

# **Sun Fire X4640 Server ESX Installation Guide**

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# Preface

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This preface describes related documentation, submitting feedback, and a document change history.

- “Product Information Web Site” on page 5
- “Related Books” on page 5
- “About This Documentation (PDF and HTML)” on page 7
- “We Welcome Your Comments” on page 8
- “Change History” on page 8

## Product Information Web Site

For information about the Sun Fire X4640 server, go to the following web site:

<http://www.oracle.com/goto/x86>

Click “Previous Products” from the left nav menu.

At that site, you can find links to the documentation, parts lists and downloads.

## Related Books

The following is a list of documents related to your Oracle Sun Fire X4640 server. These and additional support documents are available on the web at:

<http://docs.sun.com/app/docs/prod/server.x64#hic>

Document Group	Document	Description
Sun Fire X4640 Server-Specific Documentation	Sun Fire X4640 Server Product Documentation	Integrated HTML version of all starred (*) documents, including Search and Index.
	<i>Sun Fire X4640 Server Getting Started Guide</i>	Pictorial setup quick reference.

Document Group	Document	Description
	<a href="#">“Installation Overview” in <i>Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide</i>*</a>	How to install, rack, and configure the server up to initial power-on.
	<a href="#">“Overview of the Sun Fire X4640 Server Product Notes” in <i>Sun Fire X4640 Server Product Notes</i>*</a>	Important late-breaking information about the Sun Fire X4640 server.
	<a href="#">“Introduction to Sun Installation Assistant” in <i>Sun Installation Assistant 2.3 through 2.4 User’s Guide for x64 Servers</i>*</a>	A Sun tool used to perform an assisted installation of a supported Windows or Linux OS, upgrade firmware (regardless of OS), and other tasks.
	<a href="#">Introduction to Solaris OS and OpenSolaris Installation*</a>	How to install the Solaris OS on your server.
	<a href="#">“Introduction to Linux Installation” in <i>Sun Fire X4640 Server Linux Installation Guide</i>*</a>	How to install a supported Linux OS on your server.
	<a href="#">“Introduction to Windows Installation” in <i>Sun Fire X4640 Server Windows Installation Guide</i>*</a>	How to install supported versions of Microsoft Windows on your server.
	<a href="#">“Introduction to ESX Installation” on page 9*</a>	How to install supported versions of the ESX OS on your server.
	<a href="#">Sun ILOM 3.0 Supplement for the Sun Fire X4640 Server*</a>	Version-specific supplemental information for your server’s <i>Integrated Lights Out Manager</i> .
	<a href="#">Sun Fire X4640 Server Diagnostics Guide*</a>	How to diagnose problems with your server.
	<a href="#">“Sun Fire X4640 Server Service Manual Overview” in <i>Sun Fire X4640 Server Service Manual</i>*</a>	How to service and maintain your server.
	<a href="#">Sun Fire X4640 Server Safety and Compliance Guide</a>	Safety and compliance information about your server.
	<a href="#">4U Express Rail Rackmounting Kit Label</a>	Pictorial label on racking your server
	<a href="#">Sun Fire X4640 System Overview Label</a>	Pictorial label on servicing your server
	<a href="#">Sun Fire X4640 Top Cover Label</a>	Pictorial label on removing components

Document Group	Document	Description
Sun Integrated Controller Disk Management	<i>Sun Fire X4640 CPU Matrix Label</i>	Pictorial label on CPU module and fillers
	<i>Sun x64 Server Disk Management Overview</i>	Information about managing your server's storage.
	<i>Sun LSI 106x RAID Users Guide</i>	Information about LSI RAID features
x64 Servers Applications and Utilities Reference Documentation	<i>Sun x64 Server Utilities Reference Manual</i>	How to use the available utilities included with your server.
Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 Documentation	<i>Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 Feature Updates and Release Notes</i>	Information about new ILOM features
	<i>Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 Getting Started Guide</i>	Overview of ILOM 3.0
	<i>Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 Concepts Guide</i>	Conceptual information on ILOM 3.0
	<i>Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 Web Interface Procedures Guide</i>	How to use ILOM through the web interface
	<i>Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 CLI Procedures Guide</i>	How to use ILOM through commands
	<i>Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.0 Management Protocols Reference Guide</i>	Information on management protocols

## About This Documentation (PDF and HTML)

This documentation set is available in both PDF and HTML. The information is presented in topic-based format (similar to online help) and therefore does not include chapters, appendices or section numbering.

