

Parallels Workstation versus VMware Workstation <i>"Parallels Desktop for Mac is Fast, Secure & Flexible."</i>		
Product	Parallels Workstation	VMware Workstation – Includes VM Player
Company	Parallels	VMware
Summary	TCO: Affordable - \$79.89 (Price + Support) Performance: Fast - Intel VT (Virtualization Technology) Ease of Use: Easy Setup, Installation & Configuration	TCO: Expensive \$889.99 (Price, Support & Training) Performance: Slower – Intel VT Experimental Support Ease of Use: 30+ questions to install VMware on Linux
Target Audience	IT Professionals (IT Departments) & End Users	Developers & Testers
Scenarios	Test Software before full roll out into IT department Run legacy applications on top of any Operating System Simulate help desk support issues to assist end users Simulate computer environments for Training	Test Software on Multiple Operating Systems or simulated computing environments
Price	\$49.99 Add Support: \$29.99 per incident	\$189.99 downloaded version, \$199.99 boxed version Add Support: \$90 per incident; Add Training: \$600.00
Performance	Near-Native (Intel x86, Intel VT-x & AMD SVM) <i>Faster than VMware due to full support of VT-x</i>	Near-Native (Intel x86 & VT-x Experimental Support, Virtual SMP)
Virtualization Tools	Parallels Compressor \$49.99 Optimize performance & Hard Disk space Reduces virtual drive size by 50% or more.	None
Guest & Host Integration	Shared folders, copying & pasting between guest and host, and time/mouse synchronization.	Shared folders, drag-and-drop operations, and copying and pasting between guest and host.
Configurability	Each virtual machine has configurable memory size, disks, and I/O devices. The ability to simulate "real-world" networking configurations between virtual machines.	Each virtual machine has configurable memory size, disks, and I/O devices. Teams feature to more easily manage connected virtual machines and simulate "real-world" multi-tier configurations
Manageability of Virtual Machines	Pause VM; <i>Simpler & faster than VMware's suspend option</i> Create clones of guest instances. <i>Support will be added for multiple snapshots in version 3.0</i>	Suspend VM Multiple snapshots to capture and manage point-in-time copies of running virtual machines and "undo" changes. Command line interface to automate certain repetitive tasks, including snapshots & movie record/playback.

Host OS	<p>Microsoft Windows: Windows Server 2003 Standard & Enterprise; Windows XP Professional & Home; Windows 2000 Professional & Server RC2 update – Experimental Windows Vista support</p> <p>Linux Distributions: Fedora Core 4; Red Hat Enterprise; Red Hat Linux 9; Debian; SUSE; Mandriva Linux 10.</p>	<p>Microsoft Windows: Windows Server 2003 (32- and 64-bit); Windows XP Professional & Home (32- and 64-bit); Windows 2000 Professional & Server</p> <p>Linux Distributions: Red Hat; SUSE; Ubuntu; Mandrake; Select RHEL and SLES 64-bit OS's; Experimental support for Ubuntu Linux 5.04 and 5.10 (64-bit)</p>
Guest OS	<p>Microsoft Windows: Windows 2003 Standard, Enterprise & Web; Windows XP Professional & Home; Windows 2000 Professional, Server & Advanced Server; Windows NT Workstation 4.0 & Server 4.0; Windows ME, 98, 95, 3.11, 3.1</p> <p>Linux Distributions: Fedora Core; Red Hat Enterprise; Red Hat; Debian; SUSE; Mandriva Linux</p> <p>Other: FreeBSD; OS/2 warp; eComStation; Sun Solaris 9, 10; MS-DOS</p>	<p>Microsoft Windows: Windows Server 2003 (32- and 64-bit); Windows XP (32- and 64-bit); Windows 2000 Professional and Server; Windows NT® Workstation and Server 4.0; Windows Me, 98, 95, 3.1; Experimental support for Windows "Vista", Windows "Vista" x64 Edition</p> <p>Linux distributions: Red Hat (32- and 64-bit); SUSE (32- and 64-bit); Turbolinux; Mandrake</p> <p>Other: FreeBSD; MS-DOS; Novell NetWare Server; Experimental support for Ubuntu, Free BSD 64-bit and Sun Solaris 9 and 10 (32- and 64-bit) for the x86 platform</p>
Pre-Installed Virtual Machines	<p>None VMware's virtual appliances are not configurable and they cost.</p>	<p>250 VMware virtual appliances—which provide robust solutions for security, network applications, databases, communications and business applications.</p>
Hardware/Devices	<p>USB 1.1, web camera, Windows Mobile 5, CD/DVD (read data disc & installations), Sound support & Wifi support. Support will be added for 3D Accelerator, CD/DVD Optical Media (music CD's & DVD videos), USB 2.0, & multiple NIC's</p>	<p>USB 1.1, web camera, CD/DVD support. Virtual networking options with NAT devices, DHCP server, and multiple network switches, let you connect virtual machines to each other, the host machine, and public networks & Wifi Support.</p>

*EWeek.com ran the BAPCO Internet Content Creation test (from BAPCO's Sysmark 2004 benchmark test suite) on Parallels Workstation with and without VT and noticed a 4 to 5 % increase of performance when Parallels used Intel VT-X.