

## Getting Connected - VDI

Jen Sommerfeldt - 2024-04-05 - VDI

# Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI)

## Information about VDI at the School of Nursing

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) is defined as the hosting of desktop environments on a central server. Desktops are run on virtual machines (VMs) and are delivered to users over the network to a Thin Client, Horizon desktop application or in a browser window.

Additionally, VDI can be used to provide applications, hosted on a virtual server, to users from any location. Below you will find information and instructions about this service.

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### What is the difference between Remote Desktop and VDI?

**Remote Desktop** is a program or an operating system feature that allows a user to connect to a computer in another location; such as connecting to your desktop located within the School of Nursing from a laptop or home computer. Remote Desktop uses your computer's assigned IP address or computer name to connect, after authenticating with your PennKey username and password. Remote Desktop icons:

#### Windows



#### Mac



**VDI** is service provided by ITS to access a virtual machine (VM) hosted by one of our cloud vendors. VMs will have all the same access to file shares, email and applications that you have with a physical desktop. But can be accessed from a Thin Client, Horizon application, or web browser. Instructions for using VDI continue below.

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## **Configuration Instructions for the School of Nursing VDI service**

### **What applications are included in the VDI service?**

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Adobe Acrobat DC         | SPSS                 |
| Amos                     | Stata IC             |
| Atlas.ti                 | Stat Transfer        |
| Mplus Editor             | Microsoft Access     |
| NVivo                    | Microsoft Excel      |
| R - 32/64 Bit & R Studio | Microsoft PowerPoint |
| SAS                      | Microsoft Word       |

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### **Using VDI for application access from your School of Nursing Desktop**

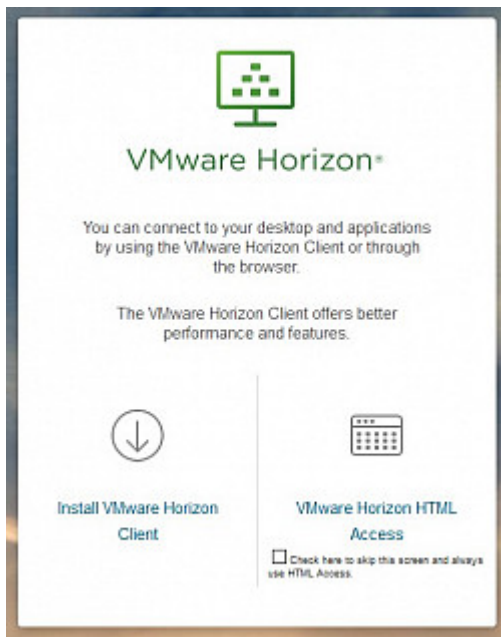
The VMware Horizon client is installed on all School of Nursing desktops. Open the Horizon client by double clicking the icon on the desktop. The Horizon Client will automatically log you into the application. Once there you will see all the applications available for use.



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## Using VDI for a Windows 10 desktop or application access from anywhere using a web browser

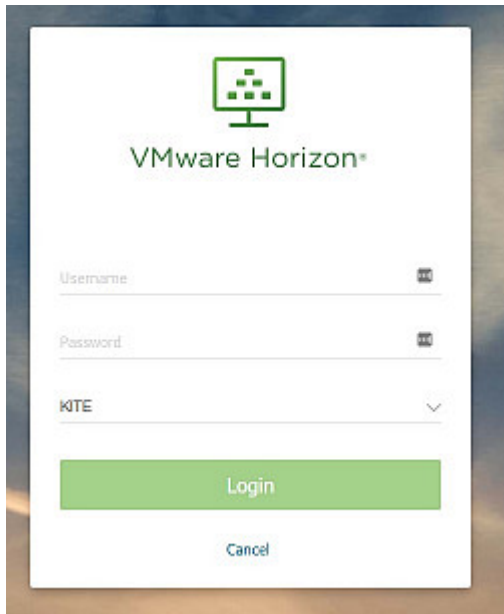
1. Open your browser and enter the following in the address bar:  
**<https://virtual.nursing.upenn.edu>**
2. You will then see two options, **Install VMware Horizon Client** or **VMware Horizon HTML Access**



1. Select **VMware Horizon HTML Access** and this will take you to the log in page. You will then be prompted to log in using your PennKey credentials. The format is:

