

Sun Blade X4-2B Installation Guide for VMware ESXi



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Using This Documentation

This section describes how to get the latest firmware and software for the system, documentation and feedback, and a document change history.

- “Sun Blade X4-2B Model Name ” on page 5
- “Getting the Latest Firmware and Software” on page 5
- “Documentation and Feedback” on page 6
- “About This Documentation” on page 6
- “Support and Training” on page 6
- “Access to Oracle Support ” on page 7
- “Contributors” on page 7
- “Change History” on page 7

Sun Blade X4-2B Model Name

The name identifies the following: Sun Blade **X4-2B** Server Module

- 1: The alpha character, X, identifies an x86 product.
- 2: The first number, 4, identifies the generation of the server.
- 3: The second number, 2, identifies the number of processors.
- 4: The alpha character, B, identifies the product as a blade server.

Getting the Latest Firmware and Software

Firmware, drivers, and other hardware-related software for each Oracle x86 server, server module (blade), and blade chassis are updated periodically.

You can obtain the latest version in one of three ways:

- Oracle System Assistant – This is a factory-installed option for Sun Oracle x86 servers. It has all the tools and drivers you need and resides on a USB drive installed in most servers.
- My Oracle Support – <http://support.oracle.com>
- Physical media request

For more information, see “Getting Server Firmware and Software Updates” in *Sun Blade X4-2B Installation Guide*.

Documentation and Feedback

Documentation	Link
All Oracle products	http://www.oracle.com/documentation
Sun Blade X4-2B server module	http://www.oracle.com/goto/X4-2B/docs
X4 server series system administration	Oracle x86 Administration Guide for X4 Series Servers (http://www.oracle.com/goto/x86AdminDiag/docs)
Oracle System Assistant	Oracle x86 Administration Guide for X4 Series Servers (http://www.oracle.com/goto/x86AdminDiag/docs)
Oracle Integrated Lights Out Manager (ILOM) 3.1	http://www.oracle.com/goto/ILOM/docs
Oracle Hardware Management Pack	http://www.oracle.com/goto/OHMP/docs
Chassis Sun Blade 6000 modular system	http://www.oracle.com/goto/SB6000/docs

Provide feedback on this documentation at: <http://www.oracle.com/goto/docfeedback>.

About This Documentation

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, appendixes, or section numbering.

You can generate a PDF that includes all information about a particular topic subject (such as hardware installation or product notes) can be generated by clicking the PDF button in the upper left corner of the HTML page.

Support and Training

These web sites provide additional resources:

- Support: <http://support.oracle.com>
- Training: <http://education.oracle.com>

Access to Oracle Support

Oracle customers have access to electronic support through My Oracle Support. For information, visit <http://www.oracle.com/pls/topic/lookup?ctx=acc&id=info> or visit <http://www.oracle.com/pls/topic/lookup?ctx=acc&id=trs> if you are hearing impaired.

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Change History

The following lists the release history of this documentation set:

- September 2013. Initial publication.
- November 2013. Software 1.0.1 update.
- March 2013. Software 1.1 update.

About VMware ESXi Installation

This section contains an overview for installing VMware ESXi on your server.

The following topics are covered.

Description	Links
Learn about VMware ESXi software installation steps.	“Installation Task Map” on page 9
Learn about available documentation	“VMware ESXi 5 and Server Module Documentation” on page 10
Learn which VMware ESXi software versions are supported.	“Supported VMware ESXi Software” on page 10
Learn about console display options and how to set them up.	“Software Installation Options” on page 11
Learn about VMware ESXi install options.	“Interactive Installation Methods” on page 11

Installation Task Map

The following table describes the steps for installing VMware ESXi software.

