

Walt Mossberg, The Wall Street Journal

Parallels Desktop for Mac *versus* Microsoft Virtual PC

"Run Windows and Mac OS X at the same time. Parallels Desktop for Mac is Fast, Secure & Flexible."

Product	Parallels Desktop for Mac	Virtual PC 7 – Microsoft Decided to Discontinue Product
Company	Parallels	Microsoft
Price	\$79.99, free 15 day trial available Cost of Operating System and Software is additional	\$219 (with Windows XP Home) \$249 (with Windows XP Pro) \$129 (without Windows)
Host System	Mac OS X 10.4.6 or later NEW! Support for developer build Mac OS X 10.5 "Leopard" NEW! Full Support 64-bit Mac Pro Towers & 64-bit iMac	Mac OS X 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4
Guest OS	Windows 3.1, 3.11, 95, 98, Me, NT, 2000, XP, 2003, Linux, FreeBSD, OS/2, eComStation, Solaris, MS-DOS, OPENSTEP RC2 update – Experimental Windows Vista support	Windows XP Home & Pros
Performance	Near-Native (Intel x86, Intel VT-x & AMD SVM)	Slow performance (Power PC)
Optimization Tool	Parallels Compressor Free (\$49.99 value) Optimize performance & Hard Disk space Reduces virtual drive size by 50% or more.	None
Download Size	23 MB	17.1 MB
Partitioning	No hardware partitioning required [Virtualization*]	No Hardware Partitioning Required [Virtualization*]
Windows/Mac OS Integration	Instantly switch between Windows & Mac without restarting File Sharing between Windows & Mac is simple Cut and Paste between Windows & Mac Run Windows side-by-side with Mac Time & Mouse synchronization available	Instantly switch between Windows & Mac without restarting File sharing between Windows & Mac is simple Cut and paste between Windows & Mac Run Windows side-by-side with Mac Support drag and drop between Windows & Mac
Hardware/Devices	USB 1.1, Mac hardware support, web camera, Windows Mobile 5, CD/DVD (read data disc & installations) Support will be added for 3D Accelerator, CD/DVD Optical Media (music CD's & DVD videos), USB 2.0, & multiple NIC's	Supports printing with no configuration; supports camera, supports Palm PDA, & supports USB. No support for 3D Graphics, no support for CD/DVD writeable or audio, no support for cell phones.
Security	Parallels virtual machine uses shared networking blocking any file-infecting viruses from reaching your Windows operating system.	Disable File Sharing & Drag & Drop to prevent Malicious software from damaging your Mac files.
Networking	Networking & Internet access pre-configured	Connection Sharing feature and on-the-fly connection swapping
Support	Email, discussion forums, online documentations & per-incident phone (\$29.99)	Email support, newsgroups, online documentations & phone.

* Each Parallels virtual machine works exactly like a stand alone machine, and works with its own RAM, processors, CD/DVD drive, etc. – everything a real computer contains.