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.

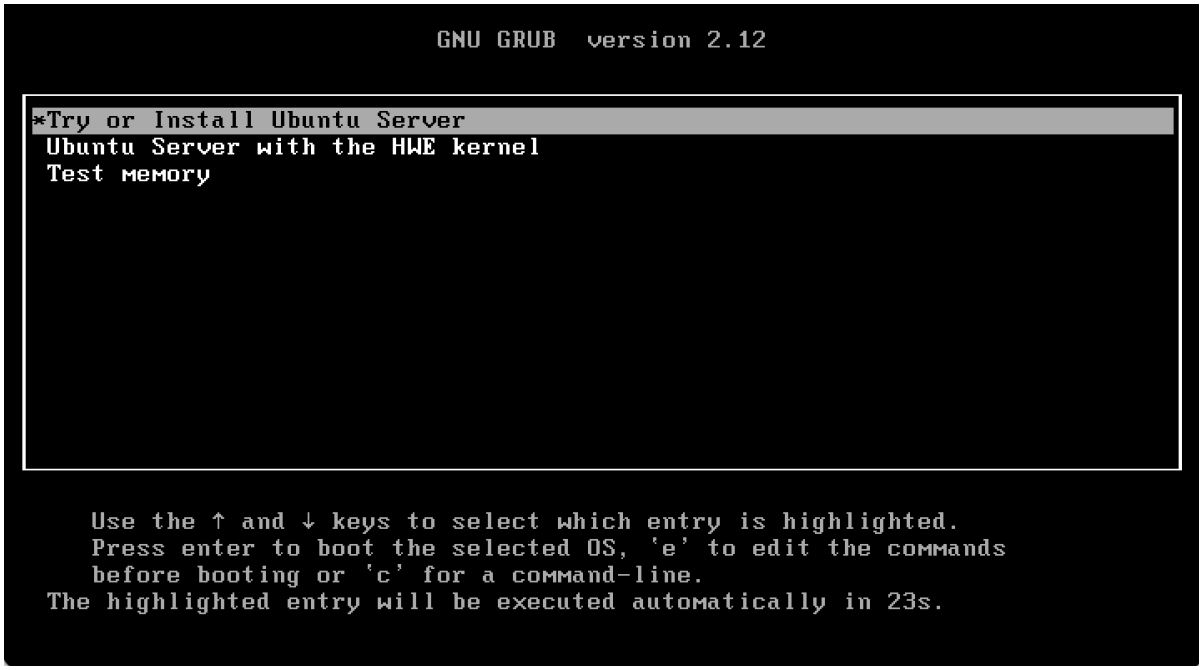
vCPU	4
RAM	8gb
HDD (SCSI)	60gb

Ubuntu 22.04 server edition can be download from the Ububtu 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.**

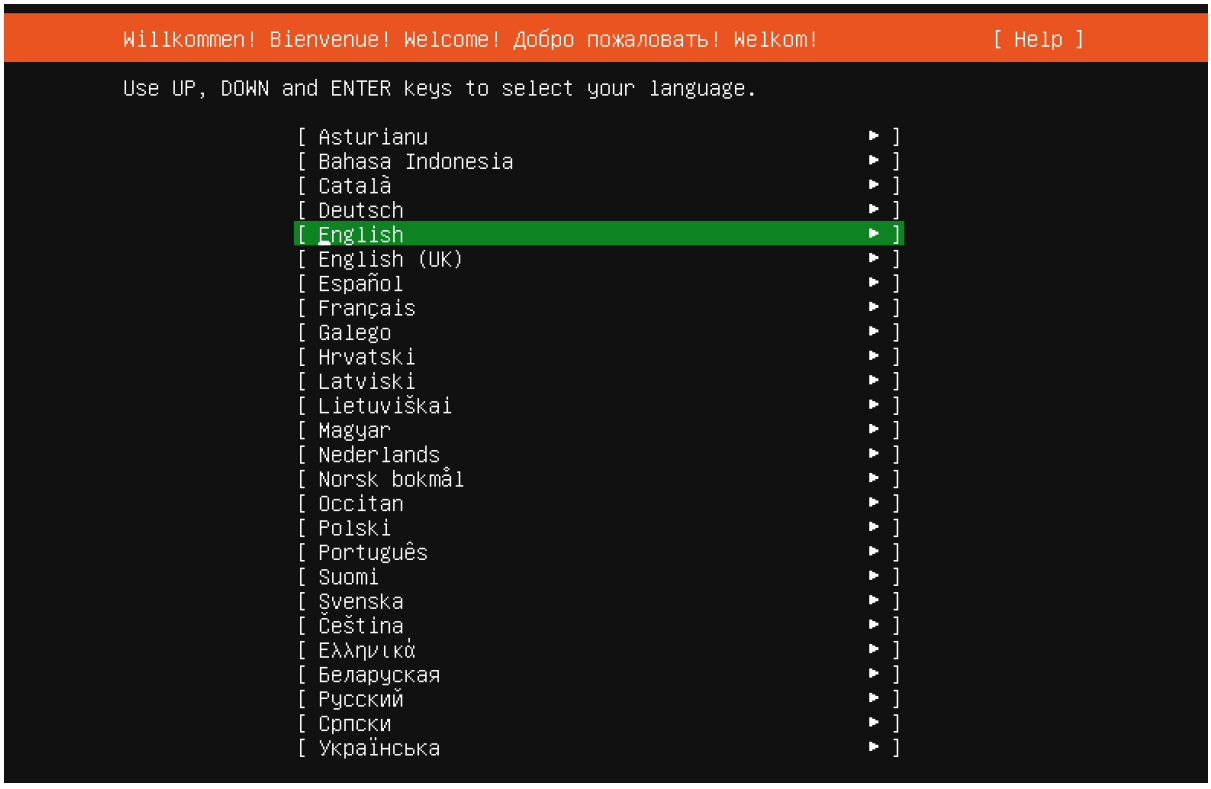
Also ensure that you have been given access to the NoTouchCenter .deb file download link as this is required as part of the installation process.

