

# Assignment

*by* Connor Morrison

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Front Sheet

**OS install and Setup**

|                           |                                                |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CANDIDATE NAME</b>     | Connor Morrison                                |
| <b>MODULE</b>             | Introduction to Computer Systems<br>(ACCA4021) |
| <b>FACULTY NAME</b>       | Nathan Morgan                                  |
| <b>DATE OF SUBMISSION</b> | 01/06/2026                                     |

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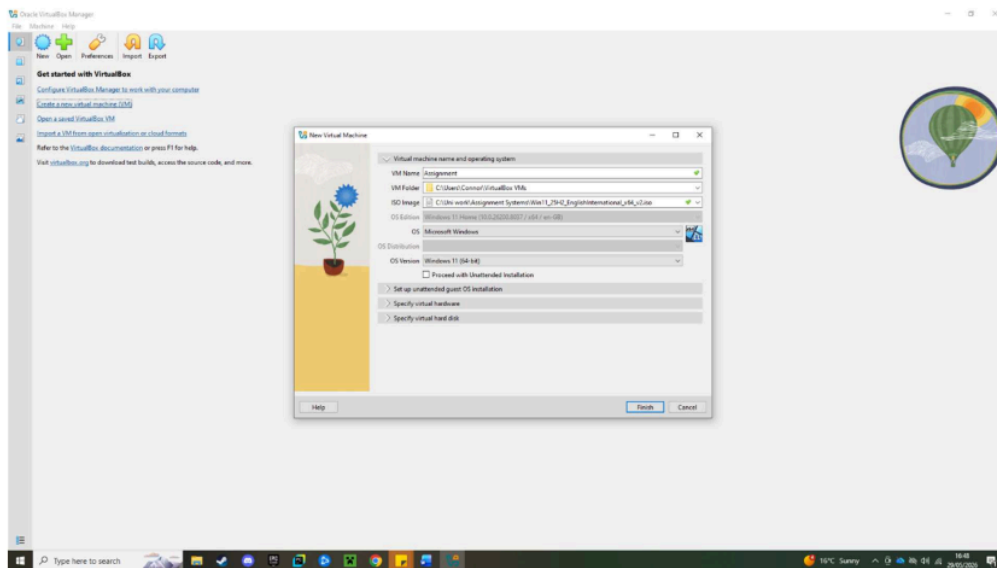
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## Introduction

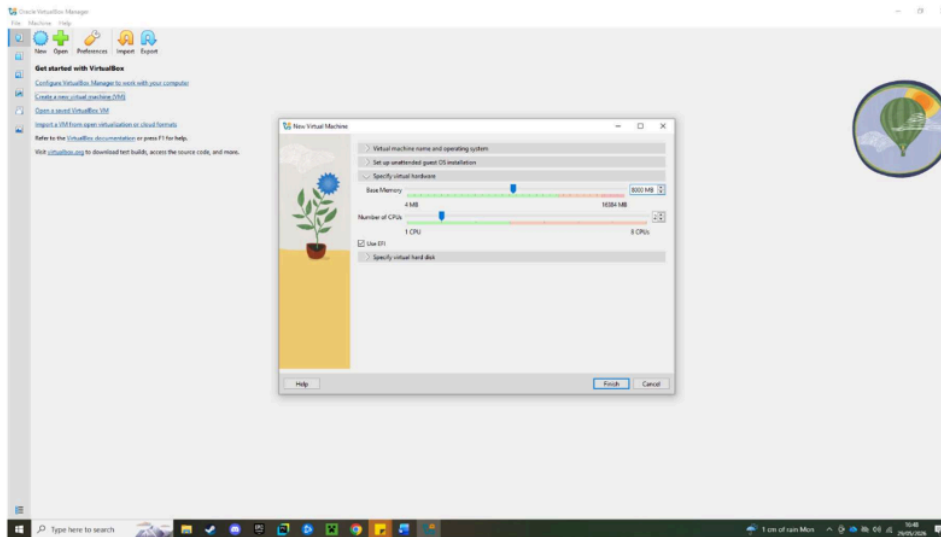
Using Oracle VirtualBox software, the installation and customisation of a windows operating system with demonstrations of software drivers being well-configured with installation of appropriate Office applications.

