

# openBSD in ESX ...

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[xAyide](#) 228 posts since

Apr 3, 2005 hi,

Anyone actually got openBSD running under ESX?

I tried the m0n0wall for use as a firewall but it was VERY unstable.

Högs CPUs and is hard to even get it past the si0 init.



[jballon](#) 188 posts since

Apr 14, 2005 **1. Re: openBSD in ESX** Jan 27, 2006 9:05 AM

Yes I have got OpenBSD 3.5 to run in ESX, have to select FreeBSD as the OS. Also use the LSI Logic SCSI Controller rather than the Bus Logic SCSI Controller, which can be changed after initial creation.



[boydd](#) 5,707 posts since

Jun 15, 2004 **2. Re: openBSD in ESX** Jan 27, 2006 9:25 AM

in response to: [jballon](#) I run a few 4.1x vm's - backup DNS servers etc.... Very stable

DB



[xAyide](#) 228 posts since

Apr 3, 2005 **3. Re: openBSD in ESX** Jan 28, 2006 1:13 PM

in response to: [boydd](#) So how did you get OBSD 3.5 to run in vmware ESX except the things you already said? What version of ESX?



[xAyide](#) 228 posts since

Apr 3, 2005 **4. Re: openBSD in ESX** Jan 29, 2006 9:27 AM

in response to: [xAyide](#) Hi,

I got 3.8 to install with lsilogic adapter. Now only thing left is to get the vmwaretools to work. AFAIK openbsd is binary compatible with freebsd which there is tools for. But still it will not install in OpenBSD due to some permission settings. I get "Operation not permitted"



[boydd](#) 5,707 posts since

Jun 15, 2004 **5. Re: openBSD in ESX** Jan 29, 2006 9:32 AM

in response to: [xAyide](#) Sudo - root? Does the script have the permissions?

DB

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[xAyiDe](#) 228 posts since

Apr 3, 2005 6. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Feb 2, 2006 11:45 AM

👤 in response to: [boydd](#) Yeah it has all these. I talked to some guys over at #openbsd on irc they told me maybe I need to do the alternate root thing with a lib folder and freebsd libs to make it work. So I think I skip it and wait for official support or if someone else has a solution.



[AJansson](#) 2 posts since

May 31, 2006 7. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Jun 21, 2006 12:30 AM

Looks like the vic driver made it into the source tree. It *should* be in 3.9 but havent found it. There is some info about it on the -current dev page ( <http://www.openbsd.org/plus.html> :: Some repair to vic(4) so that it might soon work for VMWARE.) so it might included in the 4.0 release.



[reyk](#) 1 posts since

Nov 7, 2006 8. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Nov 7, 2006 7:40 PM

👤 in response to: [AJansson](#) OpenBSD's vic(4) has been fixed and enabled in 4.0-current. It works fine with VMWare Server and has been tested with VMWare Workstation 4.5.2 as well. Nobody tested it with ESX yet. It should also work in 64bit amd64 mode but this is neither tested nor enabled in OpenBSD-current.

ESX testers wanted! Please report to the misc@ OpenBSD mailing list or to directly to the developers [dlg@](mailto:dlg@) and [reyk@](mailto:reyk@).

---snip---

CVSROOT: /cvs

Module name: src

Changes by: [dlg@cvs.openbsd.org](mailto:dlg@cvs.openbsd.org) 2006/11/02 13:45:17

Modified files:

sys/arch/i386/conf: GENERIC RAMDISK\_CD

Log message:

enable vic(4) now that it works.

---snap---



[ForgeFlakshack](#) 27 posts since

Oct 6, 2005 9. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Dec 11, 2006 1:45 PM

👤 in response to: [reyk](#) I'd be happy to test on ESX 3.0, but I can't figure out how to get VMWare to tell OpenBSD to use vmxnet instead of vlane. In ESX 3.0, the network driver is "flexible" which seems to mean that even if I edit the .vmx file so that

```
ethernet0.virtualDev = "vmxnet"
```

as soon as the VM starts, it changes it back to:

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```
ethernet0.virtualDev = "vlance".
```

Any suggestions would be appreciated.



[ReverendDeuce](#) 153 posts since

Jul 15, 2005 10. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Dec 13, 2006 2:17 PM


OpenBSD 4.0 works flawlessly in ESX now (minus vmtools, of course). No special configs are needed. Just configure the VM as "Other" OS, and away you go.

I've been doing a lot of testing with OpenBSD in ESX as we use OpenBSD for our firewalls. It's nice to have a test environment to try out new settings without having to worry about our production HA pair.



[krz](#) 1 posts since

Mar 1, 2007 11. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Mar 1, 2007 2:56 PM


 in response to: [ForgeFlakshack](#) I've just fought with this for three hours. Googling around - found nothing. But I was sure there has to be "the way". So this is what you have to do to change virtualDev to "vmxnet"

1. Power off the VM
2. Edit manually .vmx file
3. Using Virt. Infr. Client connect **directly** to esx host . Not to Virt. Center service ! Log in as root to service console.
4. Power on OpenBSD VM from there.
5. Voila



[xAyiDe](#) 228 posts since

Apr 3, 2005 12. **Re: openBSD in ESX** Jul 13, 2007 2:09 PM

 in response to: [krz](#) I would give a go with e1000 instead