

Create a Linked Clone

A linked clone is a VMware virtual machine that shares the virtual disk of the source virtual machine or system image. Linked clones are useful for quickly checking the compatibility of non-VMware images, such as .sv2i and .vmc files.

You can create linked clones only when you convert a virtual machine or other image source to a hosted destination.

You cannot create linked clones from Parallels source images.

You cannot create a linked clone if the source image is password-protected.



CAUTION Linked clones converted from Virtual PC and Virtual Server machines, and from LiveState images are corrupted if the source is modified or powered on after the conversion.

Prerequisites

Turn off the source virtual machine.

To verify that your source type is a supported third-party source, see “Supported Source Types,” on page 23.

Procedure

- 1 On the Destination System page, select **VMware Workstation or other VMware virtual machine** as a destination and click **Next**.
- 2 On the Options page, click **Data to copy** in the left pane.
- 3 In the **Data copy type** drop-down menu, select **Linked clone**.
- 4 Save your settings.

Option	Description
Select another option from the options list	Saves your settings and displays the pane for the selected option.
Click Next	Saves your settings and displays the next page of the Conversion wizard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Customizations page is displayed if you select Customize guest preferences for the virtual machine in the Advanced options pane. ■ The Summary page is displayed if you do not select Customize guest preferences for the virtual machine in the Advanced options pane.

You have set up a conversion task to create a linked clone.

Edit the Number of Processors

You can change the number of processors that the destination virtual machine uses.

Prerequisites

Make sure the destination host and the guest operating system support the number of processors you assign to the destination virtual machine.

On the Options page of the Conversion wizard, click **Devices** in the options list.