Installing VMware Fusion Pro 13 and Rocky Linux 9 on macOS

Objective

This section guides you through installing VMware Fusion Pro 13 on macOS and then deploying Rocky Linux 9 within that virtual environment. While these instructions target macOS and Fusion, you can apply the same principles to other host operating systems or virtualization platforms—refer to your chosen software's documentation for platform-specific details.

VMware Fusion Pro Installation Instructions

Step 1: Go to the official Broadcom website at

https://www.vmware.com/products/desktop-hypervisor/workstation-and-fusion and click Partner Portal.
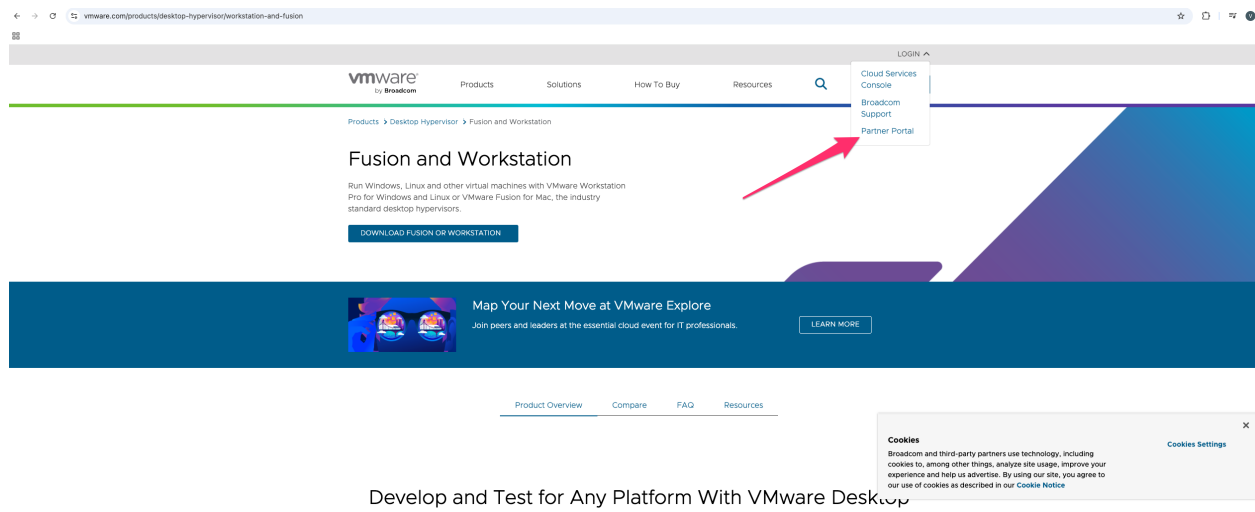

Figure 1: Broadcom Official Site.

Step 2: If you haven't already created a VMware account, click **Register;** otherwise, click **Log In.**
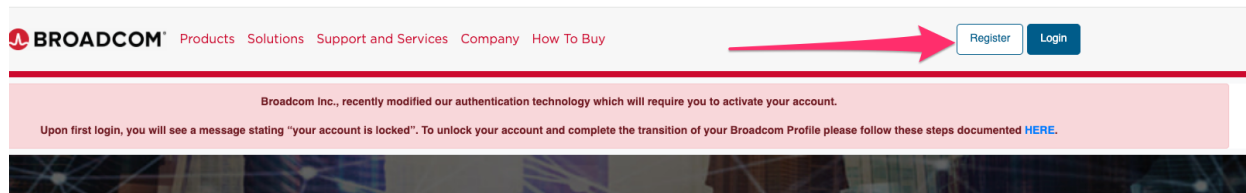
Figure 2: Broadcom Registration Page.

