



# Stratodesk NoTouch Center Deployment

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## Change Log

Date	Version	Description of Changes
6/03/2025	1.0	First Created - PC
25/03/2025	1.1	Minor edits - PC

## Introduction

The [Stratodesk Virtual Appliance](#) is a 64bit Linux-based Virtual Appliance (VA) intended to run in your local datacenter in a local virtualization platform/hypervisor.

This virtual appliance is not identical to the endpoint operating system NoTouch OS. In fact, these are worlds apart even though they are both Linux-based.

It contains an installation of [NoTouch Center](#) and a [PXE network boot environment](#) to boot up diskless machines into [NoTouch OS](#) plus an easy-to-use web-based administration interface to perform tasks such as updating or backing up the Virtual Appliance.

A virtual appliance is intended to be run on a virtualization platform (hypervisor), not on bare metal. This approach has been tested on various platforms, such as VMware ESXi, Citrix XenServer, Nutanix AHV, Microsoft Hyper-V, VMware Workstation, VMware Player, VMware Fusion, Parallels Desktop and VirtualBox.

## NoTouch Center Pre-requisites

NoTouch Center is built on Ubuntu Server **22.04 LTS** edition as such when creating the virtual machine, please specify the machine specifications. This requirement may require additional resources depending on the number of managed endpoints.

vCPU	4
RAM	8gb
HDD (SCSI)	60gb

Ubuntu 22.04 server edition can be download from the Ubuntu [website](#). **Please note that the link will take you to Ubuntu 24.04, so you will need to scroll down the page to find the correct download.**

**Also ensure that you have been given access to the NoTouchCenter .deb file download link as this is required as part of the installation process.**

## Ubuntu Server Virtual Machine Creation

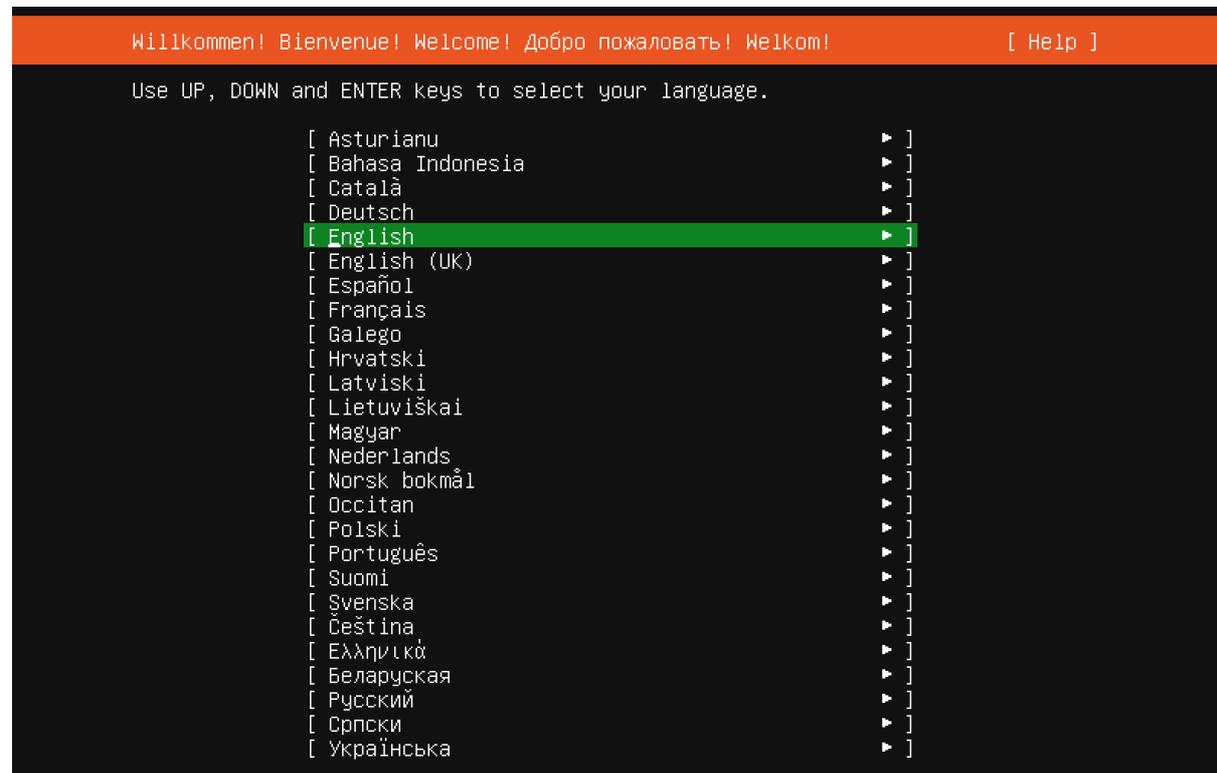
Once the virtual machine has been powered on select the default option to try or install ubuntu server. During the installation, you can use 'Tab' to move through the fields and select 'Done' to confirm any selection.

GNU GRUB version 2.12

```
*Try or Install Ubuntu Server
Ubuntu Server with the HWE kernel
Test memory
```

Use the ↑ and ↓ keys to select which entry is highlighted.  
Press enter to boot the selected OS, 'e' to edit the commands  
before booting or 'c' for a command-line.  
The highlighted entry will be executed automatically in 23s.