## We Welcome Your Comments

Oracle is interested in improving its documentation and welcomes your comments and suggestions. To share your comments, go to <http://docs.sun.com> and click Feedback.

## Change History

The following changes have been made to the documentation set.

- October 2009, initial publication
- January 2010, two documents revised
  - Service Manual - Revised DIMM population rules and addressed illustration issues
  - Product Notes - Revised software information and fixed bugs
- April 2010, one document revised
  - Installation Guide - Revised power specifications
- December 2010, two documents revised
  - Service Manual - Revised motherboard FRUID update instructions
  - Product Notes - Revised software information and fixed bugs



# Introduction to ESX Installation

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This document provides instructions for installing VMware ESX 4.0 and VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable on Oracle's Sun Fire X4640 server. It includes the following topics:

Description	Link
Provides instructions for installing ESX 4.0	<a href="#">“Installing VMware ESX 4” on page 11</a>
Provides instructions for installing ESXi 4.0 Installable	<a href="#">“Installing VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable” on page 15</a>
Describes how to boot from OS installation media. If you are installing locally, you can boot from physical media (DVD). If you are installing remotely, you can boot from physical media or an equivalent ISO file.	<a href="#">“Booting From OS Distribution Media” on page 17</a>
Describes how to prepare your server for OS installation, including how to view and configure serial and video output, and how to erase your primary boot disk, which is necessary if an OS is already installed.	<a href="#">“Preliminary Tasks Before Installing An OS” on page 21</a>

For a complete list of supported operating systems, see <http://www.sun.com/servers/x64/x4640/os.jsp>.



# Installing VMware ESX 4

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The installation of VMware ESX4 includes the following tasks.

Step	Description	Link
1	Obtain information about your installation.	<a href="#">“How to Obtain VMware Installation and Administration Documentation” on page 12</a>
2	Identify a specific network interface.	<a href="#">“How to Identify the Network Interface” on page 12</a>
3	Obtain the installation image and burn it to a DVD or copy it onto a server.	<a href="#">“How to Obtain an Image of the Installation File” on page 12</a>
4	Configure the console output and if necessary, erase the boot disk.	<a href="#">“Preliminary Tasks Before Installing An OS” on page 21</a>
5	Install VMware ESX4.	<a href="#">“How to Install VMware ESX4” on page 13</a>
6	Update VMware ESX4.	<a href="#">“How to Update VMware ESX4” on page 13</a>



**Caution** – If you are going to install your OS on a disk that is part of a RAID array, you must configure the RAID array before installing your OS. See your disk management documentation for details.

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**Note** – This procedure shows how to install VMware ESX4 locally, from a DVD/CD-ROM drive. You can also install it remotely, using the remote console. This allows you to install it from a DVD/CD-ROM, or an equivalent ISO image. While the steps are similar, there are some differences. See [“Connecting to the System Console” in Sun ILOM 3.0 Supplement for the Sun Fire X4640 Server](#) for details.

VMware supports other booting options. See the VMware documentation for details.

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## ▼ How to Obtain VMware Installation and Administration Documentation

- 1 Download or consult documents as required from [http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs/vs\\_pages/vsp\\_pubs\\_esx40\\_vc40.html](http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs/vs_pages/vsp_pubs_esx40_vc40.html).
- 2 Use the information in these documents to plan your installation.