Ubuntu Server Virtual Machine Creation

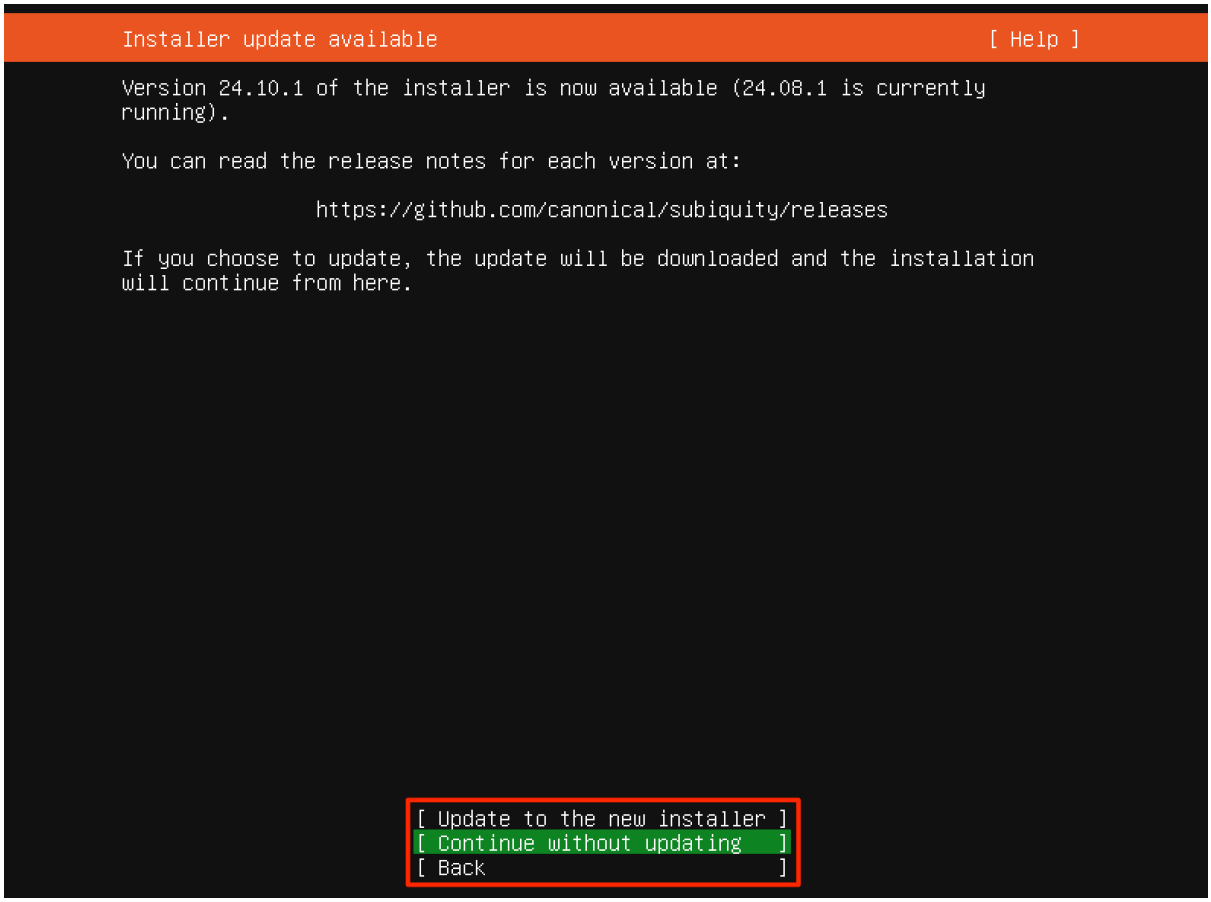
Once the virtual machine has been powered on select the default option to try or install ubuntu server. During the installation, you can use 'Tab' to move through the fields and select 'Done' to confirm any selection.



Select the preferred language.

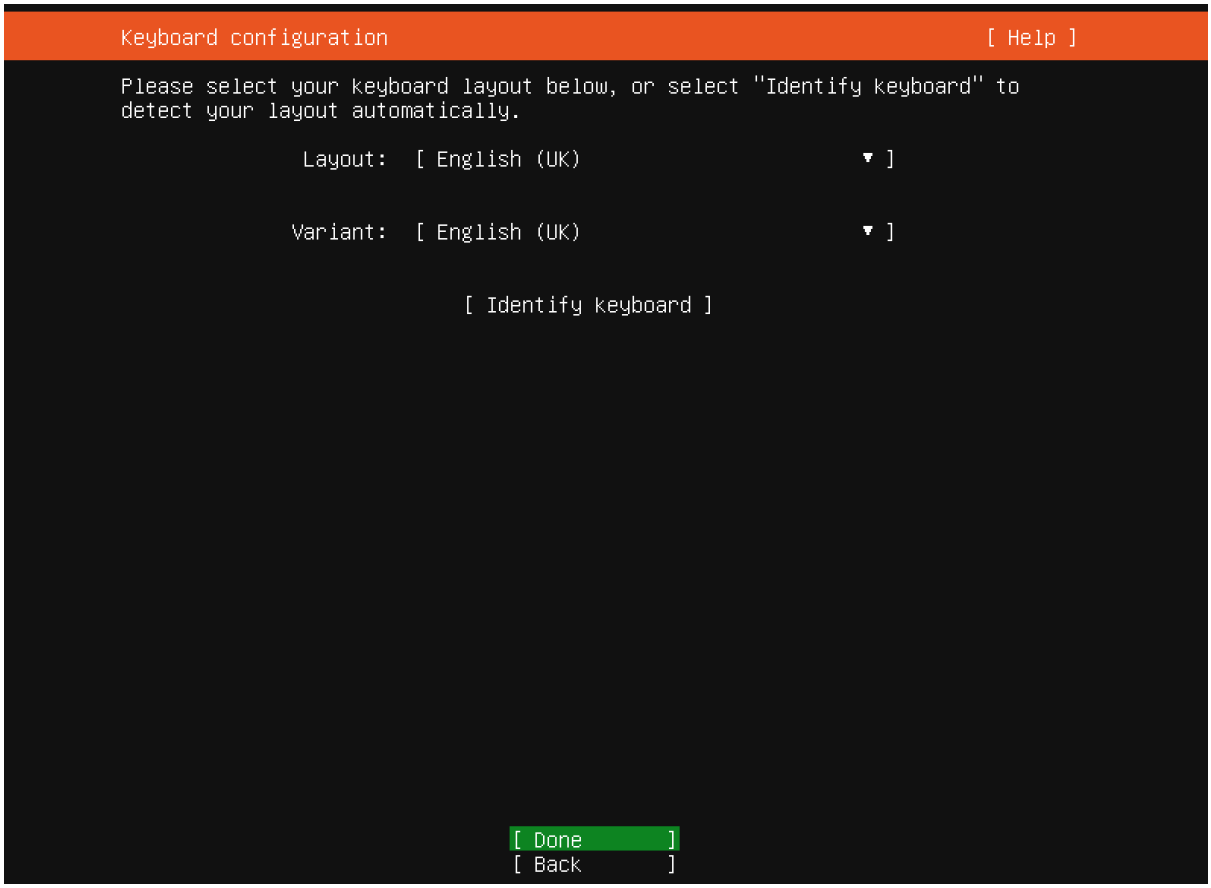


On the next screen, you will be asked if you want to update to the 24.04 installer.