Step	Task	Link
1	Access VMware ESXi 5 documentation.	“VMware ESXi 5 and Server Module Documentation” on page 10
2	Learn about supported VMware ESXi versions.	“Supported VMware ESXi Software” on page 10
3	Learn about the VMware ESXi 5 server installation options.	“Software Installation Options” on page 11
4	Determine which interactive installation method you want to use (if necessary).	“Software Installation Options” on page 11
5	Prepare the server module for VMware ESXi 5 installation.	“Preparing for ESXi 5 Installation” on page 13

Step	Task	Link
6	Install VMware ESXi 5 software using one of the available options.	“Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19
7	Update the VMware ESXi 5 software.	“Update VMware ESXi 5” on page 21

VMware ESXi 5 and Server Module Documentation

VMware ESXi 5 documentation is available here:

<http://pubs.vmware.com/vsphere-50/index.jsp>

The most up-to-date information about your server is maintained in the *Sun Server X4-2B Product Notes*. This document, other server-specific documents, and related documents are available online in the server module documentation library at:

<http://www.oracle.com/goto/X4-2B/docs>

Related Information

- [“Software Installation Options” on page 11](#)
- [“Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19](#)

Supported VMware ESXi Software

The server supports the following VMware ESXi software.

VMware Software	Edition
VMware ESXi 5.0	5.0 Update 2, Update 3
VMware ESXi 5.1	5.1 Update 1
VMware ESXi 5.5	5.5

For details on additional supported versions of ESXi and server updates, see:

<https://wikis.oracle.com/display/SystemsComm/Sun+Blade+Systems+Products#tab:Operating-Systems>

Software Installation Options

This document covers local and remote interactive ESXi 5.0 installation. There are other options for installing the software that are described in the VMware ESXi 5.0 documentation.

The following installation options are available for VMware ESXi 5.0:

- **Interactive ESXi Installation:** This method is recommended for installation on fewer than five servers.

See [“Interactive Installation Methods” on page 11](#) for information on the interactive installation methods covered in this document.

- **Scripted ESXi Installation:** Running a script is an efficient way to deploy multiple ESXi hosts with an unattended installation.

Refer to *vSphere Installation and Setup for xSphere 5.0, ESXi 5.0, and vCenter Server 5.0* for instructions on scripted installation.

- **vSphere Auto Deploy ESXi Installation:** With the vSphere Auto Deploy ESXi Installation, you can provision and reprovision large numbers of ESXi hosts efficiently with vCenter Server.

Refer to *vSphere Installation and Setup for xSphere 5.0, ESXi 5.0, and vCenter Server 5.0* for instructions on Auto Deploy installation.

- **ESXi Image Builder CLI:** You can use ESXi Image Builder to create ESXi installation images with a customized set of updates, patches, and drivers.

For instructions on ESX Image Builder CLI, refer to *vSphere Installation and Setup for xSphere 5.0, ESXi 5.0, and vCenter Server 5.0*

Related Information

- [“VMware ESXi 5 and Server Module Documentation” on page 10](#)
- [“Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19](#)

Interactive Installation Methods

Interactive installation is recommended for deployment of a small number of servers.

This document covers instructions for setting up your installation environment for single-server remote or local installation. For instructions on interactive PXE installation, see *vSphere Installation and Setup for xSphere 5.0, ESXi 5.0, and vCenter Server 5.0*.

Media Delivery Method	Additional Requirements
Local using a CD/DVD/USB drive – Uses a physical CD/DVD drive connected to the server or server USB drive.	A monitor, USB keyboard and mouse, a USB CD/DVD drive, and ESXi 5.0 distribution media.
Remote using a CD/DVD drive – Uses a redirected physical CD/DVD drive on a remote system running the Oracle ILOM Remote Console application.	A remote system with a browser, an attached physical CD/DVD drive, ESXi distribution media, and network access to the server's management port.
Remote using a CD/DVD ISO image – Uses a redirected ISO image on a remote system running the Oracle ILOM Remote Console application.	A remote system with a browser, ESXi distribution media, and network access to the server's management port.
PXE image – Uses an image of the OS installed on a PXE server.	A PXE server with the OS image installed.

Related Information

- [“Preparing for ESXi 5 Installation” on page 13](#)
- [“Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19](#)

Preparing for ESXi 5 Installation

The following table summarizes the high-level steps for preparing for ESXi 5 interactive installation.

Description	Links
Set up for the installation based on the selected installation method.	“Set Up the Local Console” on page 13 “Set Up the Remote Console” on page 14
Gather required information for the installation.	“Gather Required Information” on page 15
Select the BIOS boot mode (if needed).	“Select the BIOS Boot Mode” on page 16
Create a virtual disk (if needed).	“Creating a Virtual Disk and Setting the Boot Disk” on page 17

Note – You can also perform ESXi 5 interactive installation using a PXE server. For information on installing ESXi using a PXE server, refer to the *vSphere Installation and Setup for vSphere 5.0, ESXi 5.0, and vCenter Server 5.0*.

