select **Detect PC** to allow the system to automatically detect your Service Tag, or click **View products**, and then navigate to your product.
- 3 Click **Drivers & Downloads**.

The drivers that are applicable to your selection are displayed.
- 4 In the **Operating System** list, select the appropriate VMware version.
- 5 In the **Category** list, select **Enterprise Solutions**.

The latest Dell EMC VMware ESXi customized images are displayed.
- 6 Click **Download**.

Getting help

Topics:

- [Contacting Dell EMC](#)
- [Related information for virtualization solutions](#)
- [Documentation resources](#)
- [Downloading the drivers and firmware](#)
- [Documentation feedback](#)

Contacting Dell EMC

Dell EMC provides several online and telephone based support and service options. If you do not have an active internet connection, you can find contact information about your purchase invoice, packing slip, bill, or Dell EMC product catalog. Availability varies by country and product, and some services may not be available in your area.

To contact Dell EMC for sales, technical assistance, or customer service issues:

- 1 Go to Dell.com/support.
- 2 Select your country from the drop-down menu on the lower right corner of the page.
- 3 For customized support:
 - a Enter your system Service Tag in the **Enter your Service Tag** field.
 - b Click **Submit**.

The support page that lists the various support categories is displayed.
- 4 For general support:
 - a Select your product category.
 - b Select your product segment.
 - c Select your product.

The support page that lists the various support categories is displayed.
- 5 For contact details of Dell EMC Global Technical Support:
 - a Click [Global Technical Support](#).
 - b The **Contact Technical Support** page is displayed with details to call, chat, or email the Dell EMC Global Technical Support team.

Related information for virtualization solutions

Table 1. Related information for virtualization solutions

If you need information about	See
Dell EMC VMware documentation	Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
OpenManage documentation	Dell.com/openmanagemanuals
PowerEdge documentation	Dell.com/poweredgemanuals
Basic configuration information for running ESXi on a Dell EMC PowerEdge server	<i>Getting Started Guide</i> at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions

If you need information about	See
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about downloading, installing, and configuring ESXi Supported hardware configurations for running ESXi on a Dell EMC PowerEdge server 	Installation Instructions and Important Information Guide at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
PowerEdge servers and compatibility with vMotion	VMware vMotion and 64-bit Virtual Machine Support Compatibility Matrix at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
PowerEdge and PowerVault compatibility information for running ESXi	VMware vSphere for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers Compatibility Matrix at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
Known issues and resolutions	VMware vSphere 6 on Dell EMC PowerEdge server Release Notes at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions
ESXi ISO image customization information	ESXi Image Customization Information at Dell.com/virtualizationsolutions

Technical support resources

- vmware.com/support
- [Dell and VMware product page](#)
- Dell.com/support/home
- Dell.com/services

Discussion forums

- communities.vmware.com/community/vmtn
- [Dell Virtualization](#)
- [Wikis, Forums, Blogs, and Videos](#)
- [Dell Community](#)

Knowledge base

- kb.vmware.com/kb



NOTE: For more information related to the VMware ESXi installation on Dell EMC PowerEdge servers, go to [Dell Virtualization](#).

Virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers

All the supported virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers are available in the [Supported Operating Systems for Dell PowerEdge servers](#) playlist.

Table 2. Virtualization videos for Dell EMC PowerEdge servers

Video title	Links
Downloading the Dell EMC customized ESXi image from support site	www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnVxtkAkYTI
OS Deployment (VMware ESXi) - Installing Using CD/DVD	www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EbufUS86zA

Video title	Links
Enabling and Configuring Fault Resilient Memory on Dell EMC PowerEdge servers	www.youtube.com/watch?v=retSh-XIsK0
OS Deployment (VMware ESXi) - Installing on BOSS S1 device	www.youtube.com/watch?v=TB1loXpFFME
OS Deployment (VMware ESXi) - Installing on IDSDM	www.youtube.com/watch?v=EC-Xntg5mgw
To enable UEFI Secure Boot on VMware ESXi for Dell's 13th generation of PowerEdge server	www.youtube.com/watch?v=LI9qIF9qV9I
 NOTE: This video is applicable for VMware ESXi 6.5.x and 6.	
To enable UEFI Secure Boot on VMware ESXi for Dell EMC's 14th generation of PowerEdge server	www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZB_XyV0enY
 NOTE: This video is applicable for VMware ESXi 6.5.x and 6.	