User name: **pennkey**

Password: ***your PennKey password***

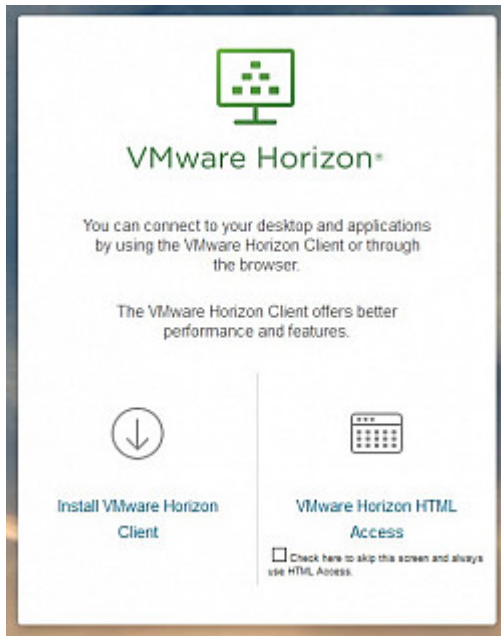


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**Using VDI for a Windows 10 desktop or application access from anywhere  
by installing the Horizon Client on your Windows device**

**\*\*\*Note: The installation of the Horizon Client requires a reboot. Please save your work.\*\*\***

1. Open your browser and enter the following in the address bar:  
<https://virtual.nursing.upenn.edu>
2. You will then see two options, **Install VMware Horizon Client** or **VMware Horizon HTML Access**
3. Click the link that says **Install VMware Horizon Client**



1. You will be directed to the VMware site. Select **Go to Downloads** next to

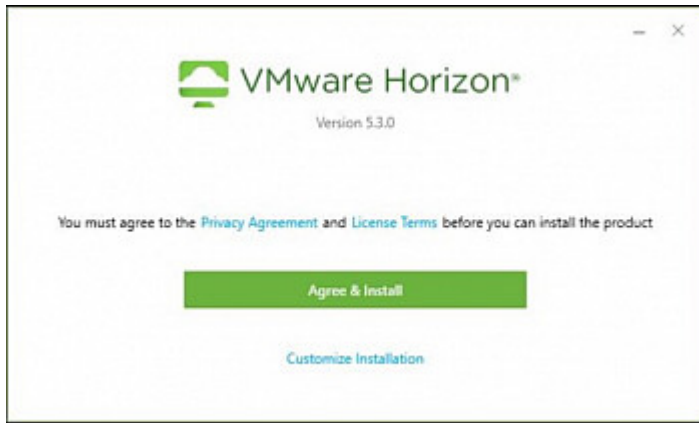
**VMware Horizon Client for Windows**, then click **Download**

A red arrow points to the "Windows OS" column header. Below it, a table lists products. The first row is "VMware Horizon Client for Windows" with a release date of "2019-12-12" and a "Go to Downloads" link.

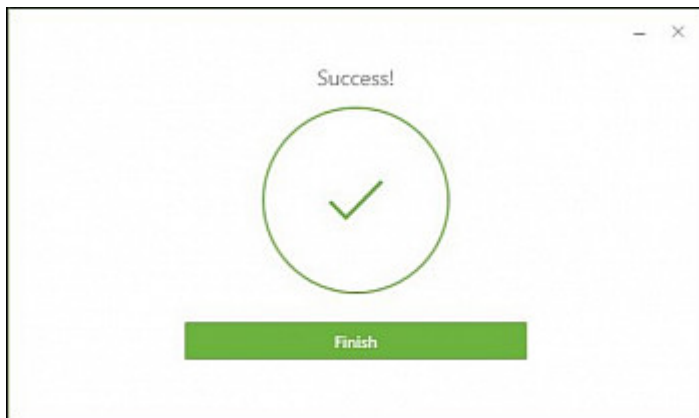
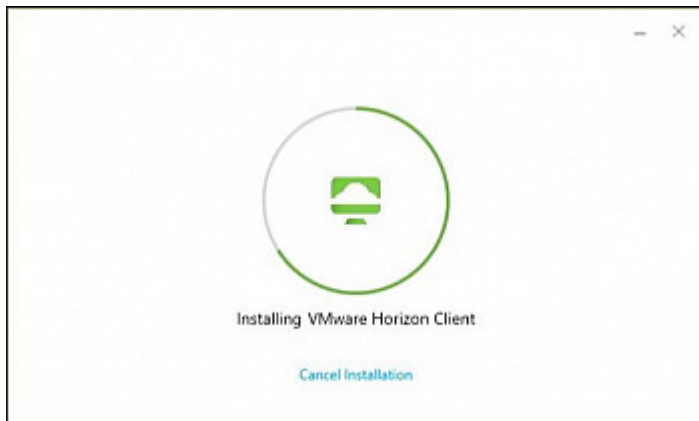
| Product                           | Release Date |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| VMware Horizon Client for Windows | 2019-12-12   |

The page title is "Download VMware Horizon Client for Windows". It includes a "Product Resources" sidebar with links like "View My Download History", "Product Info", "Documentation", "Horizon Mobile Client Privacy", and "Horizon Community". Below the sidebar, there are tabs for "Product Downloads", "Drivers & Tools", "Open Source", and "Custom ISOs". The "Product/Details" section shows "VMware Horizon Client for Windows" with a file size of 218.61 MB and a file type of exe file. A red arrow points to a "Download" button.