Select the preferred language.



On the next screen, you will be asked if you want to update to the 24.04 installer.

```
Installer update available [ Help ]

Version 24.10.1 of the installer is now available (24.08.1 is currently
running).

You can read the release notes for each version at:

    https://github.com/canonical/subiquity/releases

If you choose to update, the update will be downloaded and the installation
will continue from here.

[ Update to the new installer ]
[ Continue without updating ]
[ Back ]
```

Select **continue without updating**. This is an LTS version of Ubuntu, but all underlying components will be the latest version so do not present a security risk.

Select preferred keyboard layout.

```
Keyboard configuration [ Help ]

Please select your keyboard layout below, or select "Identify keyboard" to
detect your layout automatically.

Layout: [ English (UK) ▼ ]

Variant: [ English (UK) ▼ ]

[ Identify keyboard ]

[ Done ]
[ Back ]
```

Select the default Ubuntu Server

```
Choose the type of installation [ Help ]

Choose the base for the installation.

(X) Ubuntu Server

    The default install contains a curated set of packages that provide a
    comfortable experience for operating your server.

( ) Ubuntu Server (minimized)

    This version has been customized to have a small runtime footprint in
    environments where humans are not expected to log in.

Additional options

[ ] Search for third-party drivers

    This software is subject to license terms included with its documentation.
    Some is proprietary. Third-party drivers should not be installed on
    systems that will be used for FIPS or the real-time kernel.
```

The network should detect DHCP automatically and assign an IP address, so make a note of this as this will be needed later, and it is recommended that a fixed IP address be assigned once the installation is complete.

```
Network configuration [ Help ]

Configure at least one interface this server can use to talk to other machines,
and which preferably provides sufficient access for updates.

NAME     TYPE  NOTES
[ ens33  eth  -           ▶ ]
  DHCPv4  192.168.125.136/24
          00:0c:29:a3:29:a6 / Intel Corporation / 82545EM Gigabit Ethernet Controller
          (Copper) (PRD/1000 MT Single Port Adapter)

[ Create bond ▶ ]
```

Add a proxy address if required.

```
Proxy configuration [ Help ]

If this system requires a proxy to connect to the internet, enter its details
here.

Proxy address: 
                If you need to use a HTTP proxy to access the outside world,
                enter the proxy information here. Otherwise, leave this blank.

                The proxy information should be given in the standard form of
                "http://[[user] [:pass]@]host[:port]/".
```