Step 3: Log in to your account and click **VMware Cloud Foundation**.
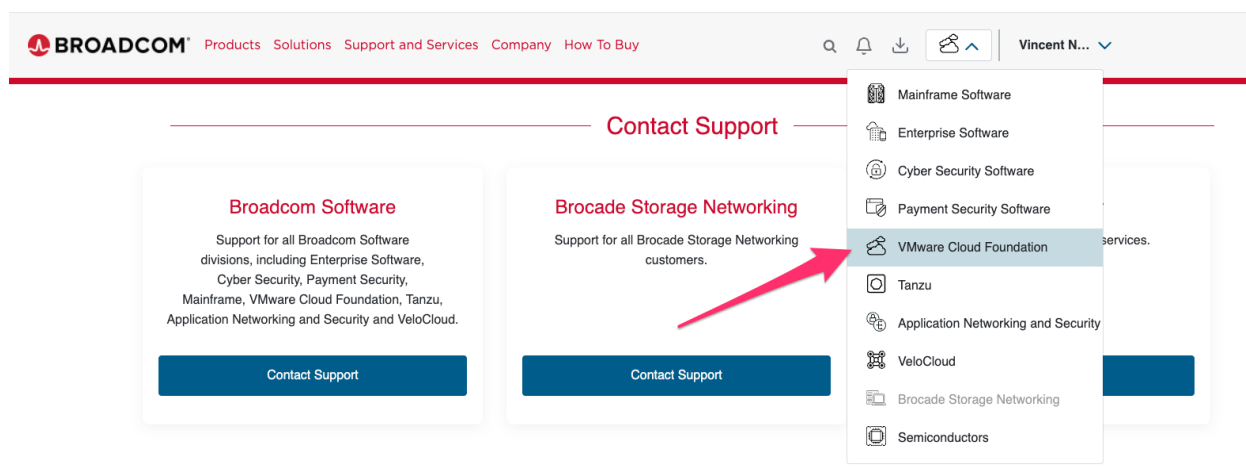

Figure 3: VMware Cloud Formation.

Step 3: In your VMware portal, click **My Downloads**, then under **Free Software Downloads Available Here**, click **Here,** as shown below.
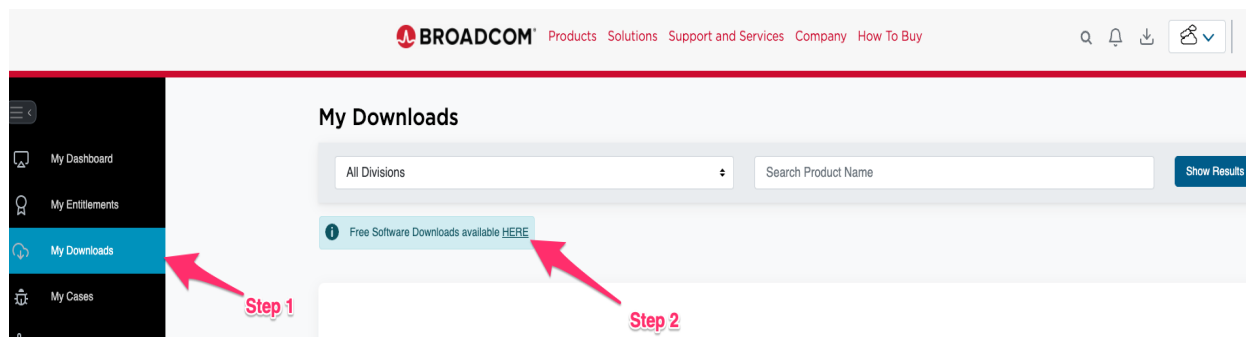

Figure 4: My Downloads Portal.

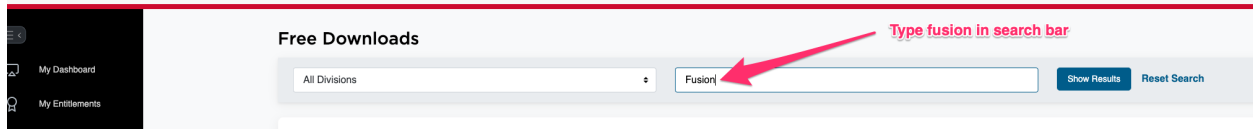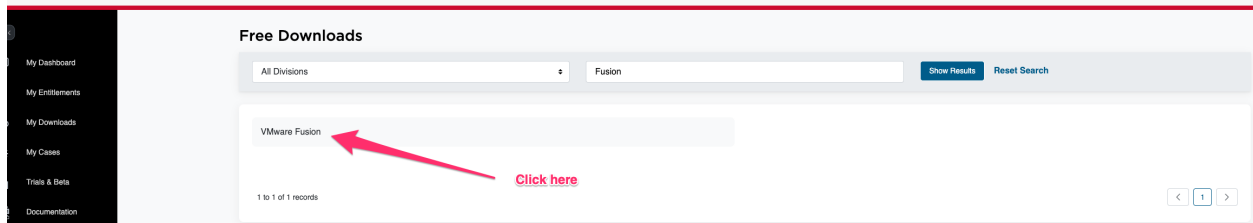**Step 4:** Type "Fusion" in search bar and click Show Results.

Figure 5: Free Downloads Search Bar.

Step 5: When **VMware Fusion** appears in the list, click its name to proceed.