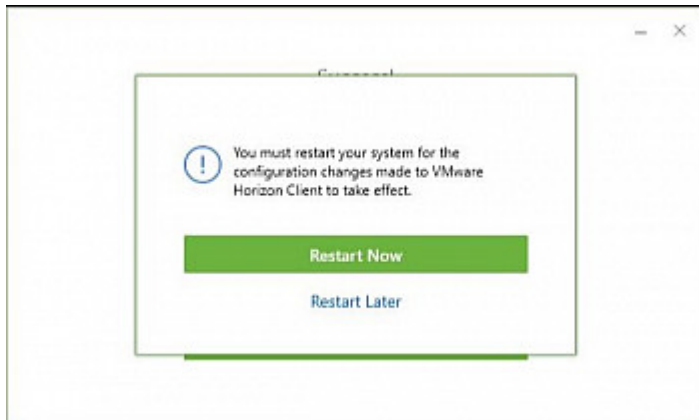
1. Once the installer has downloaded to your computer, double click to run it. The VMware Horizon Client Setup window opens. Click **"Agree & Install"**.



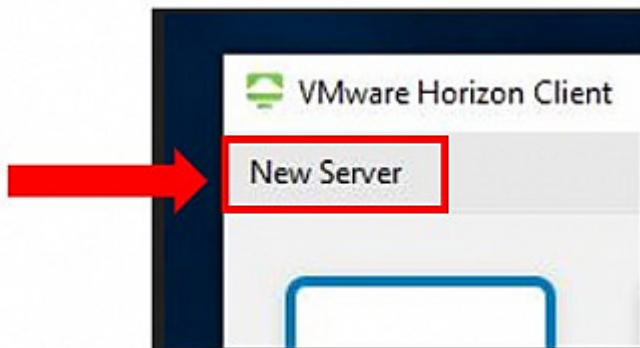
1. The Installing VMware Horizon Client window will open and install the client. Click "**Finish**" when the installation is complete.



1. A window will pop up and ask you to restart the computer. Save and close all work, then select "**Restart Now**" to restart and complete the Horizon Client installation.

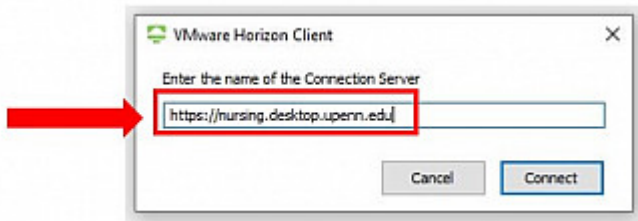


1. When the computer comes back up, you will see the Horizon Client shortcut on the desktop. Double Click the Horizon Client shortcut and the Horizon Client will open up. Click on the **“New Server”** button in the top left corner to add the connection server.



1. A box pops up to **“Enter the name of the Connection Server”**.

Type: <https://nursing.desktop.upenn.edu> then click **“Connect”**



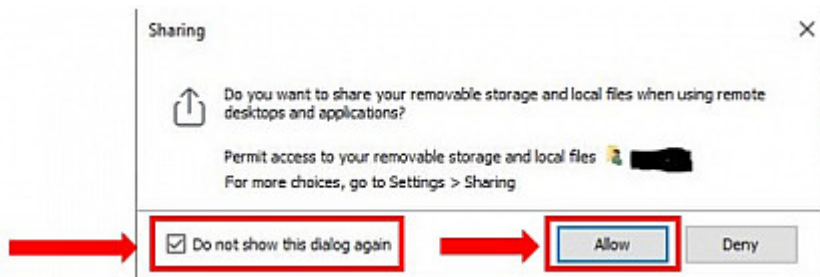
1. The login box pops up next for you to log into the Horizon Client. The format is:

User name: **pennkey**

Password: ***your PennKey password***

1. After you log in, a screen will pop up and ask if you would like to allow access to local files. This is your C:\ drive (Local Hard Drive).

Check the “**Do not show this dialog again**” box (bottom left) then click the “**Allow**” button.



