Dell EMC SmartFabric OS10 Virtualization Guide

Enterprise Edition

DELL EMC

Notes, cautions, and warnings

NOTE: A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your product.

CAUTION: A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

WARNING: A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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Contents

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Dell EMC SmartFabric OS10 software virtualization

Dell EMC SmartFabric OS10 combines the best of Linux, open computing, and networking to advance open networking disaggregation. OS10 is a transformational software platform which provides networking hardware abstraction through a common set of APIs.

You can enable consistency across compute and network resources for your system operator (sysops) groups that require server-like manageability, and leverage your existing network configuration.

You can simulate OS10 devices using OS10 VM appliances. The OS10 VM appliances run the same software deployed on OS10-enabled hardware devices, except for the hardware abstraction layer. The OS10 VM hardware abstraction layer simulates hardware devices in a VM environment.

All CLI commands and RESTCONF and SNMP interfaces are available in the OS10 simulation environment. You can build sandbox environments to learn open networking concepts, and prototype network operations and scripts risk-free.

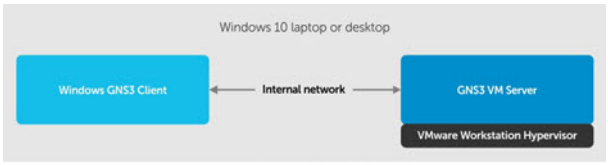
GNS3

GNS3 is an environment that allows simulation of networking equipment in realistic scenarios. It can be used to emulate, configure, test, and troubleshoot networks in a simulated environment. GNS3 allows you to run a small network topology consisting of only a few devices on your Windows 10 laptop, or larger network topologies on VMware ESXi hypervisor or VMware Workstation server.

You can use the GNS3 simulator to create a virtual environment to emulate various networks. See GNS3 online documentation and Getting started with GNS3 for complete information.

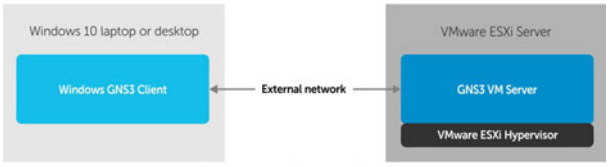
GNS3 can be used to run OS10 simulator VMs. Its most significant and useful features for OS10 include:

- GNS3 client (GUI)—Supports creation and visualization of complex network connections
- GNS3 server—Component that controls OS10 VM execution (natively supports VMware Workstation or ESXi hypervisors)
- GNS3 client and server separation—Client and server can be run on different machines or operating systems



Laptop VMware Workstation Setup

Linux Server Setup



VMware ESXi Server Setup

OS10 simulation features

All OS10 CLI commands and north-bound interfaces (RESTCONF, SNMP) are available including:

- System management (SSH, AAA, DHCP, and so on)

- Management port

L3 data plane and control plane (using Linux functionality)

Partial support for L2 data plane and control plane (using Linux functionality):

- LACP
- VLAN
- LLDP
- VLT

OS10 feature limitations

- No ACL or QoS support (NPU is not available)—ACL and QoS CLI commands are available (but have no effect on traffic)
- Limited L2 functionality (NPU is not available on simulator)—No spanning-tree control plane functionality
- No breakout mode for simulated ports
- Defaults to S5248F-ON hardware platform simulation

Supported VM platforms

Table 1. Supported OS10 platform types

Serial No.	Supported OS10 platform type
1	S6010-ON
2	S4128F-ON
3	S5212F-ON
4	S5224F-ON
5	S5248F-ON
6	S6000-ON

Requirements

- Workstation or laptop with 16 GB RAM or larger recommended
- 64-bit x86 CPU with 2 GHz or faster core speed (dual-core or larger recommended)
- SDD with 64 GB available space
- Virtualization environment—You can use either Windows, Linux, or VMware ESXi as a host system for the GNS3 Server VM environment
- VMware ESXi server recommended for large network simulation
- OS10 GNS3 appliance

How to start

1. Download the GNS3 Server VM, then import the VMware ESXi GNS3 Server VM to act as the GNS3 server.
2. Import the GNS3 server OVA, then enable nested virtualization.
3. Boot the GNS3 Server VM.
4. Install the GNS3 client software on your Windows 10 laptop to act as the GNS3 client, then connect to a remote server.
5. Import the OS10 GNS3 appliance.
6. Create nodes (OS10 VM devices) and links for your network.
7. Start the OS10 VM devices.

2

Setup GNS3 server

You must first install the GNS3 Server VM to act as the simulated network server. The GNS3 client visualizes the configuration while the GNS3 server controls and runs the OS10 VMs.

How to start

1. Verify you have met all network requirements.
2. Download the GNS3 Server VM, then import either VMware ESXi GNS3 Server VM or VMware Workstation to act as the GNS3 server.
3. Import the GNS3 Server OVA, then enable nested virtualization.
4. Boot the GNS3 Server VM.