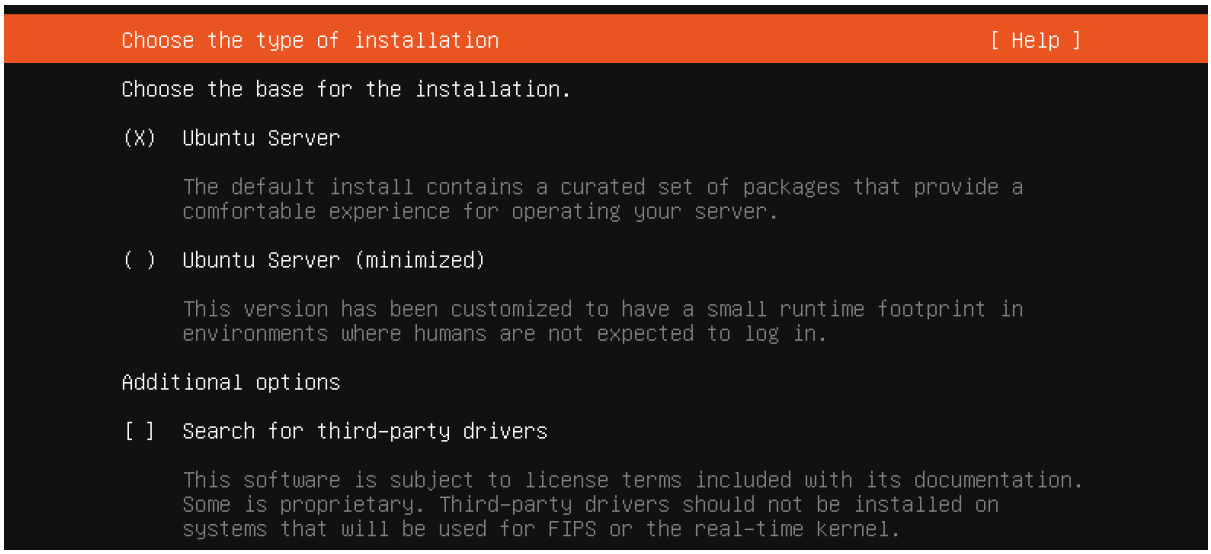


Select **continue without updating**. This is an LTS version of Ubuntu, but all underlying components will be the latest version so do not present a security risk.

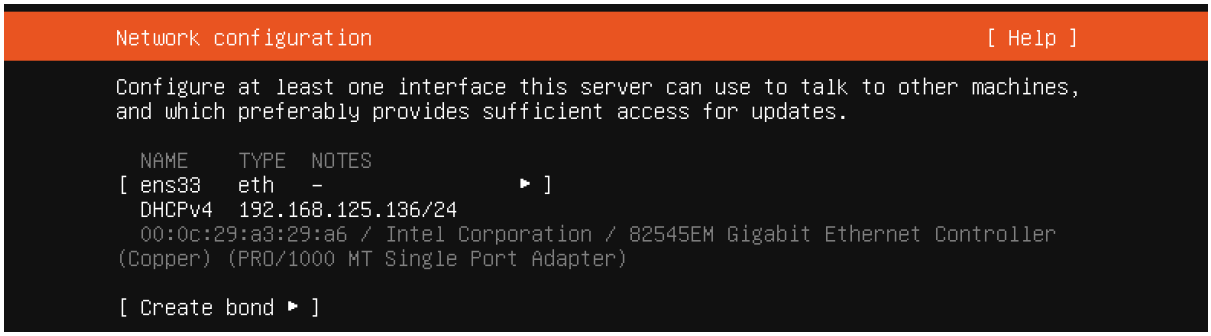
Select preferred keyboard layout.



Select the default Ubuntu Server

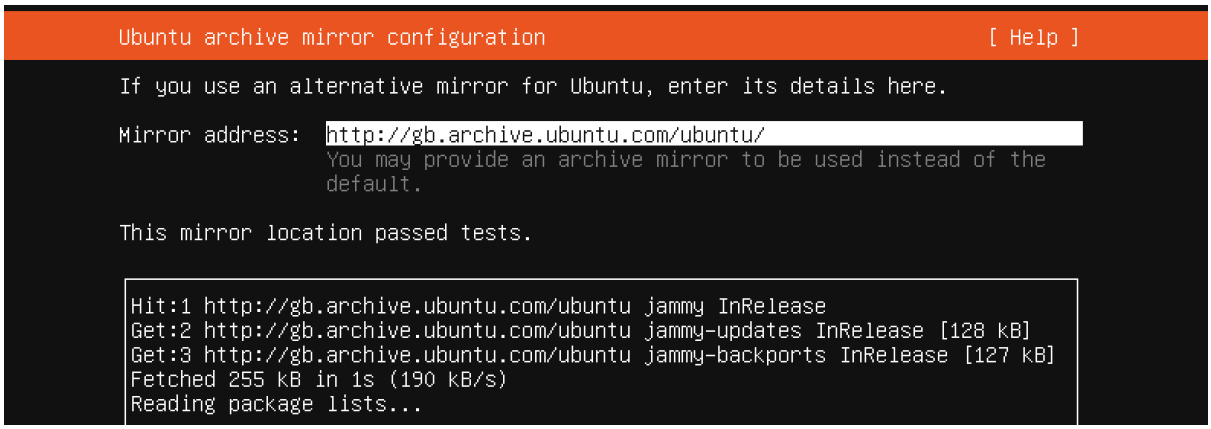


The network should detect DHCP automatically and assign an IP address, so make a note of this as this will be needed later, and it is recommended that a fixed IP address be assigned once the installation is complete.