## ▼ How to Identify the Network Interface

The vSphere4.0 service console and management interface require a network interface. The service console does not automatically use the first interface with a live connection. Instead, it allows you to select one during the installation. It defaults to `vmnic0`.

Perform the following tasks before beginning the ESX4 installation.

- 1 **Identify the network connector that you will use for the vSphere4.0 service console and management interface.**
- 2 **Ensure that the network connector you select is connected to the correct network.**  
Refer to your service manual for information about the network connectors on your server.

**See Also** VMware documentation in “[How to Obtain VMware Installation and Administration Documentation](#)” on page 12 for information about the ESX4 service console and management interface.

## ▼ How to Obtain an Image of the Installation File

- 1 **Download a copy of the VMware ESX4 image (ISO) file from the VMware web site:**  
<http://www.vmware.com/download/>
- 2 **Burn a copy of the ISO file to a DVD.**

If you are going to use a remote console, you can either burn the IS file to a DVD or copy it to the server where you will do the remote installation.

## ▼ How to Install VMware ESX4

**Before You Begin** Obtain the following items before installation:

- The *Installation and Upgrade Guide* for VMware.
- A monitor, a USB keyboard, and a mouse connected to rear USB ports of the server (not required if you are installing remotely).
- A copy of the VMware installation file, located in one of the following (bootable) locations:
  - The DVD/CD-ROM drive on your server.
  - An external USB DVD/CD-ROM drive connected to the server.
  - A DVD/CD-ROM drive, or an ISO file connected through a remote console.

- 1 **Configure the server and boot it from the distribution media as described in “[Booting From OS Distribution Media](#)” on page 17.**

The server boots from the distribution media.

- 2 **Choose the interface to work with:**

- To work in graphical mode, press Enter.
- To work in text mode, type:  
`esx text`

- 3 **Complete the VMware installation.**

Refer to the *Installation and Upgrade Guide* to guide you through the installation process.

## ▼ How to Update VMware ESX4

- 1 **Check the VMware web site to see if any updates are available.**

<http://www.vmware.com/support/>

- 2 **Download and install any updates as described on the VMware web site.**



# Installing VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable

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The VMware ESXi 4.0 installation includes the following tasks.

Step	Description	Link
1	Obtain the installation image and burn it to a DVD or copy it onto a server.	<a href="#">“How to Obtain an Image of the Installation File” on page 16</a>
2	Configure the console output and if necessary, erase the boot disk.	<a href="#">“Preliminary Tasks Before Installing An OS” on page 21</a>
3	Install VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable.	<a href="#">“How to Install VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable” on page 16</a>
4	Update VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable.	<a href="#">“How to Update VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable” on page 16</a>

This procedure shows how to install VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable locally, from a DVD/CD-ROM drive. You can also install it using a remote console. This allows you to use either a DVD/CD-ROM or an equivalent ISO image. While the steps are similar, there are some differences. See [“Connecting to the System Console” in Sun ILOM 3.0 Supplement for the Sun Fire X4640 Server](#) for details.

VMware supports other booting options. See the VMware documentation for details.

---

**Note** – If you are going to install your OS on a disk that is part of a RAID array, you must configure the RAID array before installing your OS. See your disk management documentation for details.

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## ▼ How to Obtain VMware Installation and Administration Documentation

- 1 Navigate to the VMware documentation site at [http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs/vs\\_pages/vsp\\_pubs\\_esxi40\\_i\\_vc40.html](http://www.vmware.com/support/pubs/vs_pages/vsp_pubs_esxi40_i_vc40.html).

- 2 Use the information from these documents to plan your installation before proceeding.

## ▼ How to Obtain an Image of the Installation File

Use the following steps to obtain a copy of the VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable installation image.

- 1 **Download a copy of the VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable image (ISO) file from the VMware web site:**  
<http://www.vmware.com/download/>
- 2 **Burn a copy of the ISO file to a DVD.**  
If you are going to perform the installation using the remote console, you can either burn it to a DVD copy the ISO file to the server that is hosting the remote console session.