Documentation resources

This section provides information about the documentation resources for your server.

Table 3. Additional documentation resources for your server

Task	Document	Location
Setting up your server	For information about installing the server into a rack, see the Rack documentation included with your rack solution Or the <i>Getting Started With Your System</i> document that is shipped with your server.	Dell.com/poweredgemanuals
	For information about turning on the server and the technical specifications of your server, see the <i>Getting Started With Your System</i> document that is shipped with your server.	Dell.com/poweredgemanuals
Configuring your server	For information about the iDRAC features, configuring and logging in to iDRAC, and managing your server remotely, see the Integrated Dell Remote Access Controller User's Guide.	Dell.com/idracmanuals
	For information about installing the operating system, see the operating system documentation.	Dell.com/operatingsystemmanuals
	For information about understanding Remote Access Controller Admin (RACADM) subcommands and supported RACADM interfaces, see the RACADM Command Line Reference Guide for iDRAC.	Dell.com/idracmanuals

Task	Document	Location
Managing your server	For information about updating drivers and firmware, see “Downloading the drivers and firmware” topic in this document.	Dell.com/support/drivers
	For information about servers management software offered by Dell EMC, see the Dell EMC OpenManage Systems Management Overview Guide.	Dell.com/openmanagemanuals
	For information about setting up, using, and troubleshooting OpenManage, see the Dell EMC OpenManage Server Administrator User’s Guide.	Dell.com/openmanagemanuals
	For information about installing, using, and troubleshooting Dell EMC OpenManage Essentials, see the Dell EMC OpenManage Essentials User’s Guide.	Dell.com/openmanagemanuals
	For information about installing and using Dell SupportAssist, see the Dell EMC SupportAssist Enterprise User’s Guide.	Dell.com/serviceabilitytools
	For understanding the features of Dell EMC Lifecycle Controller (LC), see the Lifecycle Controller User’s Guide.	Dell.com/idracmanuals
	For information about partner programs enterprise systems management, see the OpenManage Connections Enterprise Systems Management documents.	Dell.com/omconnectionsenterprisesystemsmanagement
Working with the Dell EMC PowerEdge RAID controllers	For information about viewing inventory, performing configuration, and monitoring tasks, remotely turning on or off servers, and enabling alerts for events on servers and components using the Dell EMC Chassis Management Controller (CMC), see the CMC User’s Guide.	Dell.com/esmmanuals
	For information about understanding the features of the Dell EMC PowerEdge RAID controllers (PERC) and deploying the PERC cards, see the Storage controller documentation.	Dell.com/storagecontrollermanuals
Understanding event and error messages	For information about checking the event and error messages generated by the system firmware	Dell.com/openmanagemanuals > OpenManage software

Task	Document	Location
	and agents that monitor server components, see the Dell EMC Event and Error Messages Reference Guide.	
Troubleshooting your system	For information about identifying and troubleshooting the PowerEdge server issues, see the Server Troubleshooting Guide.	Dell.com/poweredgemanuals
Configuring Dell PowerEdge VRTX shared storage for VMware vSphere environment	For information on configuring Dell PowerEdge VRTX shared storage for VMware vSphere environment, see Dell EMC White papers.	Dell EMC White papers

Downloading the drivers and firmware

Dell EMC recommends that you download and install the latest BIOS, drivers, and systems management firmware on your system. Ensure that you clear the web browser cache before downloading the drivers and firmware.

- 1 Go to Dell.com/support/drivers.
- 2 Under the **Drivers & Downloads** section, type the Service Tag of your system in the **Enter a Service Tag** box, and then click **Submit**.

NOTE: If you do not have the Service Tag, select **Detect PC** to allow the system to automatically detect your Service Tag, or under **General support**, navigate to your product.
- 3 Click **Drivers & Downloads**.
The drivers that are applicable to your selection are displayed.
- 4 Download the drivers to a USB drive, CD, or DVD.

Documentation feedback

You can rate the documentation or write your feedback on any of our Dell EMC documentation pages and click **Send Feedback** to send your feedback.