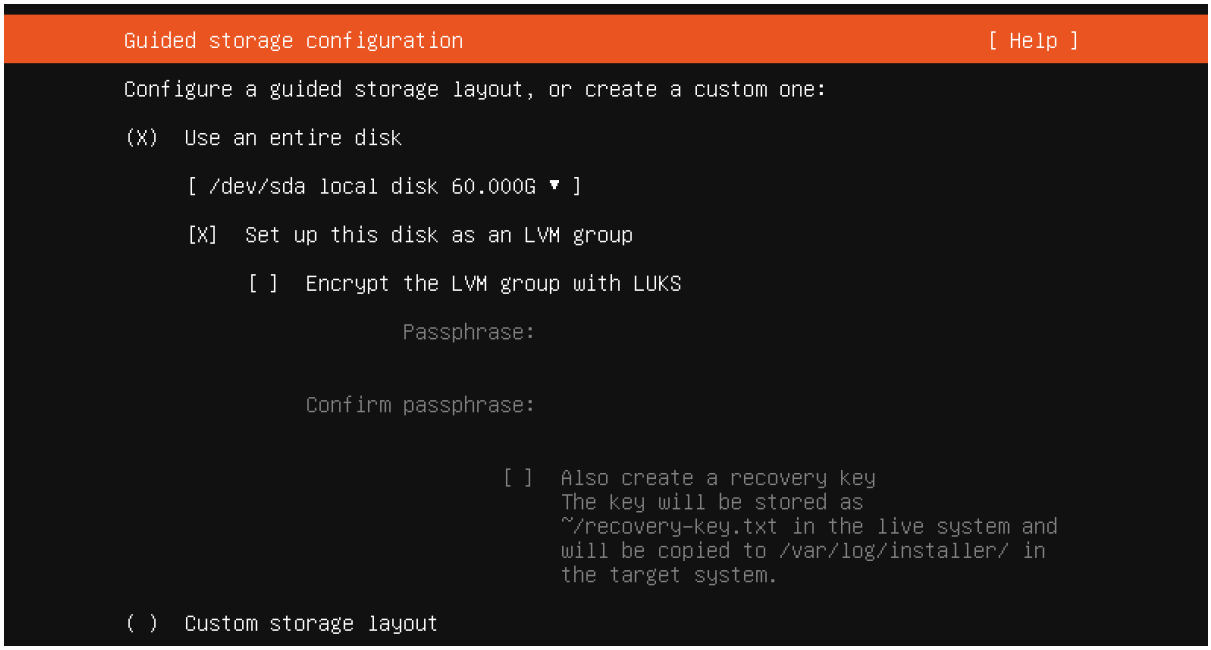


Add a proxy address if required.

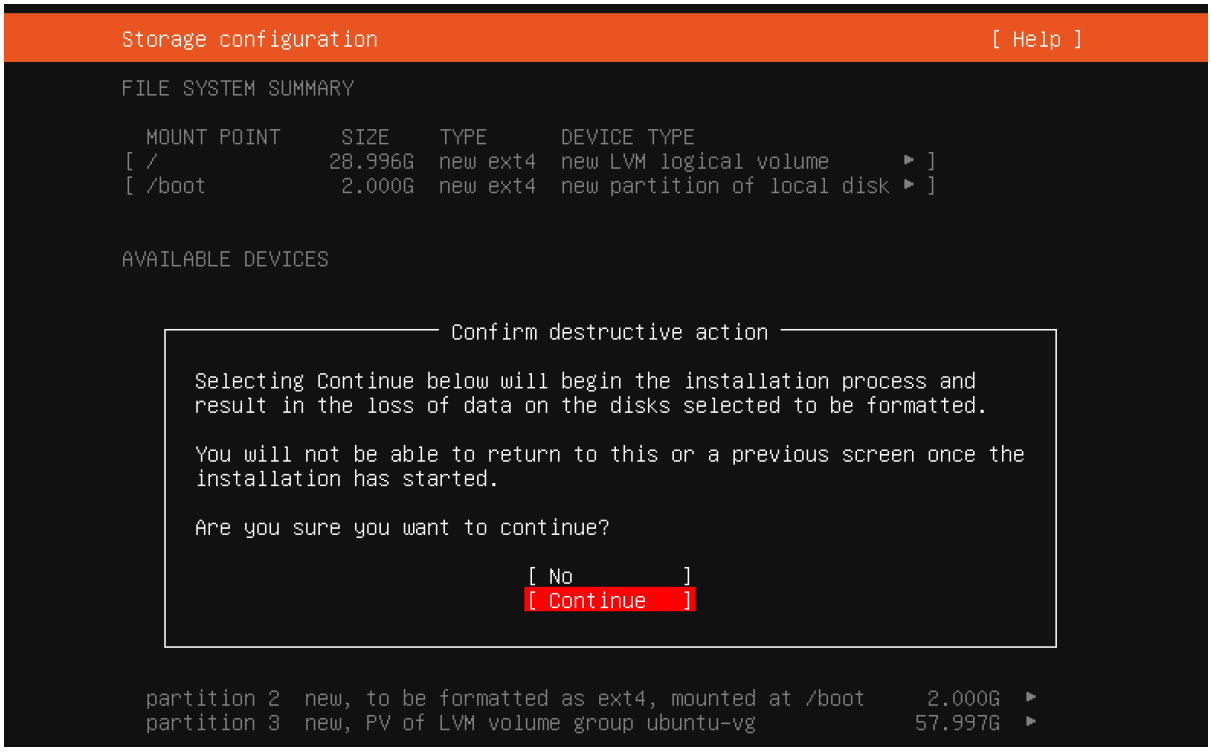
Allow Ubuntu to check for an alternative mirror



Select use entire disk.



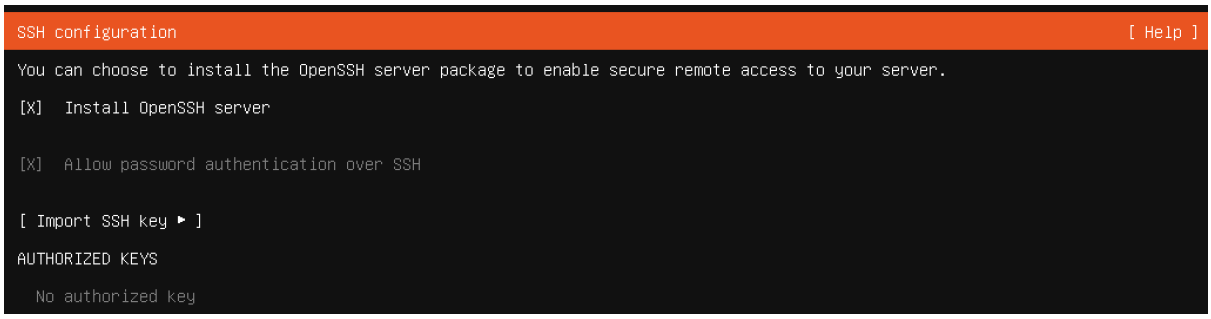
Confirm storage configuration and destructive action.