▼ Set Up the Local Console

- Before You Begin**
- Make sure that you have the following:
 - Multiport dongle cable connected to the server UCP port.
 - DVD-ROM drive
 - USB keyboard and mouse
 - Monitor
 - Verify that the server hardware clock is set to UTC. This setting is in the system BIOS.
 - Consider disconnecting your network storage. This action decreases the time it takes the installer to search for available disk drives.

Note – When you disconnect network storage, any files on the disconnected disks are unavailable at installation. Do not disconnect a LUN that contains an existing ESX or ESXi installation. Do not disconnect a VMFS datastore that contains the Service Console of an existing ESX installation. These actions can affect the outcome of the installation.

1 Review the *Sun Server X4-2B Product Notes* and VMware documentation.

- The Sun Blade X4-2B documentation is available at:
<http://www.oracle.com/goto/X4-2B/docs>
- The VMware ESXi 5 software documentation is available at:
<http://pubs.vmware.com/vsphere-50/index.jsp>

2 Download a copy of the VMware ESXi 5 image (.iso) file from the VMware web site:

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

3 Burn a copy of the .iso file to a DVD or USB drive.

4 Connect the following to the multiport dongle cable:

- DVD-ROM drive (if needed)
- USB keyboard and mouse
- Monitor

For details on how to cable the server, see the *Sun Blade X4-2B Installation Guide*.

- Next Steps**
- “Creating a Virtual Disk and Setting the Boot Disk” on page 17
 - “Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19

▼ Set Up the Remote Console

Before You Begin You need the following to set up for remote installation:

- DVD-ROM drive
- USB keyboard and mouse
- Monitor

1 Review the *Sun Blade X4-2B Product Notes* and VMware documentation.

- The Sun Blade X4-2B documentation is available at:
<http://www.oracle.com/goto/X4-2B/docs>
- The VMware ESXi 5 software documentation is available at:
<http://pubs.vmware.com/vsphere-50/index.jsp>

2 Download VMware ESXi 5 software from <http://www.vmware.com/download/>.

Select one of the following methods:

- Download the VMware ESXi 5 software and create installation CD/DVDs using the downloaded .iso image.
- Download the software to the remote server.

3 Connect the following to the remote server:

- DVD-ROM drive (if installing from media)
- USB keyboard and mouse
- Monitor

4 Set up the Oracle ILOM Remote Console.

For instructions on setting up the Oracle ILOM Remote Console, see the *Sun Blade X4-2B Installation Guide*.

- Next Steps**
- “Creating a Virtual Disk and Setting the Boot Disk” on page 17
 - “Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19

Gather Required Information

In an interactive installation, the system prompts you for the required system information. In a scripted installation, you must supply this information in the installation script.

For future use, note the values that you use during the installation. These notes are useful if you must reinstall ESXi and reenter the values that you originally chose.

Information	Required or Optional	Default	Comments
Keyboard layout	Required	U.S. English	
VLAN ID	Optional	None	Range: 0 through 4094

Information	Required or Optional	Default	Comments
IP address	Optional	DHCP	You can allow DHCP to configure the network during installation. After installation, you can change the network settings.
Subnet mask	Optional	Calculated based on the IP address	
Gateway	Optional	Based on the configured IP address and subnet mask	
Primary DNS	Optional	Based on the configured IP address and subnet mask	
Secondary DNS	Optional	None	vSphere Clients can use either the host name or the IP address to access the ESXi host.
Host name	Required for static IP settings	None	
Install location	Required	None	Must be at least 5GB if you install the components on a single disk.
Migrate existing ESX or ESXi settings. Preserve existing VMFS datastore.	Required if you are installing ESXi on a drive with an existing ESXi or ESX installation.	None	See information in the ESXi documentation on Installing ESXi on a Drive with an Existing ESX or ESXi Installation or VMFS Datastore.
Root password	Optional	None	The root password must contain between 6 and 64 characters.

▼ Select the BIOS Boot Mode

The BIOS firmware supports both legacy BIOS boot mode and Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI) boot mode; the default setting is Legacy boot mode. ESXi supports both legacy BIOS boot mode and UEFI BIOS boot mode, and you have the option of setting BIOS to either legacy boot mode or UEFI boot mode before you perform the OS installation.