## Creating a new VM

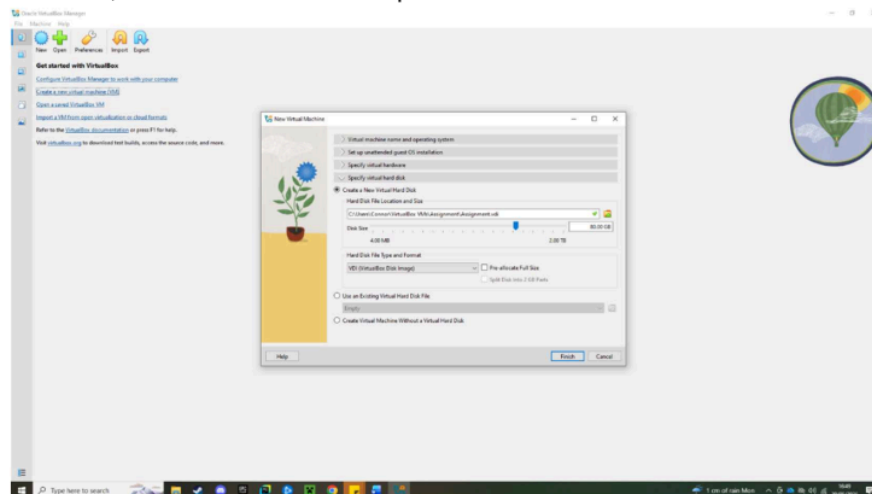


Setting up the virtual machine, a new folder is allocated for the task with the files hosted as a backup in a separate folder. Unattended installation has not been selected, as this is an automated process with a pre-written configuration, with this creation of the virtual machine an attended installation was needed as it allows the use of manual choices for each of the sections of the virtual machine, this will allow it to be setup to work with the hosts specifications as to what the host machine can handle.

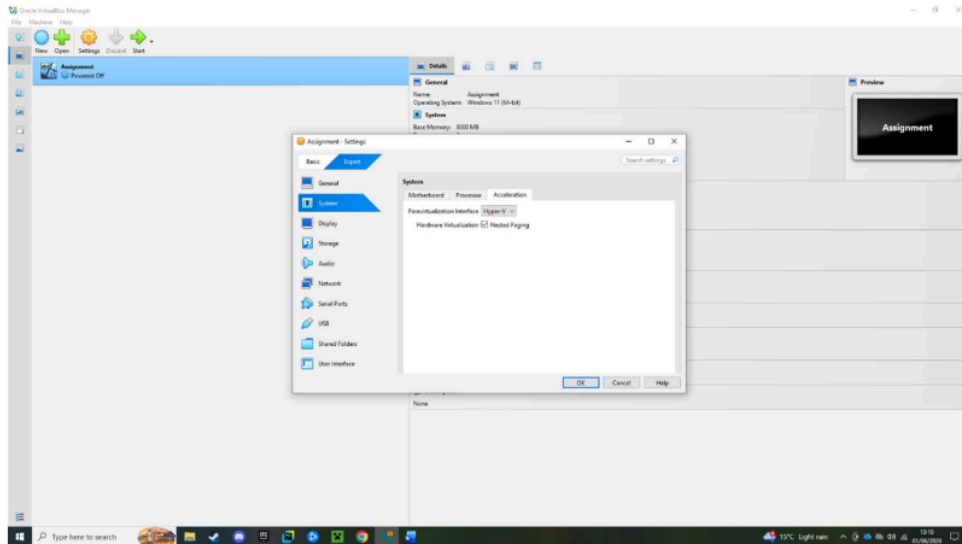
When allocating memory for the virtual machine 8000MB was chosen, it was deemed a high enough allocation to allow the virtual machine to perform without degradation to the program, without exceeding past 50% of the hosts total RAM. Two vCPUs are allocated to allow the virtual machine to run at acceptable speeds. Each vCPU represents a thread that can execute tasks simultaneously. Ideally 4 vCPUs would have been allocated however the host computer system cannot support that.