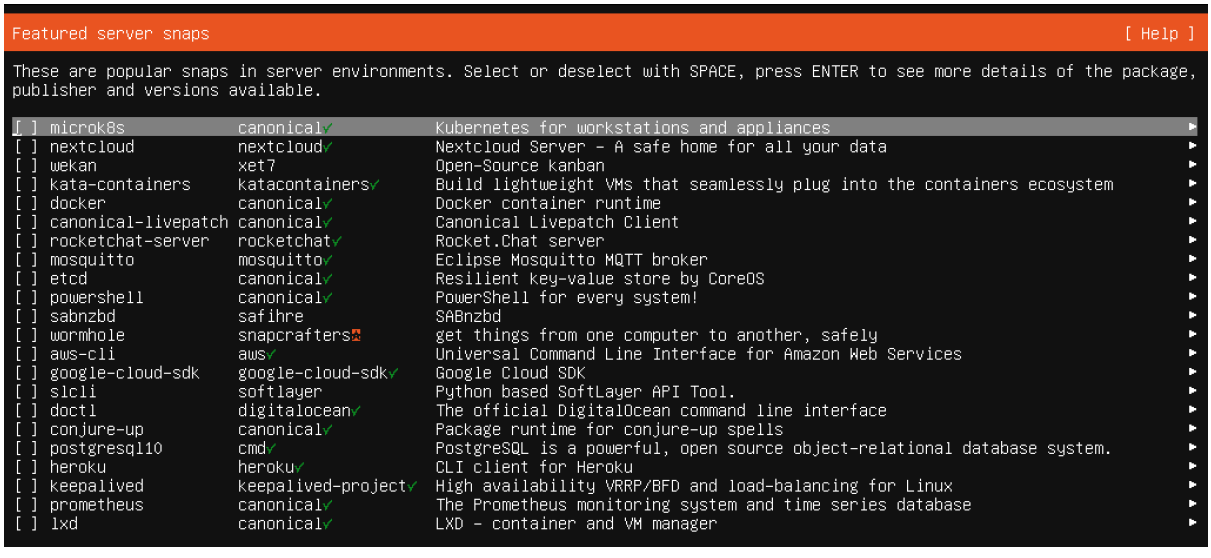
Confirm username and confirm the server name as tcmgr. Please note that a user of admin cannot be used.

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

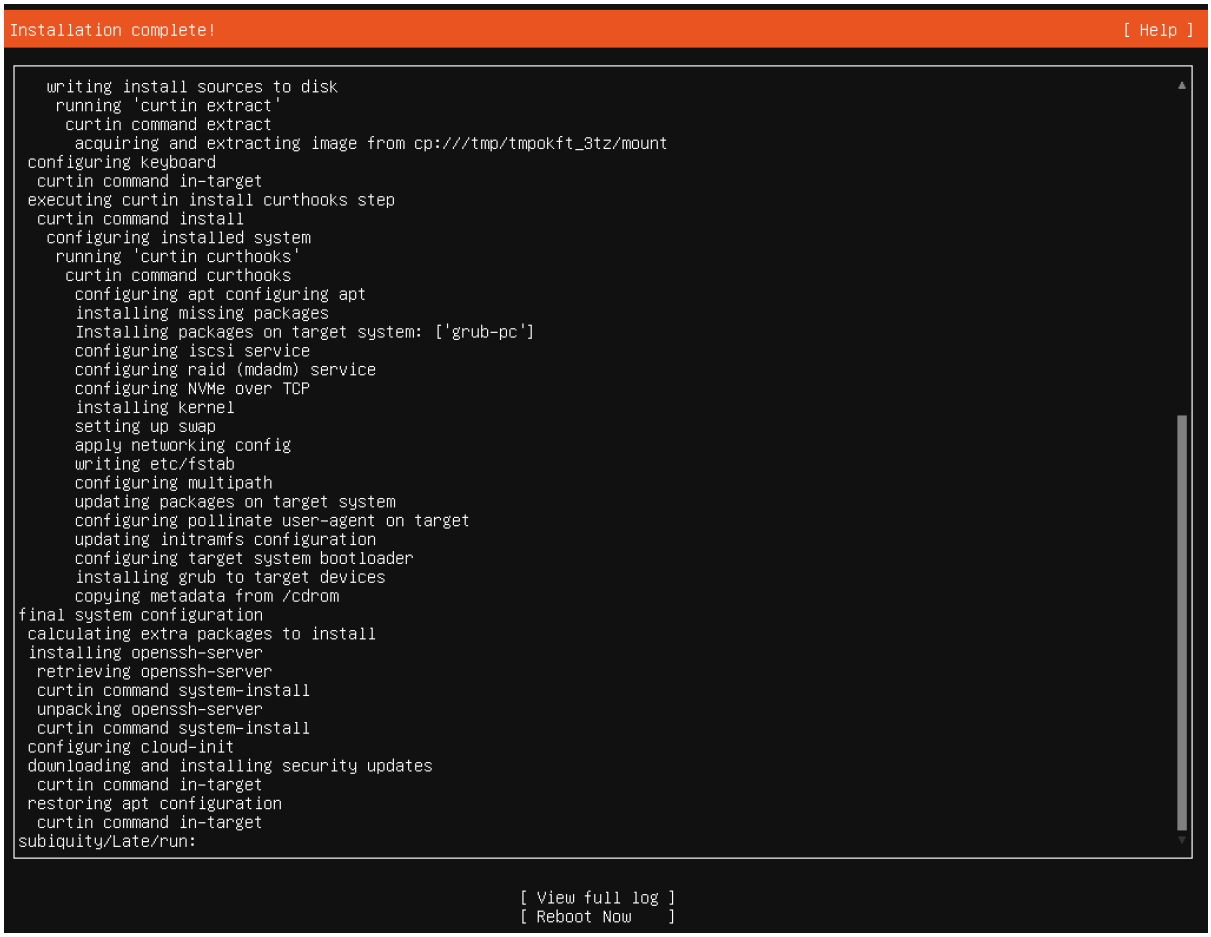
Press space to install Open SSH as this is required and is **NOT** installed by default.



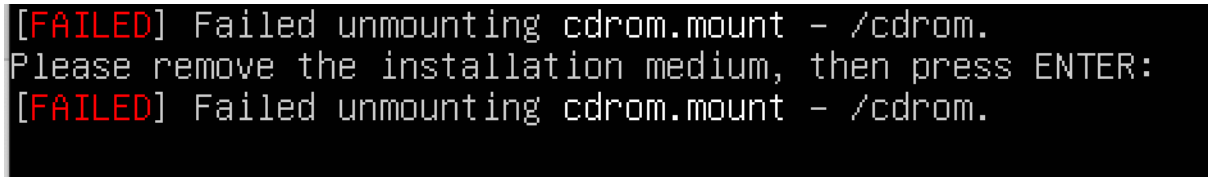
No configuration is required



The installation will now start and select reboot once complete.