## ▼ How to Install VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable

**Before You Begin** Obtain the following items before installation:

- A copy of the VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable installation documentation.
  - A monitor, a USB keyboard, and a mouse connected to rear USB ports of the server (not required if you are using a remote console).
  - A copy of the VMware installation file.
- 1 **Configure the server and boot it from the distribution media as described in “[Booting From OS Distribution Media](#)” on page 17.**  
The server boots from the distribution media.
  - 2 **Complete the VMware installation.**  
Refer to the VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable documentation to guide you through the installation process.

## ▼ How to Update VMware ESXi 4.0 Installable

- 1 **Check the VMware web site to see if any updates are available.**  
<http://www.vmware.com/support/>
- 2 **Download and install any updates as described on the VMware web site.**



# Booting From OS Distribution Media

---

This topic describes how to boot from an OS distribution media (CD or DVD) or an equivalent ISO file. It contains the following topics.

- [“How to Boot From OS Media Locally” on page 17](#)
- [“How to Boot From OS Distribution Media or ISO File Remotely” on page 18](#)

When you are done, control passes from the BIOS to the OS installation procedures. Follow the steps in your OS installation guide.

## ▼ How to Boot From OS Media Locally

### 1 Connect to the console.

For more information, see “Connecting to the System Console” described the *Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide*.

### 2 Power on or reset the server.

BIOS messages appear on the console.

### 3 Insert the distribution media.

Additional BIOS messages appear on the console.

### 4 When you see a message offering a series of selections, press F8.

Initializing USB Controllers .. Done.

Press F2 to run Setup (CTRL+E on Remote Keyboard)

Press F8 for BBS POPUP (CTRL+P on Remote Keyboard)

Press F12 to boot from the network (CTRL+N on Remote Keyboard)

After a delay, a menu offers a selection of boot devices.

```
      Please select boot device:
-----
USB CD/DVD
PXE:IBA GE Slot 1000 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 1001 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 4100 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 4101 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 8100 v1331
```

```
PXE:IBA GE Slot 8101 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot C100 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot C101 v1331
```

-----

**5 Select CD/DVD from the list.**

Control passes to the OS installation program on the media.

**6 Follow the steps in your vendor's OS Installation guide.**

## ▼ **How to Boot From OS Distribution Media or ISO File Remotely**

You can boot from the physical media (CD or DVD) or from an equivalent ISO image.

**1 If you are using a CD or DVD, insert it in the CD/DVD drive.**

**2 Start and configure a remote console session.**

For more information, see “Communicating With the ILOM and the System Console” in the *Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide*.

**a. Connect to the console.**

**b. When the Remote Console window appears, open the Devices menu and select:**

- **CD-ROM if you are using physical media.**
- **CD-ROM Image if you are using an ISO file.**

**c. If Keyboard and Mouse are not selected, select them as well.**

Your remote console session is configured.

**3 Power on or reset the server.**

BIOS messages appear on the console.

**4 When you see a message offering a series of selections, press F8.**

```
Initializing USB Controllers .. Done.
Press F2 to run Setup (CTRL+E on Remote Keyboard)
Press F8 for BBS POPUP (CTRL+P on Remote Keyboard)
Press F12 to boot from the network (CTRL+N on Remote Keyboard)
```

After a delay, a menu offers a selection of boot devices.

```
      Please select boot device:
-----
Virtual CD/DVD
PXE:IBA GE Slot 1000 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 1001 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 4100 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 4101 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 8100 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot 8101 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot C100 v1331
PXE:IBA GE Slot C101 v1331
-----
```

**5 Select a boot device from the list.**

To boot from a physical CD/DVD or from an ISO image, select CD/DVD.

Control passes to the OS installation program on the media.

**6 Follow the steps in your vendor's OS installation guide.**



# Preliminary Tasks Before Installing An OS

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Certain tasks must be done before you can install an operating system, depending on how you are going to access the system console, and whether there is an OS already on your boot drive.