Allow Ubuntu to check for an alternative mirror

```
Ubuntu archive mirror configuration [ Help ]

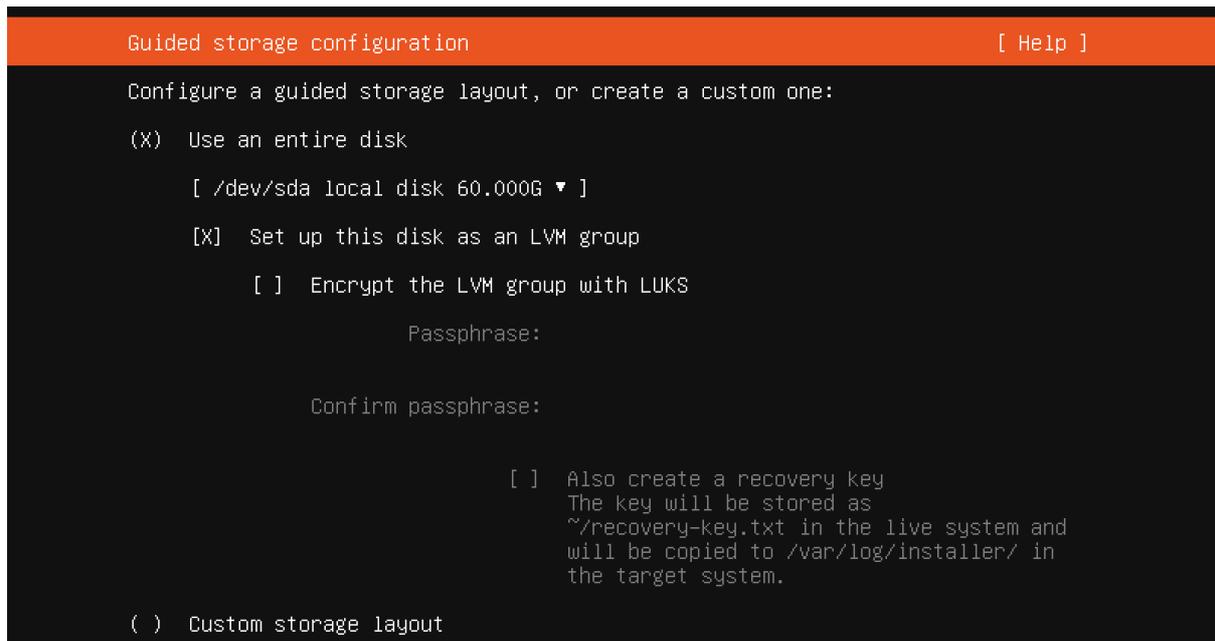
If you use an alternative mirror for Ubuntu, enter its details here.

Mirror address: 
                You may provide an archive mirror to be used instead of the
                default.

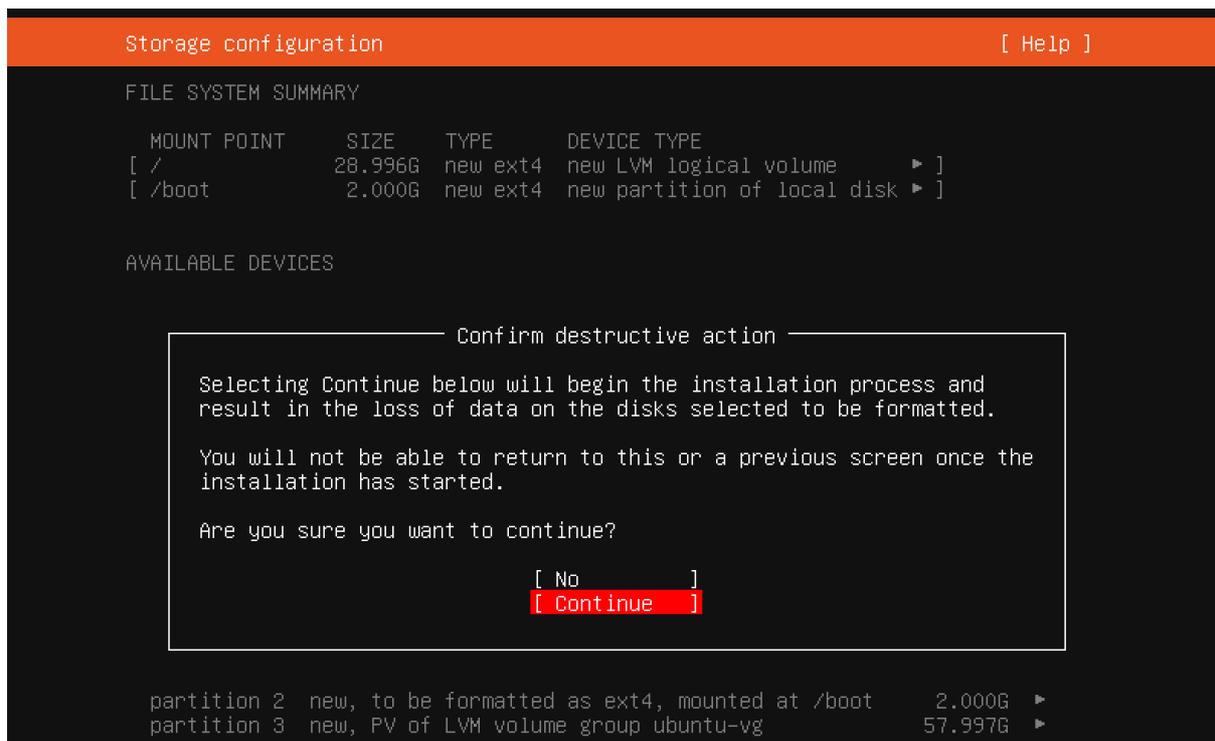
This mirror location passed tests.

Hit:1 http://gb.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Get:2 http://gb.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease [128 kB]
Get:3 http://gb.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease [127 kB]
Fetched 255 kB in 1s (190 kB/s)
Reading package lists...
```

Select use entire disk.



Confirm storage configuration and destructive action.



Confirm username and confirm the server name as tcmgr. Please note that a user of admin cannot be used.

```
Profile configuration [ Help ]
Enter the username and password you will use to log in to the system. You can configure SSH access on a later screen, but a password is still needed for sudo.

Your name: _____

Your servers name: tcmgr
The name it uses when it talks to other computers.

Pick a username: _____

Choose a password: *****

Confirm your password: *****
```

Upgrade to Ubuntu Pro in **NOT** required.

```
Upgrade to Ubuntu Pro [ Help ]
Upgrade this machine to Ubuntu Pro for security updates on a much wider range of packages, until 2034. Assists with FedRAMP, FIPS, STIG, HIPAA and other compliance or hardening requirements.

[ About Ubuntu Pro ▶ ]

( ) Enable Ubuntu Pro
(X) Skip for now

You can always enable Ubuntu Pro later using the 'pro attach' command.
```

Press space to install Open SSH as this is required and is **NOT** installed by default.

```
SSH configuration [ Help ]
You can choose to install the OpenSSH server package to enable secure remote access to your server.

[X] Install OpenSSH server

[X] Allow password authentication over SSH

[ Import SSH key ▶ ]

AUTHORIZED KEYS
No authorized key
```