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



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

NoTouch Center Installation

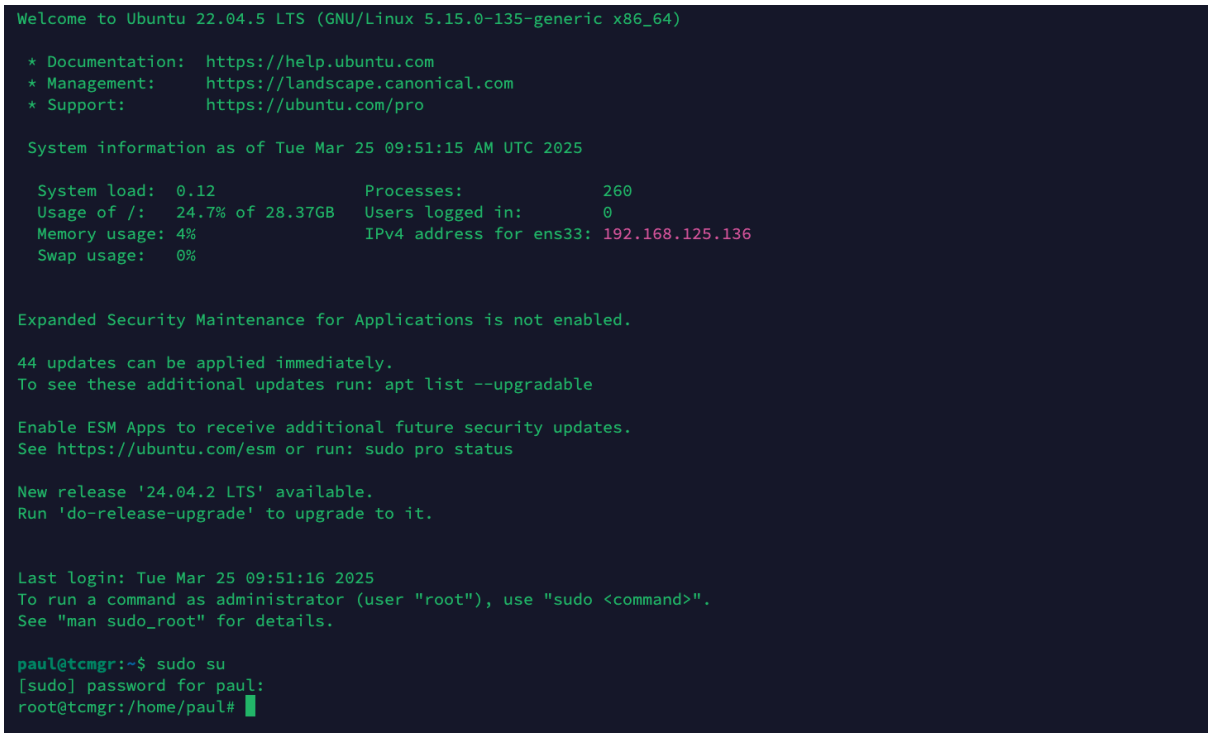
Ensure that you have been given access to the NoTouch Center .deb file download link as this is required as part of this section of the installation process. If not, please request this from your Stratodesk representative.

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

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.



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>

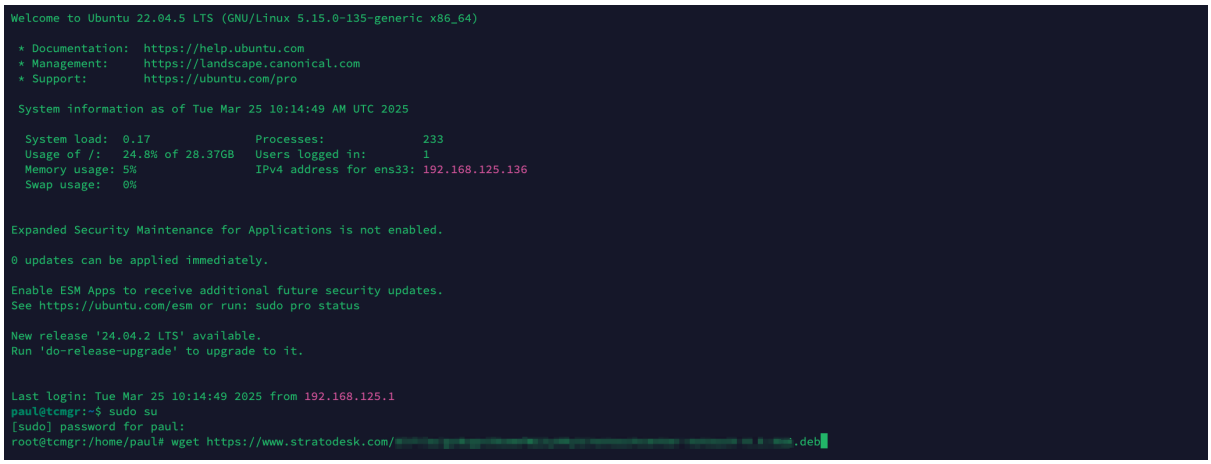
This process should not last more than a few minutes depending on your internet speed. You will be asked if you want to continue, so type ‘**y**’ for yes and press enter.

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

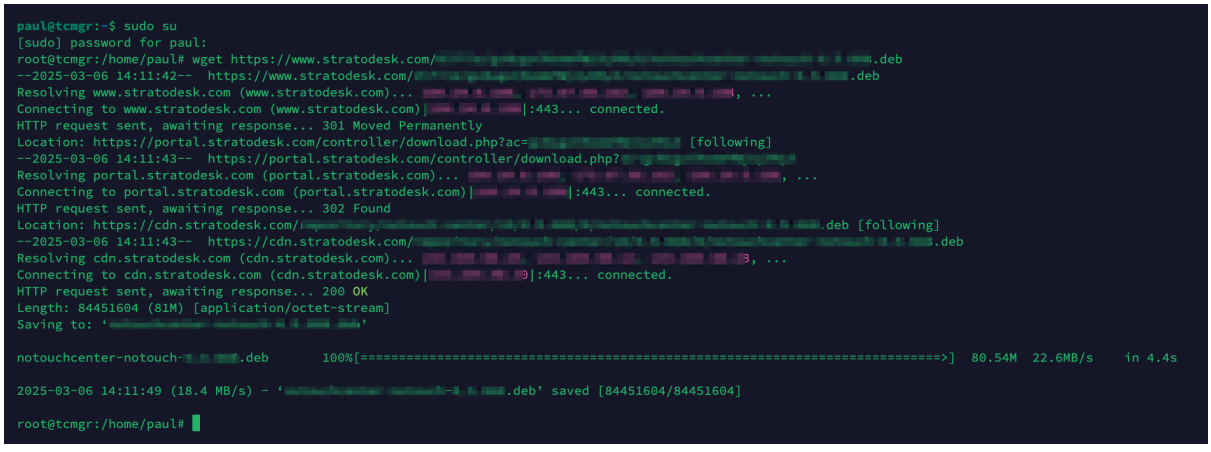
Using the url provided by your Stratodesk representative, paste this into the ssh session to initial the download of the NoTouch Center .deb file. The url would be like the one shown below.