Refer to: [Oracle x86 Administration Guide for X4 Series Servers \(http://www.oracle.com/goto/x86AdminDiag/docs\)](http://www.oracle.com/goto/x86AdminDiag/docs) for more information.

Note – If you are performing a VMware ESXi 5.0 installation over a network, UEFI BIOS boot mode is not supported. You will need to use Legacy BIOS boot mode, which is the default.

- 1 Power on the server.**
POST messages appear on the console.
- 2 Watch the messages, and, when the prompt appears, press F2 to access the BIOS Setup Utility.**
The BIOS Setup Utility main screen appears.
- 3 In the BIOS Setup Utility, use the left or right arrow keys to navigate to the Boot screen.**
The Boot Menu screen appears.
- 4 Use the down arrow key to select the UEFI/BIOS Boot Mode field.**
- 5 Press Enter and use the up or down arrow keys to select the Legacy or UEFI BIOS option.**
- 6 To save the changes and exit the BIOS Setup Utility, press F10.**

- Next Steps**
- [“Creating a Virtual Disk and Setting the Boot Disk” on page 17](#)
 - [“Installing VMware ESXi 5” on page 19](#)

Creating a Virtual Disk and Setting the Boot Disk

If you have a Sun Storage RAID 6Gb/s SAS **RAID** REM HBA, (SGX-SAS6-**R**-REM-Z) installed on the server module, you must create a virtual disk before installing the ESXi 5 software. Refer to the [Sun Blade X4-2B Installation Guide](#).

If you have a Sun Storage 6Gb/s SAS REM HBA (SGX-SAS6-REM-Z), you do not need to do this.

Installing VMware ESXi 5

The installation of VMware ESX/ESXi 5 includes the following procedures.

Step	Description	Link
1	Install VMware ESXi 5 using local or remote media.	“Install VMware ESXi 5 (Local or Remote Interactive Installation)” on page 19
2	Update VMware ESXi 5 software and drivers.	“Update VMware ESXi 5” on page 21

Note – You can also perform ESXi 5 interactive installation using a PXE server. For information on installing ESXi using a PXE server, refer to the installation and setup documentation for ESXi 5.0.

▼ Install VMware ESXi 5 (Local or Remote Interactive Installation)

Before You Begin Complete all of the preparation procedures in [“Preparing for ESXi 5 Installation” on page 13](#).

- 1 Connect to your server console using one of the methods described in your server's installation guide. See the instructions in one of the following procedures:**
 - [“Set Up the Local Console” on page 13](#)
 - [“Set Up the Remote Console” on page 14](#)
- 2 Power on or reset the server.**

BIOS messages appear on the console.
- 3 Insert the distribution media in the local or remote server.**

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 appears with a list 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 USB CD/DVD from the boot device list.

Control passes to the OS installation program on the media.

6 Follow the steps in the VMware vSphere 5 documentation to complete the installation.

See “VMware ESXi 5 and Server Module Documentation” on page 10.

- Next Steps**
- “Install VMware ESXi 5 Drivers” on page 20
 - “Update VMware ESXi 5” on page 21

▼ Install VMware ESXi 5 Drivers

If you have a Sun Blade 6000 Virtualized 40GbE NEM installed in the chassis, you need to install a driver for this NEM. The other NEMs that are supported with Sun Blade X4-2B do not require additional drivers.

To install the drivers for Sun Blade 6000 Virtualized 40GbE NEM, do the following:

1 Search the VMware site for the following:

VMware ESXi 5.0 Driver CD for Oracle Sun Blade 6000 Virtualized Network Express Module - 7100090

2 Download the drivers.**3 Install the drivers.**

- 4 Restart the server.

Next Steps ■ “Update VMware ESXi 5” on page 21

▼ Update VMware ESXi 5

To install a newer version of VMware ESXi 5.0, do the following:

- 1 Check the VMware web site to see if any updates are available.
<http://www.vmware.com/support>
- 2 Before performing the VMware ESXi 5 update, review the installation and setup documentation for ESXi 5.0.
- 3 Download and install any updates as described on the VMware web site.

Next Steps ■ “Install VMware ESXi 5 (Local or Remote Interactive Installation)” on page 19
■ “Install VMware ESXi 5 Drivers” on page 20

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