No configuration is required

```
Featured server snaps [ Help ]
These are popular snaps in server environments. Select or deselect with SPACE, press ENTER to see more details of the package, publisher and versions available.

[ ] microk8s          canonical✓    Kubernetes for workstations and appliances
[ ] nextcloud         nextcloud✓   Nextcloud Server - A safe home for all your data
[ ] wekan             xet?        Open-Source kanban
[ ] kata-containers  katacontainers✓ Build lightweight VMs that seamlessly plug into the containers ecosystem
[ ] docker           canonical✓   Docker container runtime
[ ] canonical-livepatch canonical✓   Canonical Livepatch Client
[ ] rocketchat-server rocketchat✓  Rocket.Chat server
[ ] mosquito        mosquito✓   Eclipse Mosquitto MQTT broker
[ ] etcd             canonical✓   Resilient key-value store by CoreOS
[ ] powershell     canonical✓   PowerShell for every system!
[ ] sabnzbd         safihre     SABnzbd
[ ] wormhole        snapcrafters? get things from one computer to another, safely
[ ] aws-cli         aws✓        Universal Command Line Interface for Amazon Web Services
[ ] google-cloud-sdk google-cloud-sdk✓ Google Cloud SDK
[ ] sicli           softlayer   Python based SoftLayer API Tool.
[ ] doctl           digitalocean✓ The official DigitalOcean command line interface
[ ] conjure-up      canonical✓   Package runtime for conjure-up spells
[ ] postgresql10   cmd✓       PostgreSQL is a powerful, open source object-relational database system.
[ ] heroku          heroku✓     CLI client for Heroku
[ ] keepalived     keepalived-project✓ High availability VRRP/BFD and load-balancing for Linux
[ ] prometheus     canonical✓   The Prometheus monitoring system and time series database
[ ] lxd            canonical✓   LXN - container and VM manager
```

The installation will now start and select reboot once complete.

```
Installation complete! [ Help ]

writing install sources to disk
  running 'curtin extract'
  curtin command extract
    acquiring and extracting image from cp:///tmp/tmpokft_3tz/mount
configuring keyboard
  curtin command in-target
executing curtin install curthooks step
  curtin command install
    configuring installed system
      running 'curtin curthooks'
      curtin command curthooks
        configuring apt configuring apt
        installing missing packages
        Installing packages on target system: ['grub-pc']
        configuring iscsi service
        configuring raid (mdadm) service
        configuring NVMe over TCP
        installing kernel
        setting up swap
        apply networking config
        writing etc/fstab
        configuring multipath
        updating packages on target system
        configuring pollinate user-agent on target
        updating initramfs configuration
        configuring target system bootloader
        installing grub to target devices
        copying metadata from /cdrom
final system configuration
  calculating extra packages to install
  installing openssh-server
  retrieving openssh-server
  curtin command system-install
  unpacking openssh-server
  curtin command system-install
  configuring cloud-init
  downloading and installing security updates
  curtin command in-target
  restoring apt configuration
  curtin command in-target
subiquity/Late/run:

[ View full log ]
[ Reboot Now   ]
```

If the error below appears, check that the CD-ROM has been disconnected and select enter to reboot.

```
[FAILED] Failed unmounting cdrom.mount - /cdrom.
Please remove the installation medium, then press ENTER:
[FAILED] Failed unmounting cdrom.mount - /cdrom.
```

Once the virtual machine as rebooted, you should see the following screen.

```
Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS tcmgr tty1
tcmgr login: _
```

## NoTouch Center Installation

Ensure that you have been given access to the NoTouch Center .deb file download link as this is required as part of this section of the installation process. If not, please request this from your Stratodesk representative.

To start the installation of NoTouch Center, if using Windows use Putty or similar tool to create a ssh connection to NoTouch Center.

Log in with the username & password you created during the installation and confirm any fingerprint security warnings.

To start this part of the installation you need to elevate the logon privilege, to do this type the following:

**sudo su** <enter>

**password** <enter> please be aware that the cursor will not move when typing the password.

```
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-135-generic x86_64)

* Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
* Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
* Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Tue Mar 25 09:51:15 AM UTC 2025

System load:  0.12          Processes:           260
Usage of /:   24.7% of 28.37GB   Users logged in:    0
Memory usage: 4%           IPv4 address for ens33: 192.168.125.136
Swap usage:   0%

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

44 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

New release '24.04.2 LTS' available.
Run 'do-release-upgrade' to upgrade to it.

Last login: Tue Mar 25 09:51:16 2025
To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".
See "man sudo_root" for details.

paul@tcmgr:~$ sudo su
[sudo] password for paul:
root@tcmgr:/home/paul#
```

Once authenticated you will be connected as 'root'

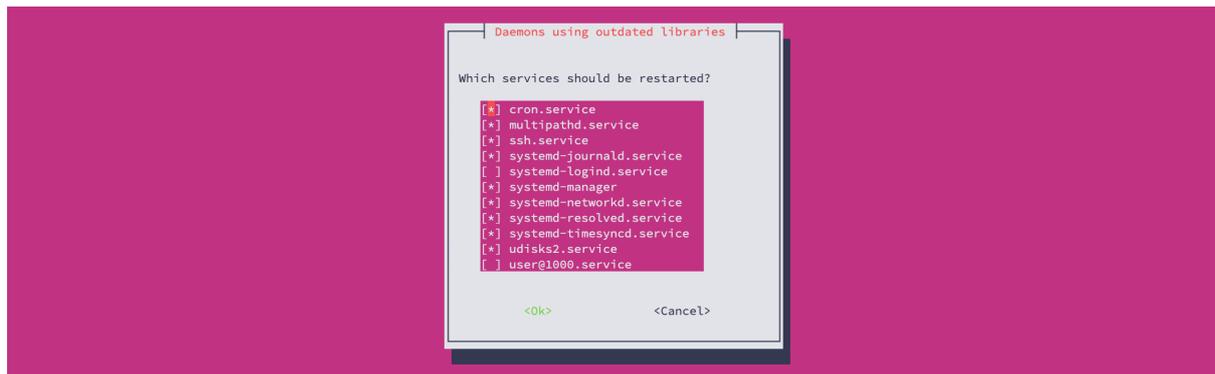
Then execute the following commands which will check for updates and then update the OS.