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.



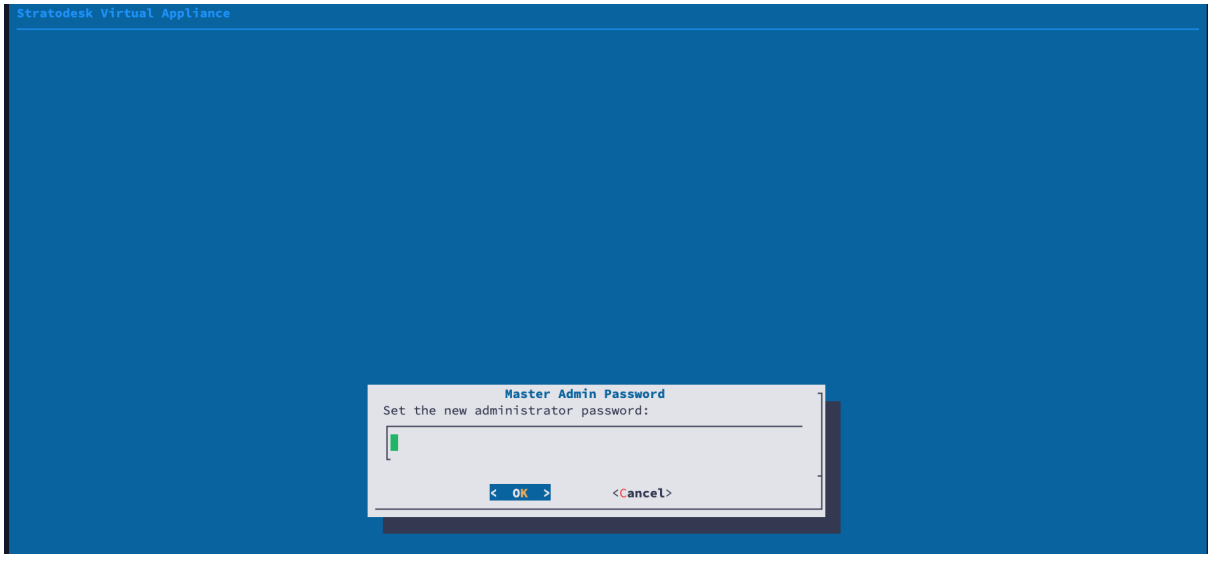
Next copy the command below and paste this into the ssh session and press enter.

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.