For the hard drives the VDI has been selected, this is the default virtual hard drive for oracle and has been optimized to be compatible and stable when running the program, it is used to store the virtual machines operating system and files. 80GB of disk size has been allocated as it is slightly over the minimum need to run the virtual machine, this allows for smooth updates and software installation.

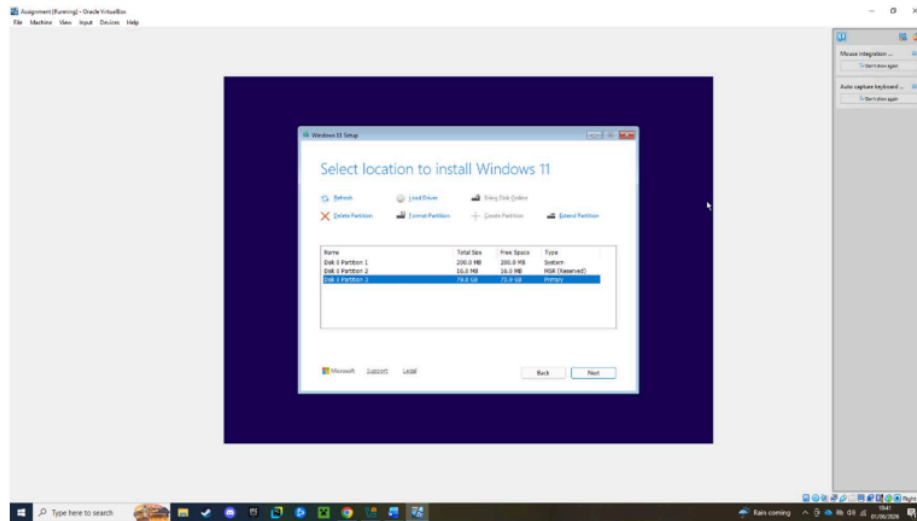


When going through the Expert setting to optimize the virtual machine research was done into what the recommended setting were and explanations as to why this is, after comparing the settings to the research conducted and the default settings, the only change made was to the paravirtualization interface.



For paravirtualization interface, Hyper-V was selected instead of the default as it currently supports paravirtualized clocks, APIC frequency reporting, guest debugging, guest crash reporting and relaxed timer checks. [1] From the research conducted this was the recommendation for Windows.

With the VM setup, Windows 11 is then installed on it, for this virtual machine Windows 11 pro was selected and it was installed on the primary partition, each of the partitions has a different function, the first used for programs, the second for data and files and the primary for the operating system.