Step 6: A list of VMware Fusion Pro 13 releases will appear. Select the latest version—or any other release you prefer. Keep in mind that available versions may have changed since this guide was published.
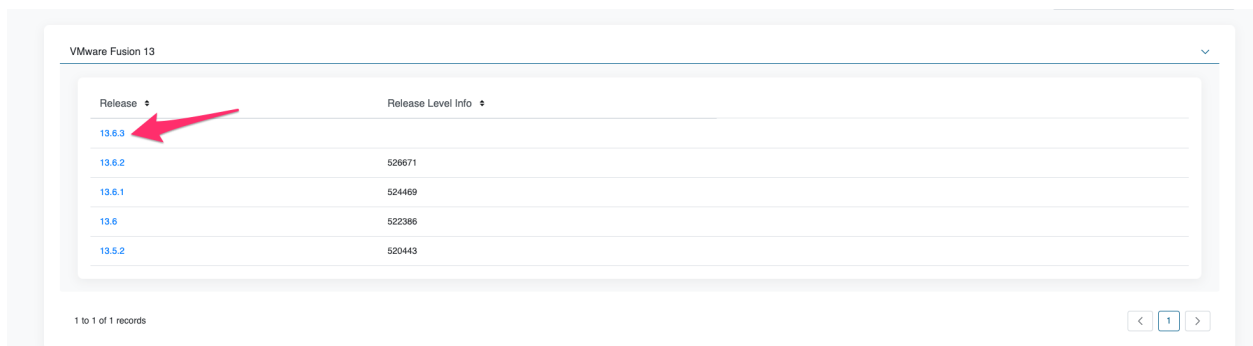

Figure 6: VMware Fusion Release Versions.

Step 7: Click the cloud icon with the downward arrow (↓) to download the VMware Fusion installation package to your Mac.
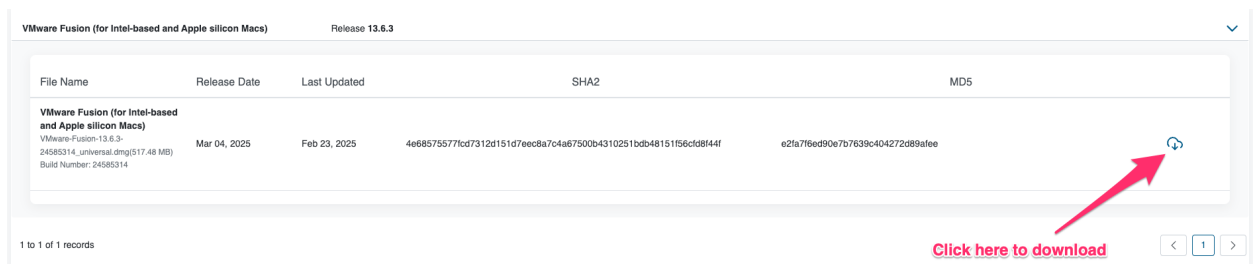

Figure 7: VMware Fusion Pro 13 Download Package.

Step 8: Locate the downloaded .dmg file and double-click it to mount the installer. In the mounted volume, double-click VMware Fusion to launch the Fusion Pro 13 installer, then follow the on-screen prompts to complete the installation.

Note: Version numbers may vary over time.

Figure 8: VMware Fusion Pro 13 Downloaded and Ready for Installation.

Rocky Linux Installation Instructions

Step 1: Visit the official Rocky Linux download page at https://rockylinux.org/download.

Choose the appropriate architecture based on your Mac:

- **Apple Silicon (M-series)**: Select **ARM (aarch64)**.
- **Intel-based Macs**: Select **x86_64 (AMD/Intel)**.