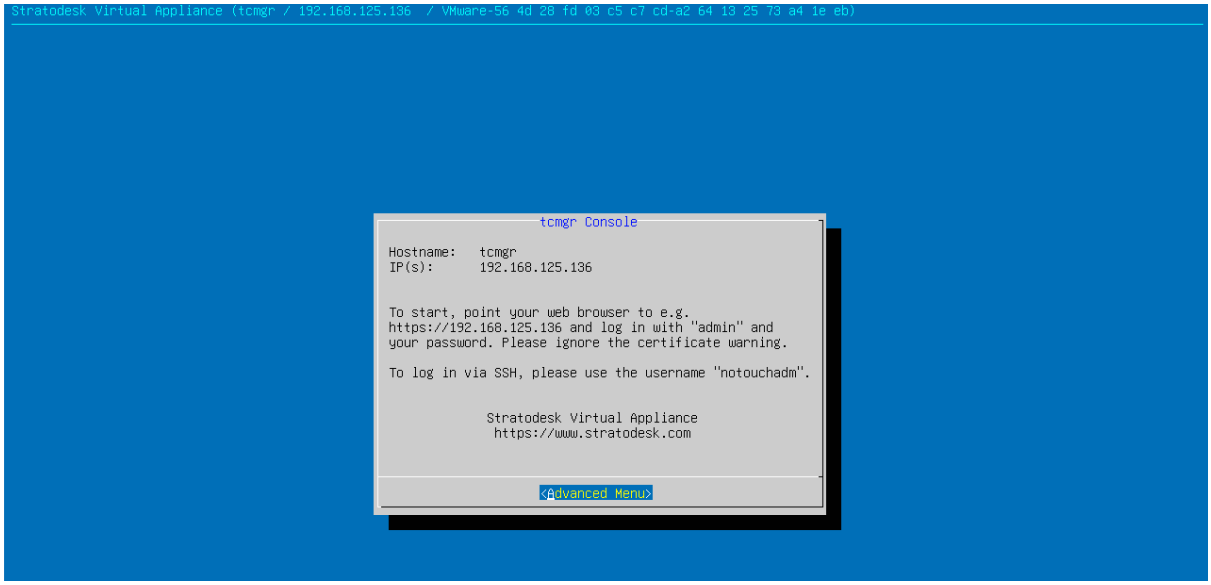
```
Setting up cloud-init (24.4.1-0ubuntu0~24.04.1) ...
Setting up libfwupd2:amd64 (1.9.28-0ubuntu1~24.04.1) ...
Setting up libpackagekit-glib2-18:amd64 (1.2.8-2ubuntu1.2) ...
Setting up landscape-common (24.02-0ubuntu5.2) ...
Setting up libldap-common (2.6.7+dfsg-1~exp1ubuntu8.2) ...
Setting up libopeniscsiusr (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 libnvme1t64 (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.

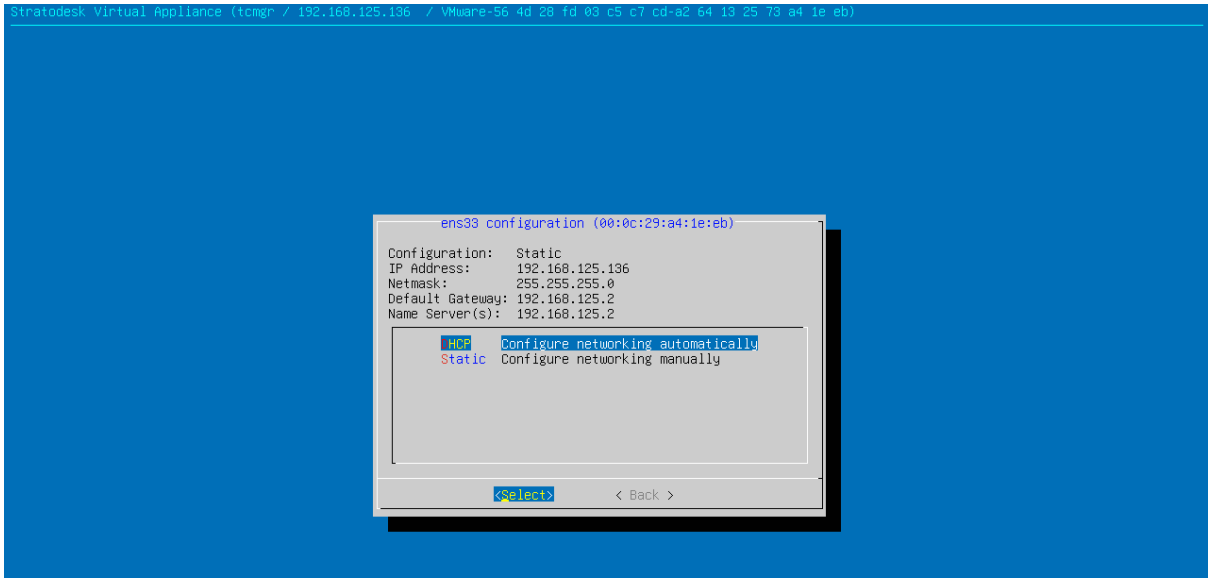


Confirm the password for the second time. Once this is complete it will automatically reboot the virtual appliance. This will then disconnect the ssh session.

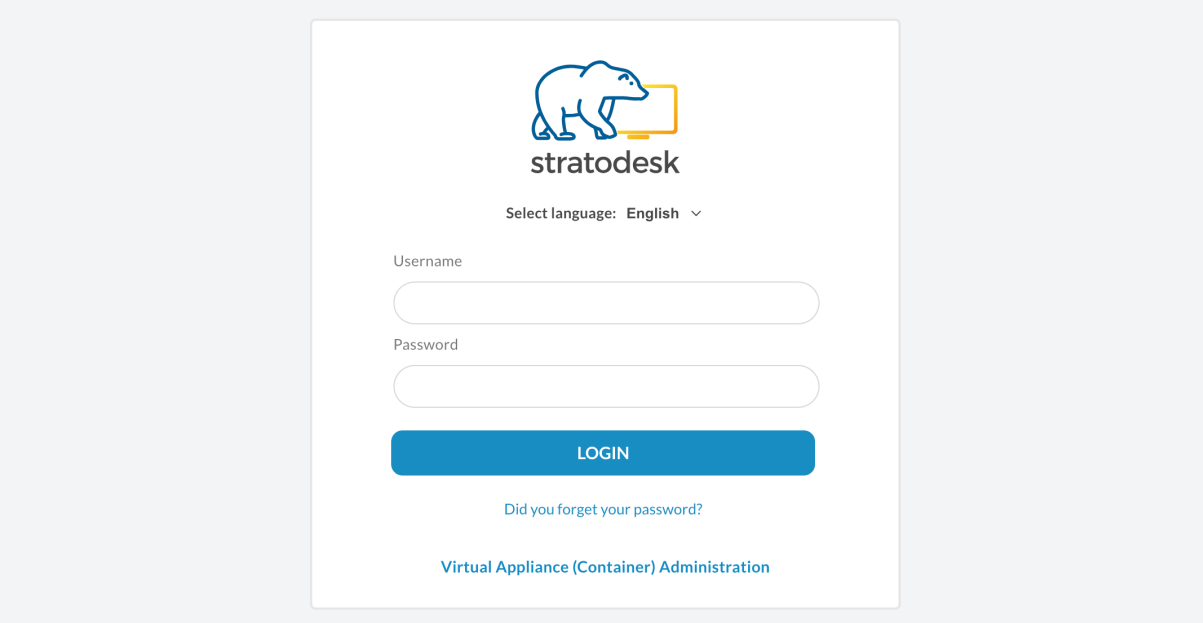
If the installation was successful, then the appliance should look like this when viewed within the hypervisor.



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.

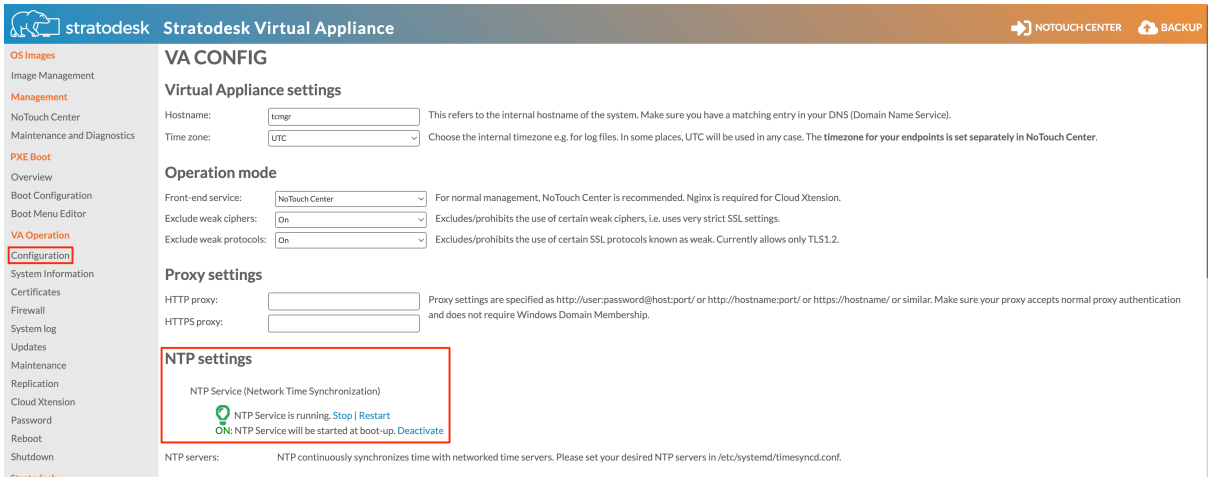


Currently the ntp service does not install. Once connected using ssh type the following:

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@tcmgr:~$ 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@tcmgr:~$ sudo systemctl start systemd-timesyncd
paul@tcmgr:~$
```

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



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.