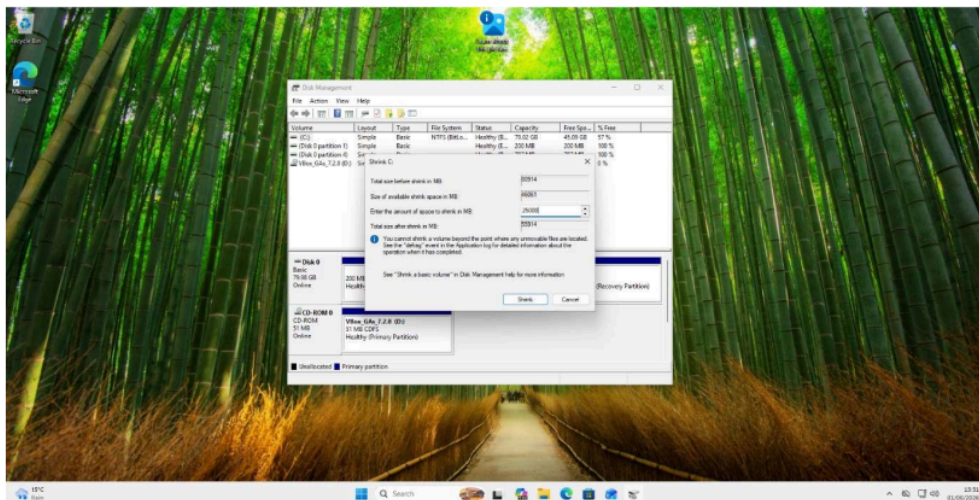
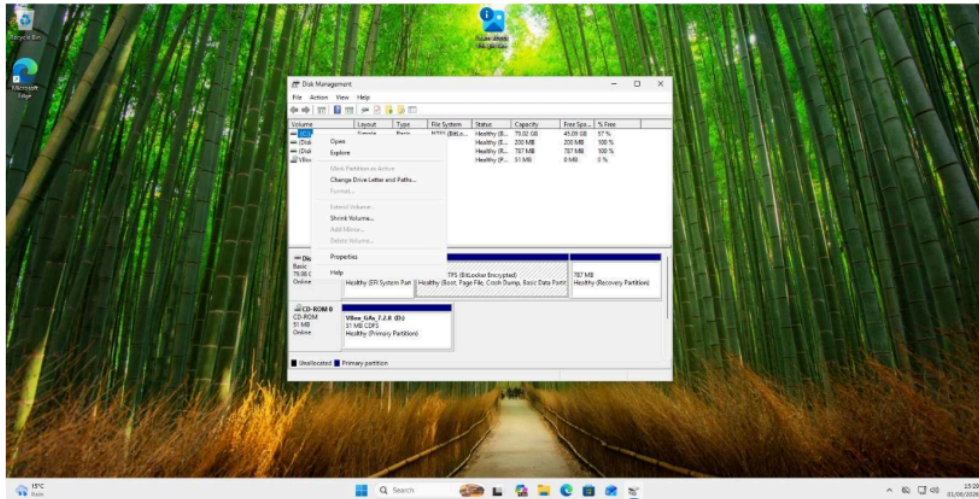


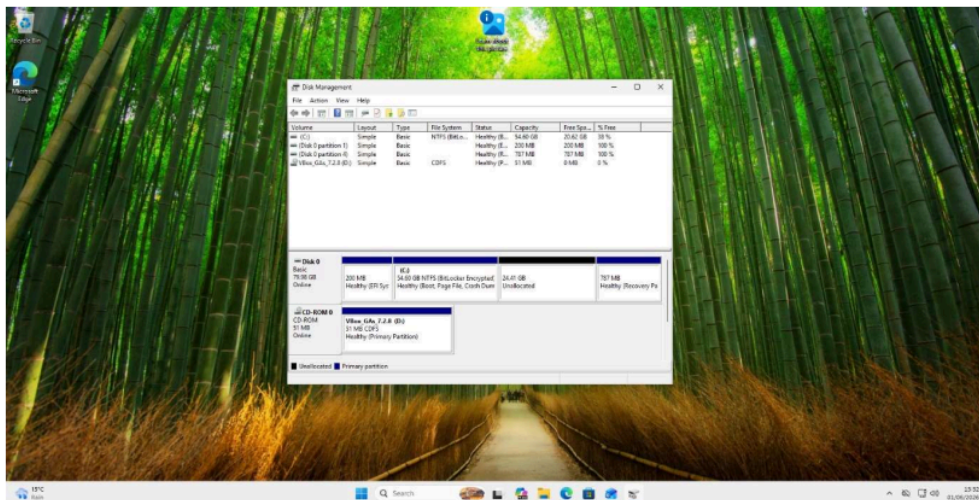
With the installation of Windows on the virtual machine, installing Oracle VirtualBox guest additions is next, this is a plug-in software that has multiple benefits for the virtual machine, such as, [2] Mouse pointer integration, which provides seamless mouse support, Shared folders which provides an easy way for the exchange of files between the host and guest, better video support which will allow the resizing of the virtual machines window, Time synchronization and Seamless windows, the individual windows that are displayed on the desktop of the virtual machine can be mapped on the host's desktop, as if the underlying application was actually running on the host.