**sudo apt update** <enter>

**sudo apt upgrade** <enter>

This process should not last more than a few minutes depending on your internet speed. You will be asked if you want to continue, so type 'y' for yes and press enter.

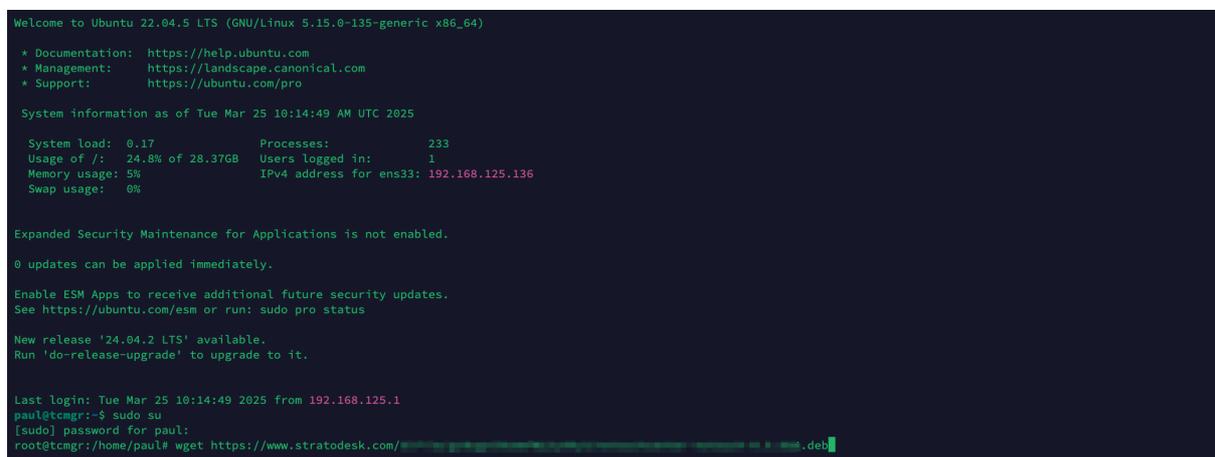
Once the upgrade process is complete, all services will need to be restarted, so press ‘OK’”



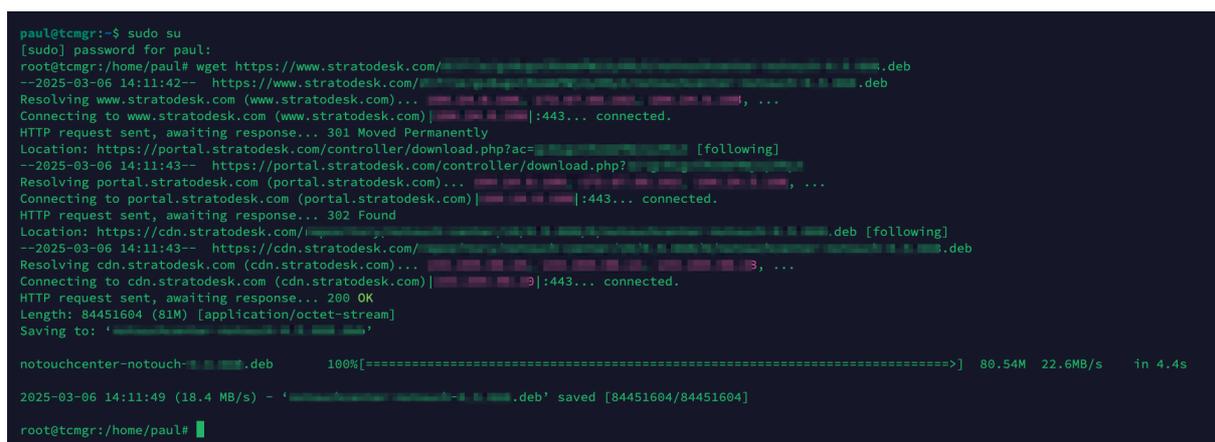
Using the url provided by your Stratodesk representative, paste this into the ssh session to initial the download of the NoTouch Center .deb file. The url would be like the one shown below.

```
wget https://www.stratodesk.com/*/*/notouchcenter-notouch-*.deb
```

Press enter to start the download.



If the download is successful, you should see a similar output to the one below.



Next copy the command below and paste this into the ssh session and press enter.

```
wget https://cdn.stratodesk.com/repository/setup/makestratodeskva.sh -O - | sudo bash
```