Then, click on **"Minimal ISO"** to download the ISO image file to your local machine. Refer to the image below for guidance:
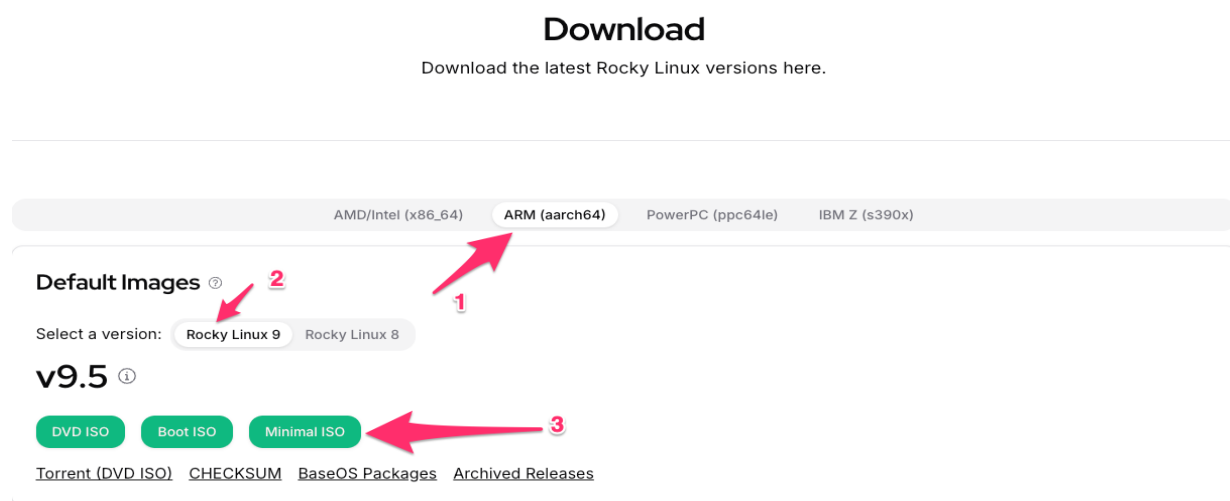

Figure 9: Official Rocky Linux Download Page.

Step 2: Launch VMware Fusion Pro 13 and click the + icon at the top-left to open the Installation dialog. Then click or drag the downloaded Rocky-9.5-aarch64-minimal.iso file into the **Install from disc or image** area, and click **Continue**, as shown in figure 10 below.
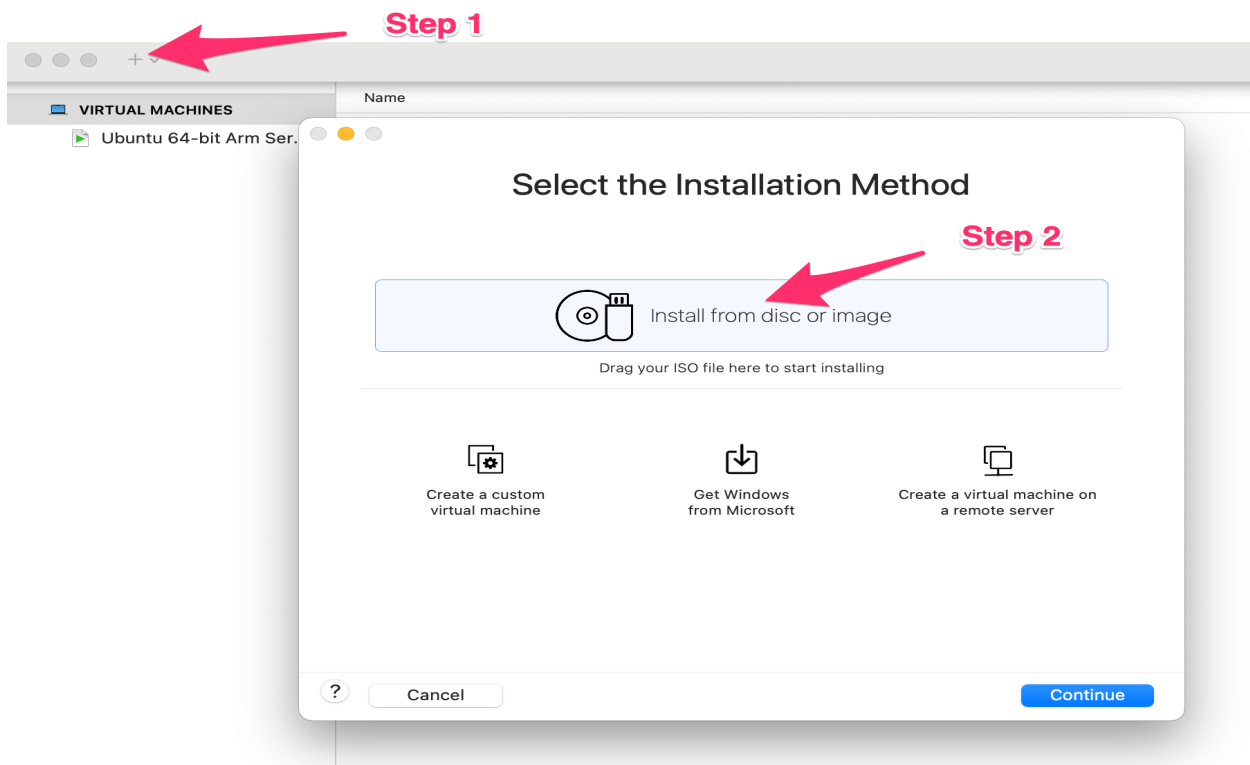
Figure 10: Rocky Linux Installation on VMware.