## Splitting Partitions

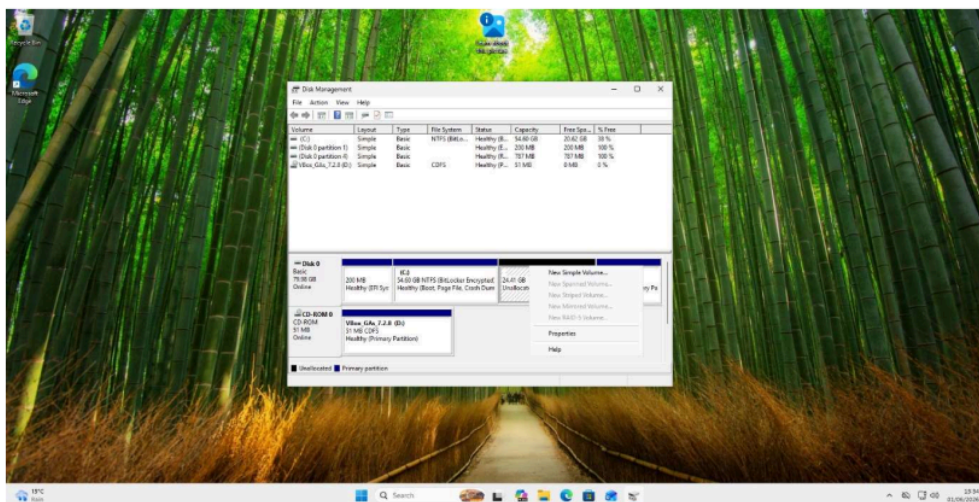
Now that the virtual machine is setup and configured correctly, the initial drive (C:) will be split into two separate drives where any data can be saved to the second drive.

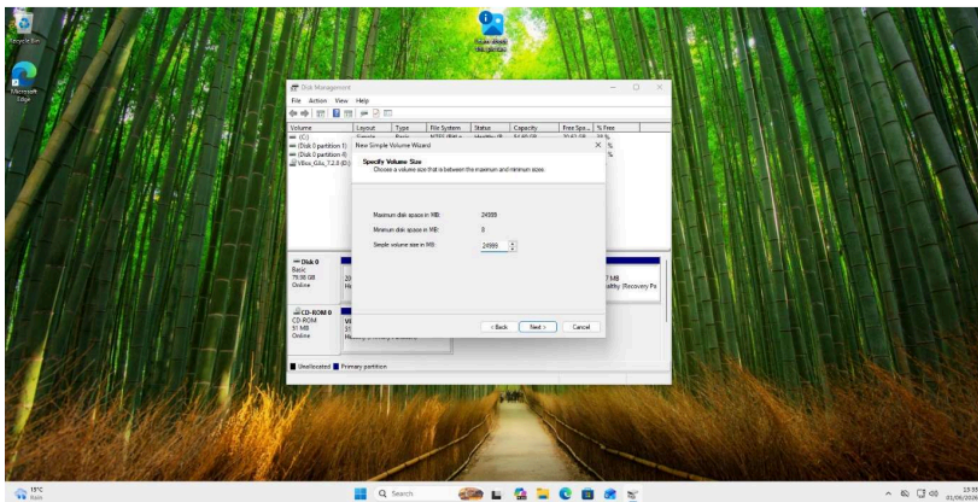
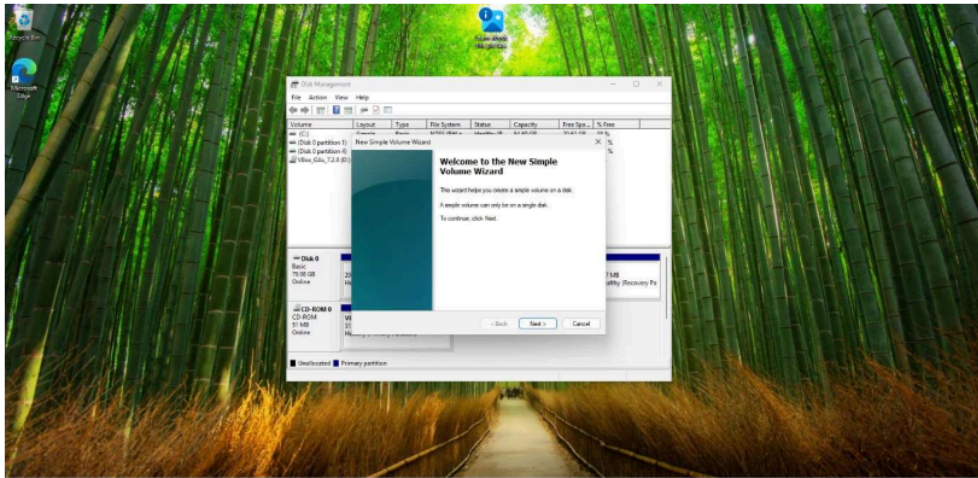
First disk management is opened, and the initial drives space needs to be shrunk to allow space for a second drive.