This will check for any updates and start the NoTouch Center installation. During this time, text will scroll down the screen as the installation completes.

```
Setting up cloud-init (24.4.1-0ubuntu0-24.04.1) ...
Setting up libfwupd2:amd64 (1.9.28-0ubuntu1-24.04.1) ...
Setting up libpackagekit-glib2-18:amd64 (1.2.8-2ubuntu1.2) ...
Setting up landscape-common (24.02-0ubuntu5.2) ...
Setting up libldap-common (2.6.7+dfsg-1-exp1ubuntu8.2) ...
Setting up libopeniscsiusr (2.1.9-3ubuntu5.3) ...
Setting up gir1.2-packagekitglib-1.0 (1.2.8-2ubuntu1.2) ...
Setting up pollinate (4.33-3.1ubuntu1.1) ...
Setting up libnvmelt64 (1.8-3ubuntu1) ...
Setting up libdevmapper1.02.1:amd64 (2:1.02.185-3ubuntu3.2) ...
Setting up dracut-install (060+5-1ubuntu3.3) ...
Setting up dmsetup (2:1.02.185-3ubuntu3.2) ...
Setting up libcryptsetup12:amd64 (2:2.7.0-1ubuntu4.2) ...
Setting up packagekit (1.2.8-2ubuntu1.2) ...
Setting up libldap2:amd64 (2.6.7+dfsg-1-exp1ubuntu8.2) ...
Setting up fwupd (1.9.28-0ubuntu1-24.04.1) ...
fwupd-offline-update.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
fwupd-refresh.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
fwupd.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
Setting up initramfs-tools-bin (0.142ubuntu25.5) ...
Setting up cryptsetup-bin (2:2.7.0-1ubuntu4.2) ...
Setting up packagekit-tools (1.2.8-2ubuntu1.2) ...
Setting up libdevmapper-event1.02.1:amd64 (2:1.02.185-3ubuntu3.2) ...
Setting up cryptsetup (2:2.7.0-1ubuntu4.2) ...
Setting up open-iscsi (2.1.9-3ubuntu5.3) ...
Setting up initramfs-tools-core (0.142ubuntu25.5) ...
Setting up initramfs-tools (0.142ubuntu25.5) ...
update-initramfs: deferring update (trigger activated)
Setting up cryptsetup-initramfs (2:2.7.0-1ubuntu4.2) ...
update-initramfs: deferring update (trigger activated)
Setting up liblvm2cmd2.03:amd64 (2.03.16-3ubuntu3.2) ...
Setting up dmeventd (2:1.02.185-3ubuntu3.2) ...
dm-event.service is a disabled or a static unit not running, not starting it.
Setting up lvm2 (2.03.16-3ubuntu3.2) ...
Processing triggers for dbus (1.14.10-4ubuntu4.1) ...
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.39-0ubuntu8.4) ...
Processing triggers for rsyslog (8.2312.0-3ubuntu9) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.12.0-4build2) ...
Processing triggers for initramfs-tools (0.142ubuntu25.5) ...
update-initramfs: Generating /boot/initrd.img-6.8.0-55-generic
Scanning processes...
Scanning candidates...
Scanning linux images...

Running kernel seems to be up-to-date.

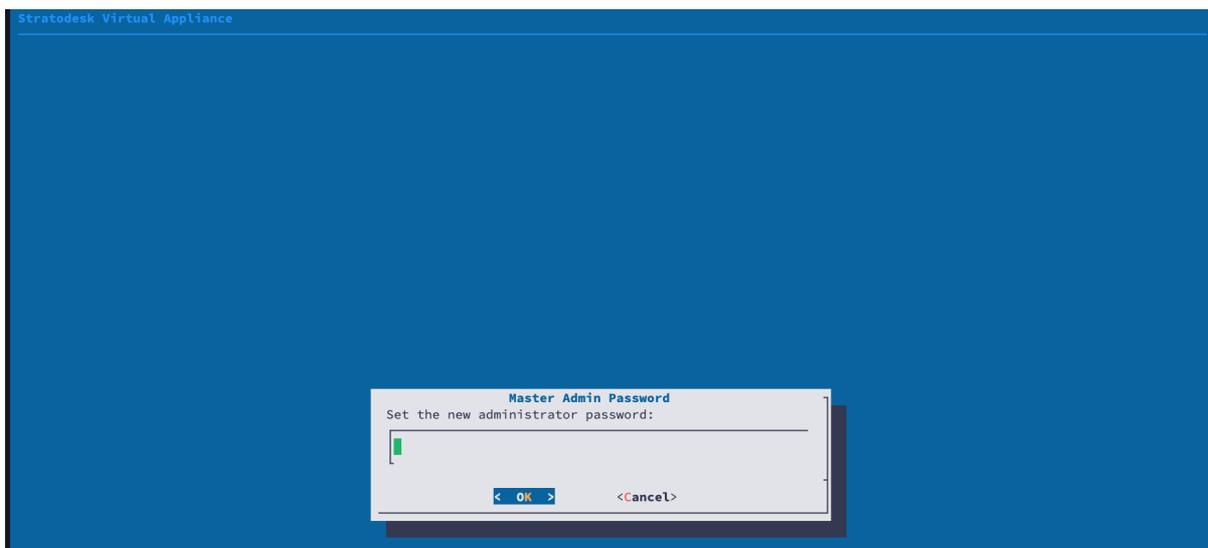
Restarting services...
systemctl restart multipathd.service udisks2.service

No containers need to be restarted.

No user sessions are running outdated binaries.

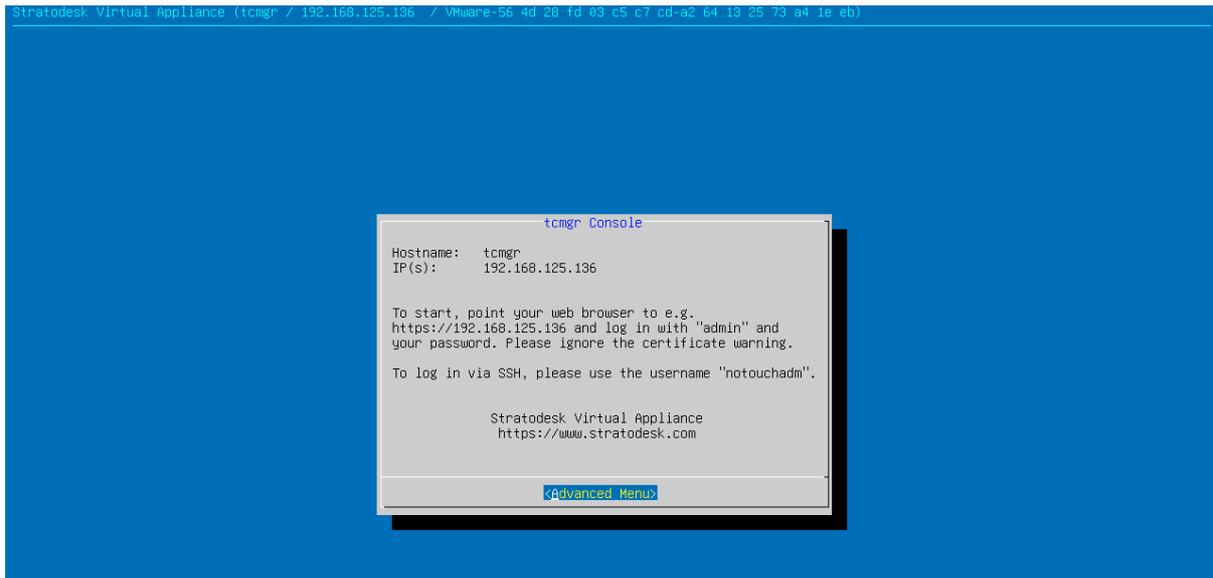
No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.
Reading package lists...
Building dependency tree...█
```