1. You will then see a Windows 10 desktop available **Nursing Windows Desktop**.

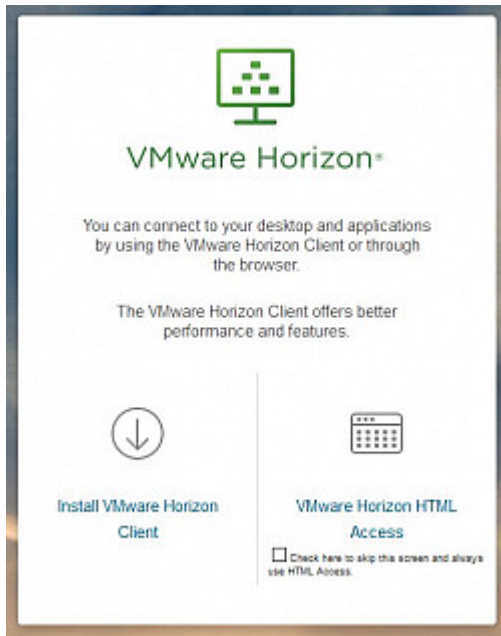
Double click on any application to open. Network drives and files can be accessed both from inside any application or by opening the **Nursing Windows Desktop**.

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### Using VDI for a Windows 10 desktop or application access from anywhere by installing the Horizon Client on your Mac OS device

1. Open your browser and enter the following in the address bar:  
**https://virtual.nursing.upenn.edu**
2. You will then see two options, **Install VMware Horizon Client** or **VMware Horizon HTML Access**
3. Click the link that says **Install VMware Horizon Client**

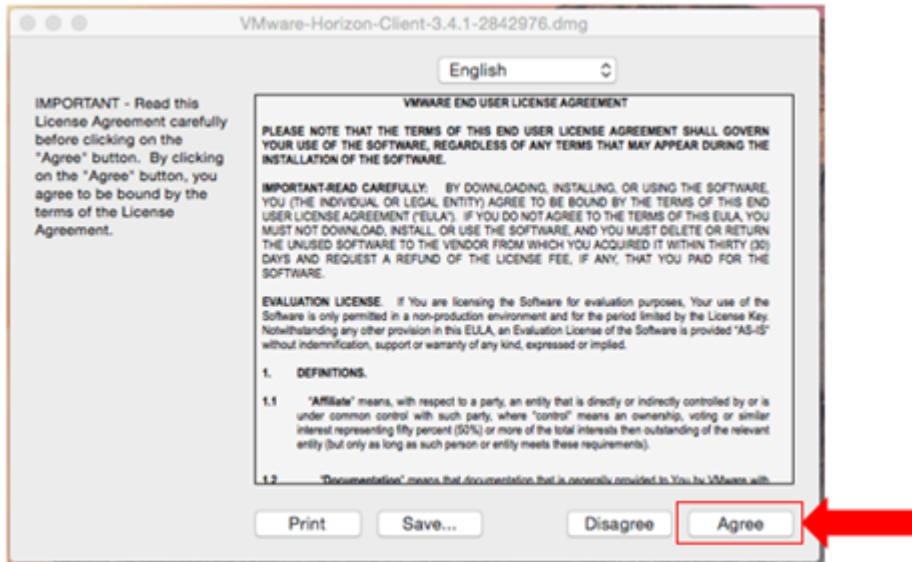




1. You will be directed to the VMware site. Select Go to Downloads next to **VMware Horizon Client for macOS**, then click **Download**

| Product  | Release Date                               |
|--|--|
| ▼ VMware Horizon Client for Windows                                  |  |
| VMware Horizon Client for Windows                                    | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| ▼ VMware Horizon Client for Windows 10 UWP                           |  |
| VMware Horizon Client for Windows 10 UWP                             | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| VMware Horizon Client for Windows 10 UWP for x86-based devices       | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| ▼ VMware Horizon Client for Mac                                      |  |
| VMware Horizon Client for Mac  | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| ▼ VMware Horizon Client for Linux                                    |  |
| VMware Horizon Client for 64-bit Linux                               | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| VMware Horizon Client for 32-bit Linux                               | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| ▼ VMware Horizon Client for iOS                                      |  |
| VMware Horizon Client for iOS  | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| ▼ VMware Horizon Client for Android                                  |  |
| The VMware Horizon client for Android ARM based devices              | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| The VMware Horizon client for Android x86 based devices              | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| VMware Horizon Client for Kindle Fire in Amazon Appstore for Android | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |
| VMware Horizon Client for Android in the Google Play Store           | 2016-12-08 <a href="#">Go to Downloads</a> |