Step 3: Confirm that the Rocky-9.5-aarch64-minimal.iso file (your version may differ) appears in the Installation dialog, then click **Continue** to proceed.
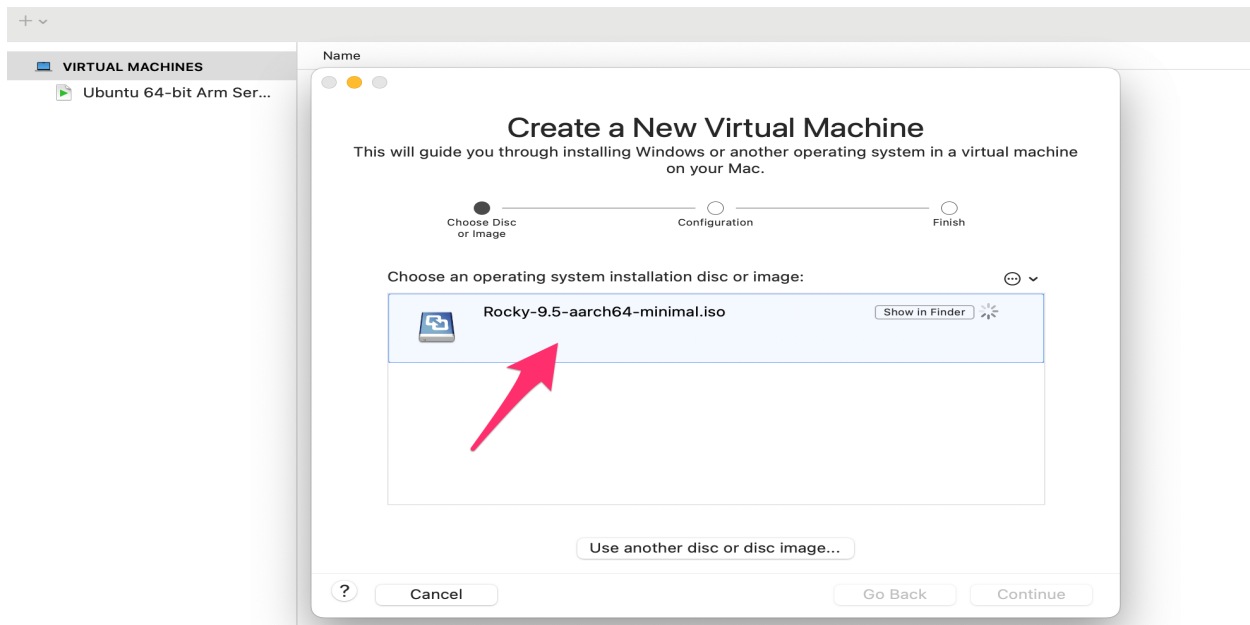

Figure 11: Rocky Linux ISO Image Inserted.

Step 4: The Installation Summary dialog appears. Click **Finish** to accept the default configuration settings and begin the installation, as shown below.