After around one minute or so the screen will turn blue, and you will be asked to confirm a password for the NoTouch Center user account.

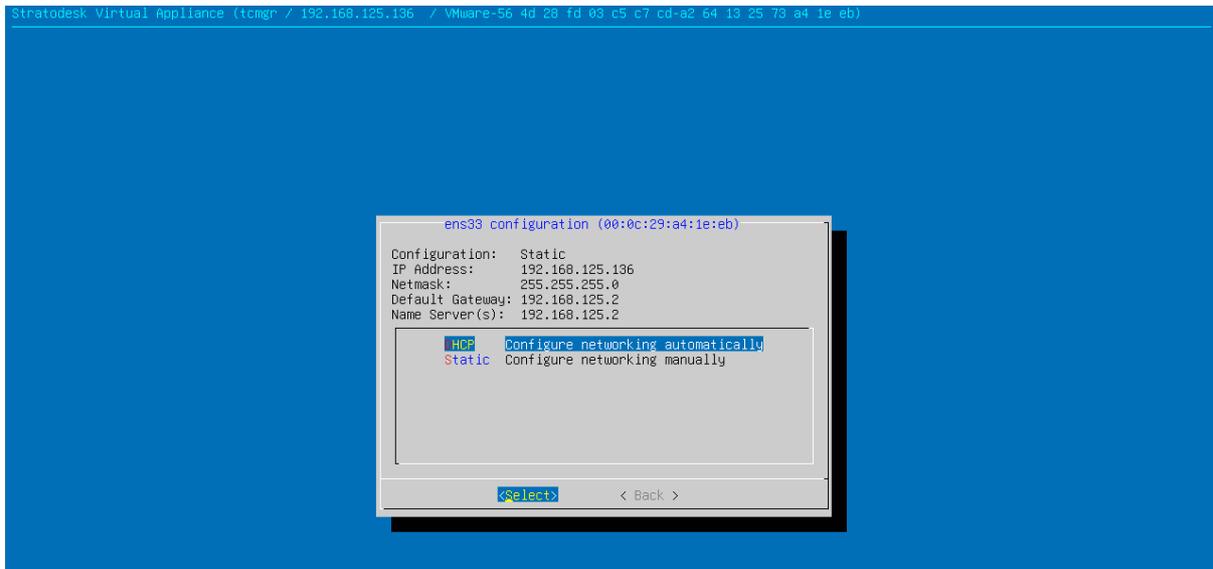


Confirm the password for the second time. Once this is complete it will automatically reboot the virtual appliance. This will then disconnect the ssh session.