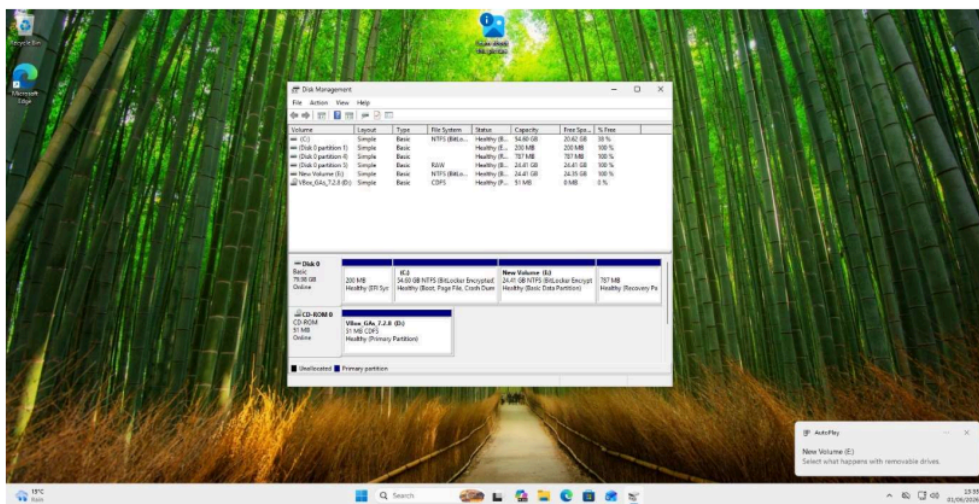
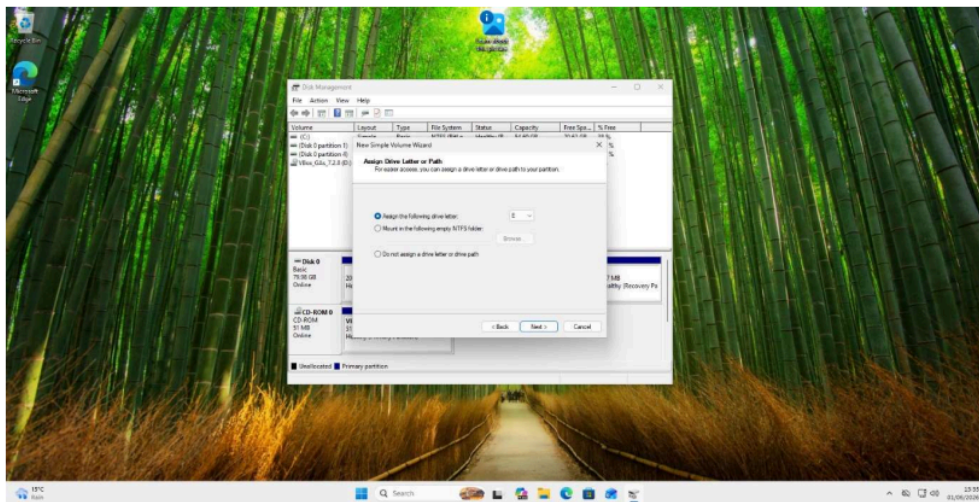




Now that the initial drive has been shrunk it is now showing a black bar labelled Unallocated space by right clicking on it and selecting New Simple Volume a new drive can be created.