Note: You can increase the disk capacity or memory later via the VM's settings, but for now, we'll proceed with the defaults.
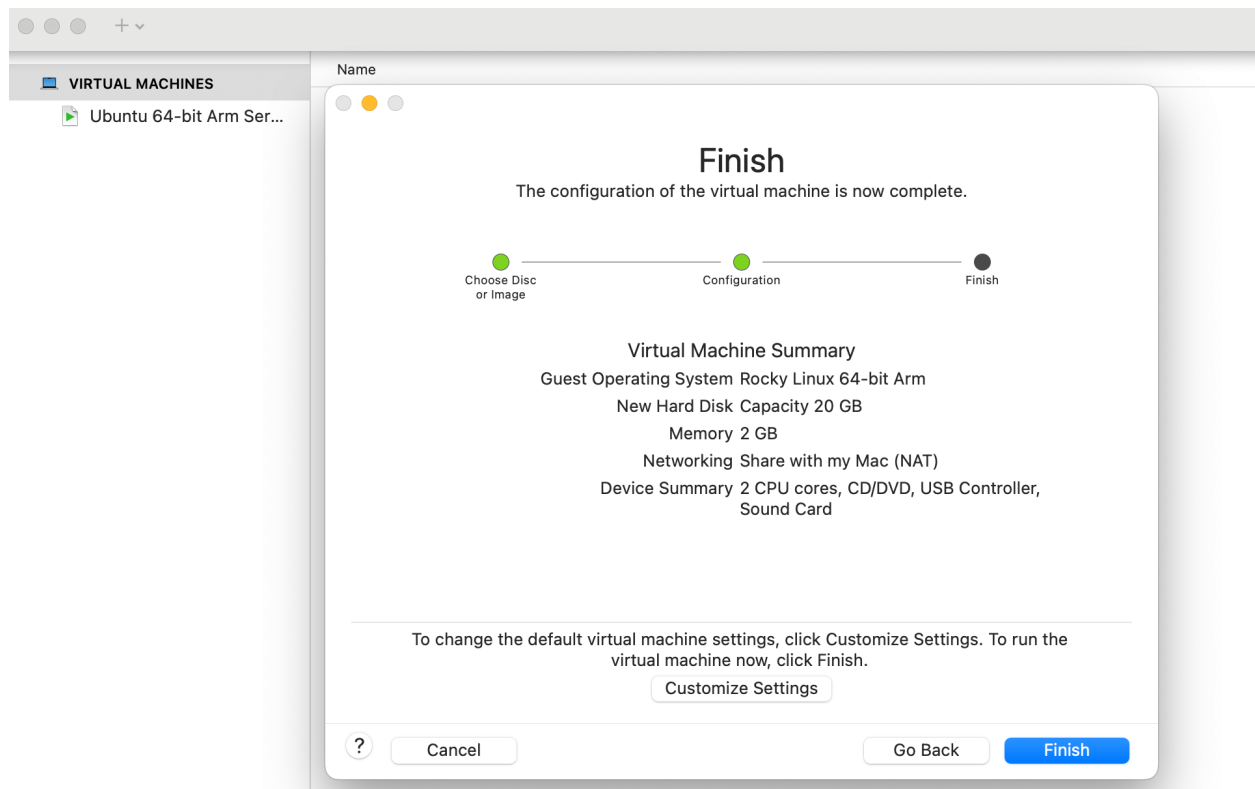

Figure 12: Installation Spec Summary.

Step 5: Optionally customize the virtual machine's name—or leave it as the default—and click **Save**. Then follow the on-screen prompts to complete the installation and reboot into Rocky Linux.
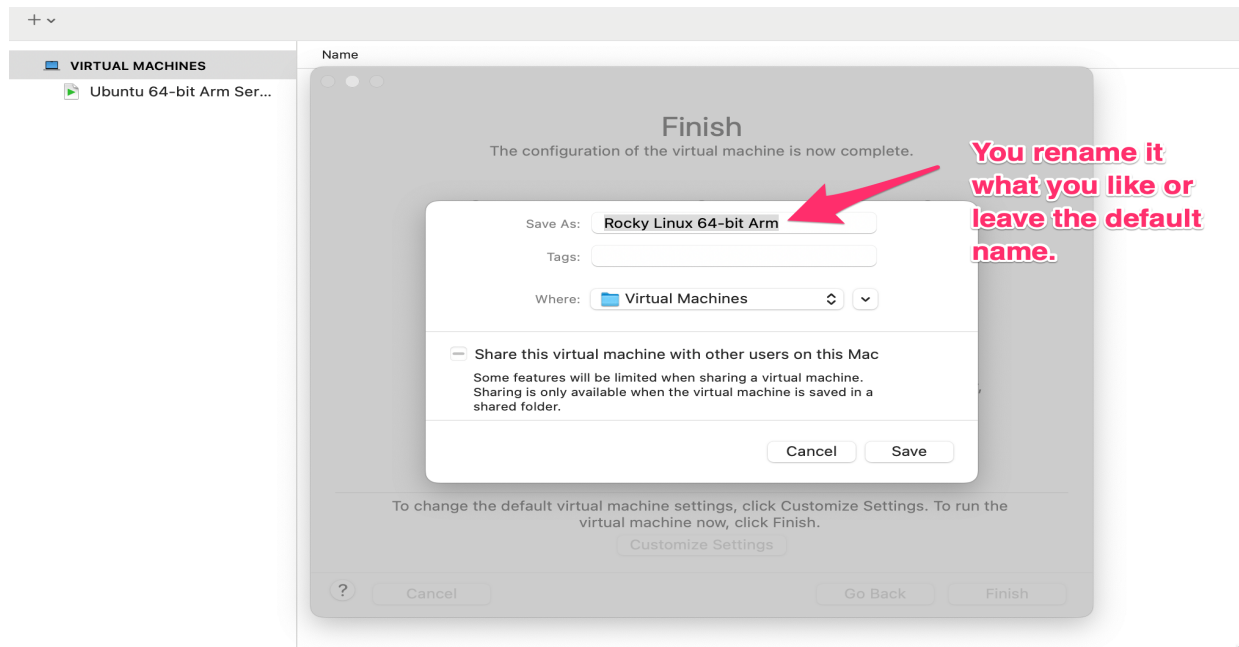
Figure 13: Rename the VM or Leave Default Name.