These tasks include:

- [“Accessing the Server Output During Installation” on page 21](#)
- [“How to Configure the Serial Port” on page 22](#)
- [“How to Erase Your Boot Hard Disk” on page 23](#)

## Accessing the Server Output During Installation

Installing the OS requires you to view the system console output. This can appear on both the serial port and the video port.

---

**Note** – This topic describes the default video and serial port outputs. Other settings, including console commands and GRUB menu selections, can change this behavior.

---

Your server is equipped with a serial port and a video port.

- **Serial Port** – From the moment you start the SP until the OS assumes control of the display, all output appears on the serial port.

There are two ways to connect to the serial port:

- Physically, by connecting a cable to the serial port. See [“How to Configure the Serial Port” on page 22](#).
- Virtually, by configuring an SSH connection to the SP, then by issuing the `start /SP/console` command. See [“Communicating With the ILOM and the System Console” in \*Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide\*](#) for more details.
- **Video Port** – After the SP startup is complete, the system begins POST/BIOS, and displays all output on the video port. This continues until the OS assumes control of the display. Most OS configurations continue to display information on the video port.

There are two ways to connect to the video port:

- Physically, by connecting a DB9 cable to the video port on the server. See “[Installing the Server Hardware](#)” in *Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide*.
- Virtually, by starting a JavaRConsole session. See “[Communicating With the ILOM and the System Console](#)” in *Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide*.

Other settings can affect this behavior. They include console commands, ILOM settings, and GRUB settings for operating systems that include a GRUB.

## ▼ How to Configure the Serial Port

- 1 **Connect either a terminal or a laptop running terminal emulation software directly to the serial port.**

Use the following terminal settings:

8,n,1: eight data bits, no parity, one stop bit

9600 baud rate

Disable software flow control (XON/XOFF)

- 2 **Power on the server.**

Console output appears on the serial port.

If the output does not appear, it might be necessary to configure the output in the BIOS. Use the following step to configure the output in the BIOS.

- 3 **If necessary, check the BIOS settings.**

- a. **During POST, press F2 (F4 on a remote keyboard) during the boot process to enter the BIOS.**

- b. **Use the Right Arrow key to navigate to the Server tab.**

The left and right arrow keys allow you to access the BIOS Setup Utility menu tabs.

- c. **Use the Down Arrow key to highlight the Remote Access Configuration option, and press Enter.**

The Configure Remote Access type and parameters submenu screen appears.

- d. **Use the Down arrow to highlight the External Serial Port option.**

- e. **Use the - and + key to change the External Serial Port setting from SP to System.**

- f. **To save the change and exit BIOS, press the F10 key.**

- 4 If the OS includes GRUB, it might be necessary to configure it as well.
  - a. When the GRUB menu appears, press “e” to edit it.
  - b. Type `-B console = ttya` to direct output to the serial console.

## ▼ How to Erase Your Boot Hard Disk

Your server might have the Solaris OS preinstalled on the hard drive. If so, you must erase it before installing OpenSolaris.

**Before You Begin** Obtain a copy of the Tools and Drivers CD before starting this procedure.



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**Caution** – This procedure erases all data from the hard drive. Back up any data you wish to save before starting this procedure.

---

- 1 **Back up any data on the hard drive that you want to save.**
- 2 **Insert the Tools and Drivers CD into the server's CD/DVD drive.**

If your server does not have a CD/DVD drive, use the remote console (JavaRConsole). See [“How to Connect Remotely Using the ILOM Web Interface” in Sun Fire X4640 Server Installation Guide](#).
- 3 **Boot the system from the Tools and Drivers CD.**

The tools and drivers main menu appears.
- 4 **Select Erase Primary Boot Hard Disk from the main menu.**

This erases all partitions currently on the primary hard drive except for the diagnostic partition. If the diagnostic partition is present, it is not erased.





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