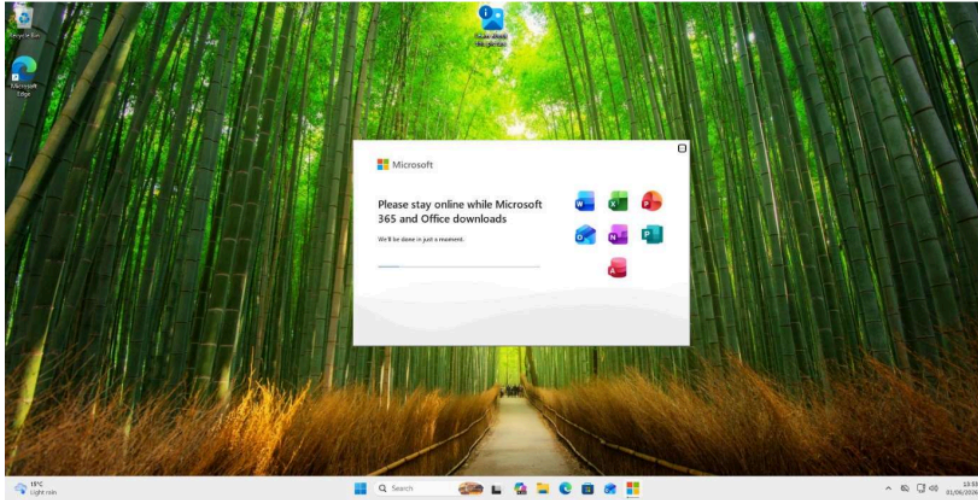




Now there is a second drive (E:) that we can store files into.

## Installing Office 365

The final step will be installing a 'office' type software onto the virtual machine; Office 365 has been selected for this.



The files were saved into the additionally created drive labelled E: as well as any additional files saved with the use of Microsoft office software.

## References

[1] Oracle, "3.4. Paravirtualization Providers", docs.oracle.com [Online] Available:

<https://docs.oracle.com/en/virtualization/virtualbox/6.0/admin/gimproviders.html>

[Accessed 27 May 2026]

[2] VirtualBox, "4.1. Introduction to Guest Additions", virtualbox.org [Online] Available:

<https://www.virtualbox.org/manual/ch04.html> [Accessed 30 May 2026]

# Assignment

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## GRADEMARK REPORT

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FINAL GRADE

42/100

GENERAL COMMENTS

### Engagement with Literature Skills

Only 2 sources submitted against a 5-source minimum. Both are Tier 1 (Oracle and VirtualBox official docs), correctly cited in-body as [1] and [2] in IEEE format

no sources cover partitioning, Windows installation, drivers, or office software.

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### Knowledge and Understanding Skills

RAM (50% host rule), CPU (threading rationale, host limitation acknowledged), VDI (default/stability), 80 GB sizing, and Hyper-V paravirtualization (well-researched with source) are all explained with genuine reasoning.

Network settings and all Part 2 driver parameters are entirely absent.

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### Practical Application Skills

VM creation is documented with settings screenshots and supporting Oracle docs evidence

Windows 11 Setup partition selection screen is captured

partitioning is the strongest section - 8 sequential screenshots document the full process from shrink

through to E: drive completion.

Part 2 driver setup is entirely absent: no Device Manager or Control Panel screenshots, no hardware interfaces named or discussed.

Office 365 is evidenced only by a download-in-progress screen; no completed installation or file-location screenshots are provided.

22/50

### **Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice**

Title page present (name, module, staff, date)

ToC present but all sections are unnumbered.

None of the 14 screenshots carry figure numbers or captions, and there is no table of figures.

vCPU, VDI, and RAM are not expanded on first use; "seconded" appears in place of "second".

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**Total: 42/100**

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