Step 6: Click **Root Password**, enter and confirm a secure password, then continue.
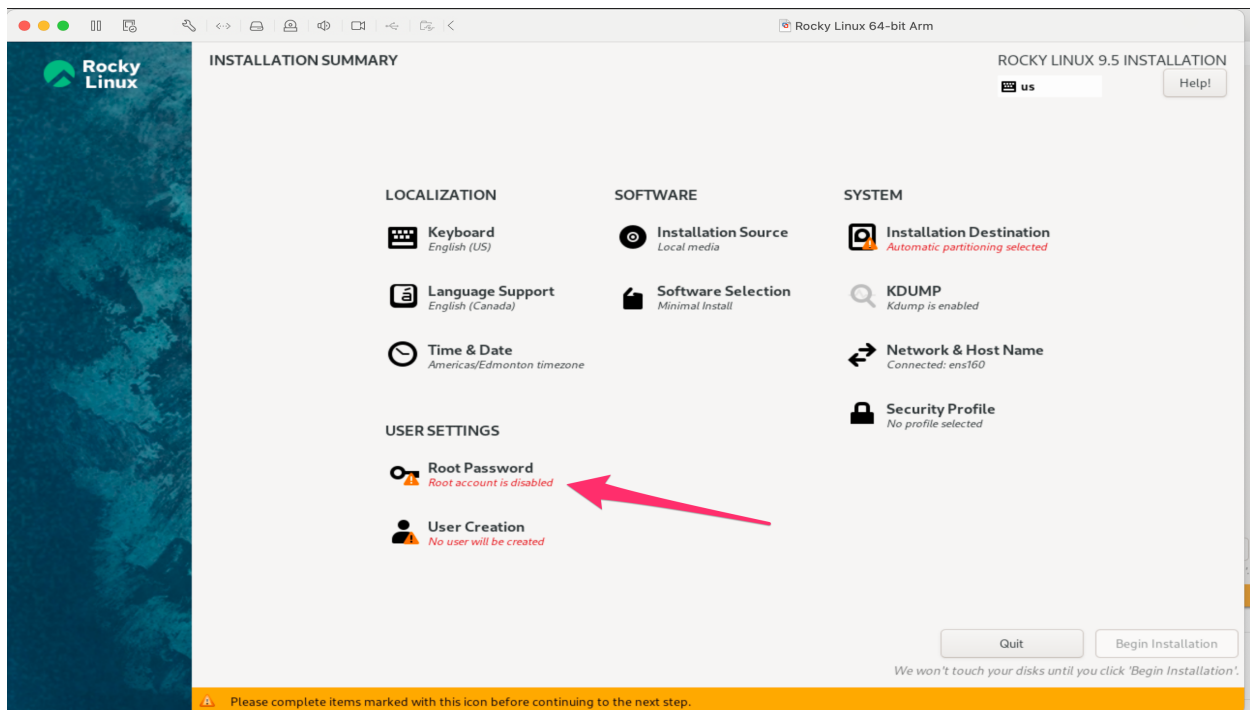

Figure 14: Installation Summary.

Step 7: Note: If a warning appears about password length, you can either click **Done** twice to proceed with your chosen password or adjust the password to meet the minimum length requirement.
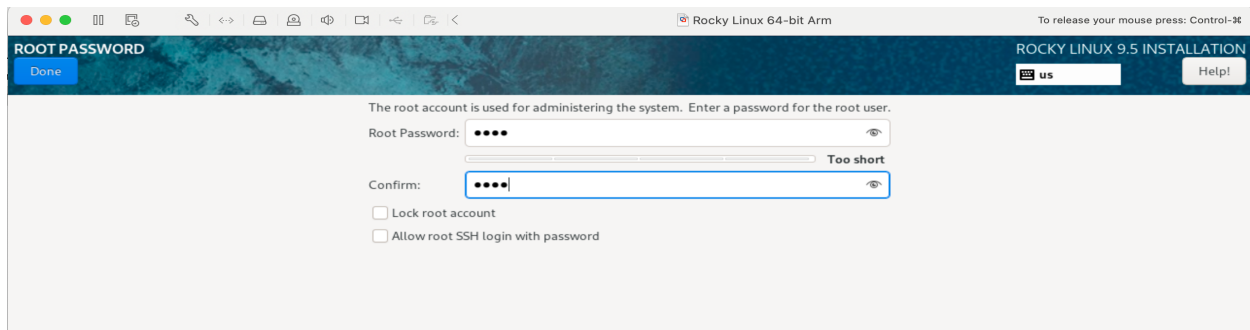
Figure 15: Root Password Setup.