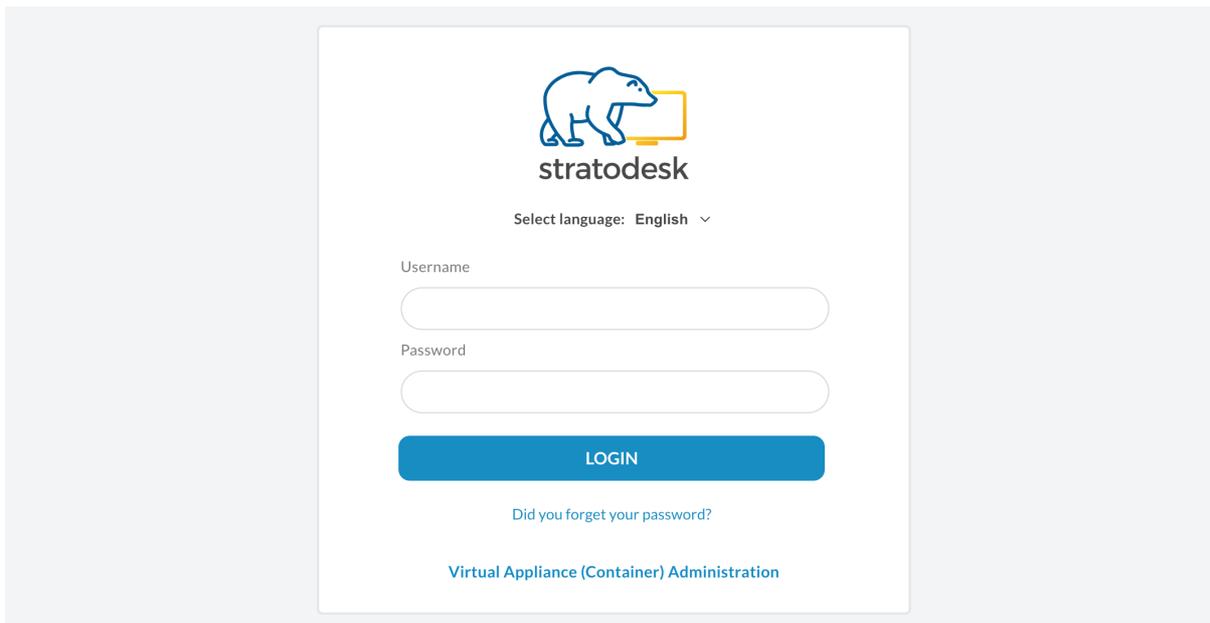
If the installation was successful, then the appliance should look like this when viewed within the hypervisor.



In the Advanced menu, it is also possible to assign a static IP address in the network configuration.



Type the IP address shown on the appliance into the browser ignoring any certificate warnings.



Currently the ntp service does not install. Once connected using ssh type the following:

**sudo apt install systemd-timesyncd** <enter>

Type the root password <enter> please be aware that the cursor will not move when typing the password.

**sudo systemctl start systemd-timesyncd** <enter> This will start the service.

```
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-135-generic x86_64)

+ Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
+ Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
+ Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Tue Mar 25 10:25:48 AM UTC 2025

System load:  0.1          Processes:      235
Usage of /:   29.3% of 28.37GB   Users logged in:  0
Memory usage: 17%          IPv4 address for ens33: 192.168.125.136
Swap usage:   0%

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

0 updates can be applied immediately.

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

New release '24.04.2 LTS' available.
Run 'do-release-upgrade' to upgrade to it.

Last login: Tue Mar 25 10:22:01 2025 from 192.168.125.1
paul@cmgr:~$ sudo apt install systemd-timesyncd
[sudo] password for paul:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  libopts25 sntp
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
The following packages will be REMOVED:
  ntp
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  systemd-timesyncd
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 1 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
Need to get 31.2 kB of archives.
After this operation, 1,845 kB disk space will be freed.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y
Get:1 http://gb.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates/main amd64 systemd-timesyncd amd64 249.11-0ubuntu3.12 [31.2 kB]
Fetched 31.2 kB in 0s (180 kB/s)
(Reading database ... 79868 files and directories currently installed.)
Removing ntp (1:4.2.8p15+dfsg-1ubuntu2) ...
Selecting previously unselected package systemd-timesyncd.
(Reading database ... 79814 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../systemd-timesyncd_249.11-0ubuntu3.12_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking systemd-timesyncd (249.11-0ubuntu3.12) ...
Setting up systemd-timesyncd (249.11-0ubuntu3.12) ...
Processing triggers for dbus (1.12.20-2ubuntu4.1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.10.2-1) ...
Scanning processes...
Scanning linux images...

Running kernel seems to be up-to-date.

No services need to be restarted.

No containers need to be restarted.

No user sessions are running outdated binaries.

No VM guests are running outdated hypervisor (qemu) binaries on this host.
paul@cmgr:~$ sudo systemctl start systemd-timesyncd
paul@cmgr:~$
```

You can then verify the service has been installed and started the the NTP service will show in green.

The screenshot displays the 'VA CONFIG' page for a Stratodesk Virtual Appliance. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with categories like OS Images, Management, PXE Boot, and System Information. The 'Configuration' option is highlighted. The main content area is titled 'VA CONFIG' and includes sections for 'Virtual Appliance settings', 'Operation mode', 'Proxy settings', and 'NTP settings'. The 'NTP settings' section is highlighted with a red box and shows the NTP Service (Network Time Synchronization) as running, with a green status icon and buttons for 'Stop', 'Restart', and 'Deactivate'. The 'Virtual Appliance settings' section shows 'Hostname' as 'tongr' and 'Time zone' as 'UTC'. The 'Operation mode' section shows 'Front-end service' as 'NoTouch Center', 'Exclude weak ciphers' as 'On', and 'Exclude weak protocols' as 'On'. The 'Proxy settings' section shows 'HTTP proxy' and 'HTTPS proxy' fields.

Congratulations, you've just deployed the NoTouch Center virtual appliance. To get started, type the IP address of the virtual appliance into a web browser.