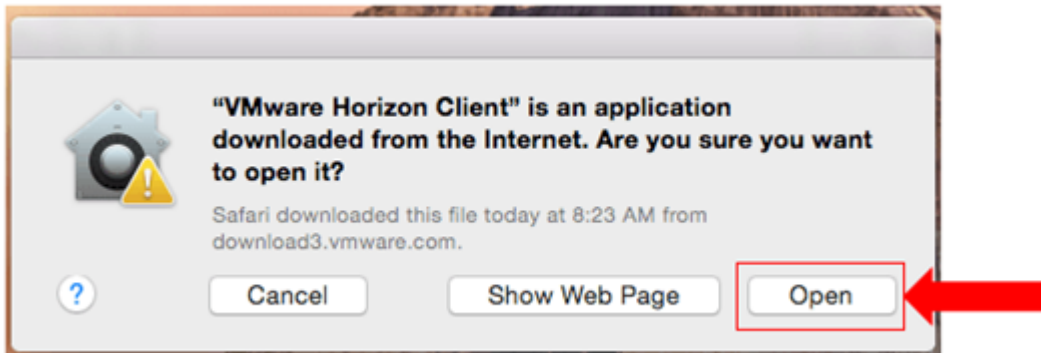
1. Once the installer has downloaded to your computer, go to your downloads and double the file to begin the install. The user license agreement will open, click **"Agree"**.



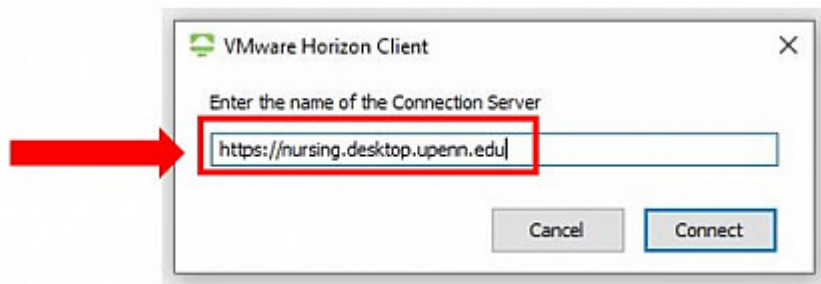
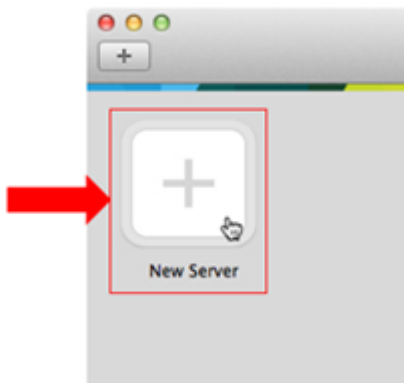
1. When the VMWare Horizon Client window appears, drag the “**VMWare Horizon Client icon**” to the Applications folder.



1. Within the applications folder, locate the installer and double click to open it.
2. The first time you launch the VMWare Horizon Client, you may see a security popup asking if you want to open the file. Click the “**Open**” button.



1. When you open up VMware Horizon Client click "**New Server**" or "+" and the connection server box pops up. Type in the connection server name "**https://nursing.desktop.upenn.edu**". Make sure "**Always connect at launch**" box is checked. Then click "connect".



1. The login box pops up next for you to log into the Horizon Client. The format is:

User name: **pennkey**

Password: ***your PennKey password***

1. After you log in, a screen will pop up and ask if you would like to allow access to local files.

This is your C:\ drive (Local Hard Drive). Check the "**Do not show this dialog again**" box (bottom left) then click the "**Allow**" button.



1. You will then see a Windows 10 desktop available **Nursing Windows Desktop**.

Double

click on any application to open. Network drives and files can be accessed both from inside any application or by opening the Nursing Windows Desktop.

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### Using VDI on iOS (iPhone, iPad) devices

- Search for the free VMware Horizon Client in the App Store
- Install the app
- Enter the hostname: **nursing.desktop.upenn.edu** and click Connect
  - User name: **pennkey**
  - Password: ***your PennKey password***

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### Using VDI on Android devices

- Search for the free VMware Horizon Client in the Google Play store
- Install the app
- Launch the app and enter the server name: nursing.desktop.upenn.edu
- Click Connect
  - User name: **pennkey**
  - Password: ***your PennKey password***

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## Contacts

☐ 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

☎ (215) 898-5981

[Email us](#)

418 Curie Blvd, Suite #202

[Open a Ticket](#)