Step 8: Select **Installation Destination** (Figure 14), accept the default 20 GiB by clicking **Done**, then click **Begin Installation** and **Reboot**.

Note: You can increase storage later by resizing the VM's virtual disk and extending the filesystem in Rocky Linux.
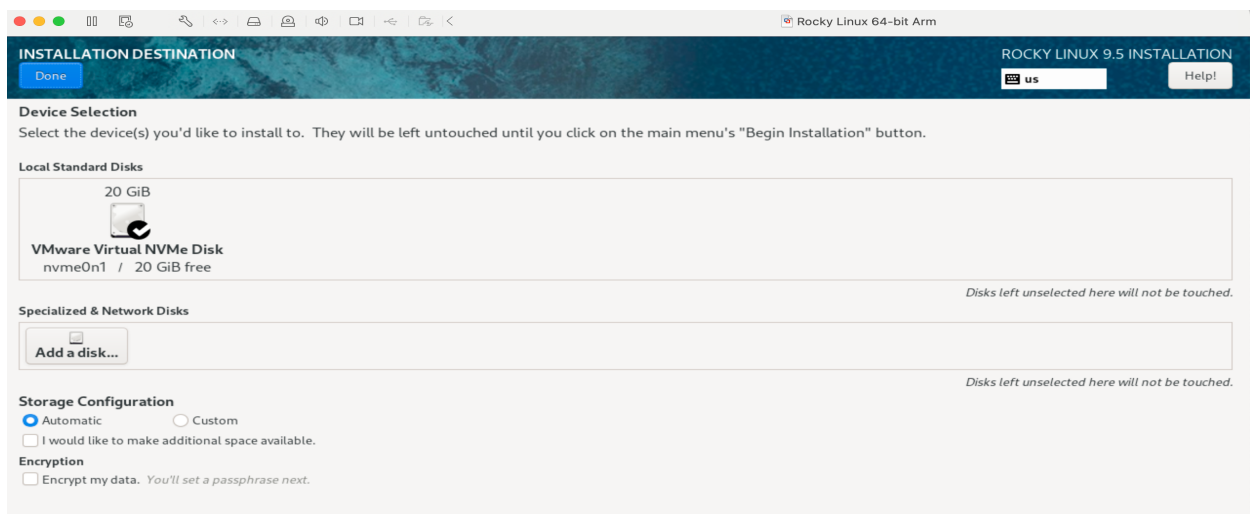

Figure 16: Installation Destination.

Step 9: After reboot, log in as **root**, run whoami; it should return root, confirming you are the root user. Installation is complete.
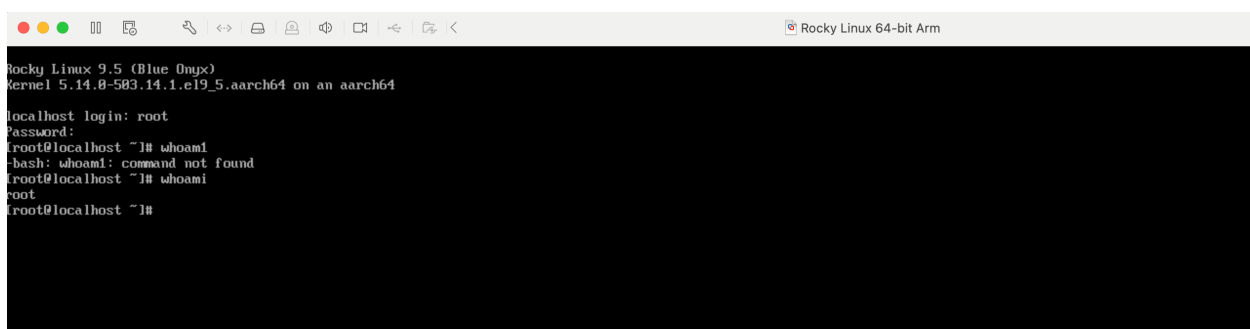

Figure 17: Installation Completion Showing Terminal.