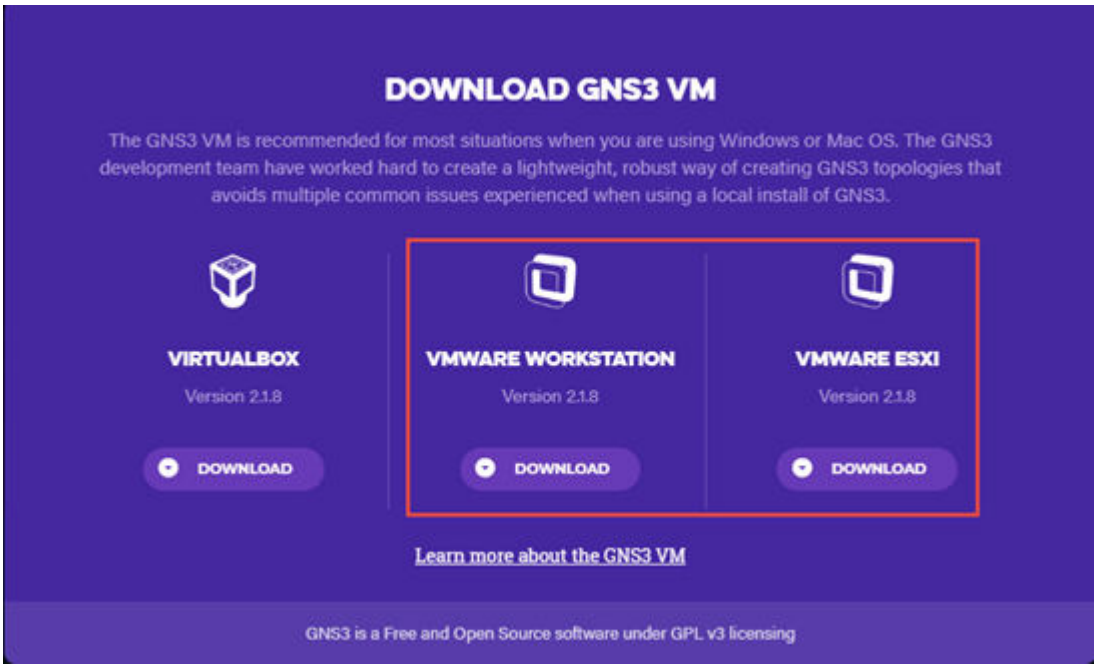
Prerequisites

- ESXi GNS3 Server VM—Download the latest version from Github (always download the latest stable version)

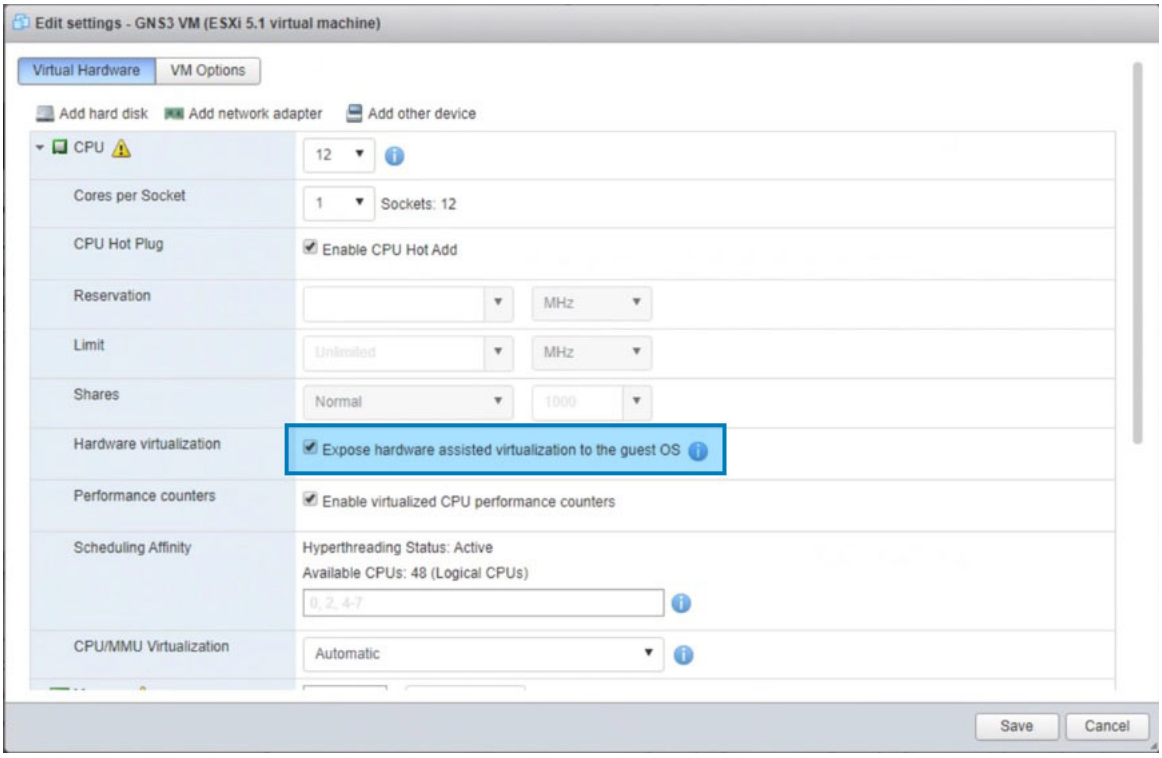
  ESXi GNS3 server image is called `GNS3.VM.VMware.ESXI<major release number>.<minor release number>.<version>.zip` (for example, `GNS3.VM.VMware.ESXI.2.1.8.zip`)
- ESXi Server, version 6.0 or above (version 6.5 or above preferred)
- ESXi Client—Either Windows or Linux, or compatible browser

NOTE: GNS3 client and server versions must match. These steps outline how to use VMware ESXi. You can also use the VMware Workstation GNS3 VM following similar steps.

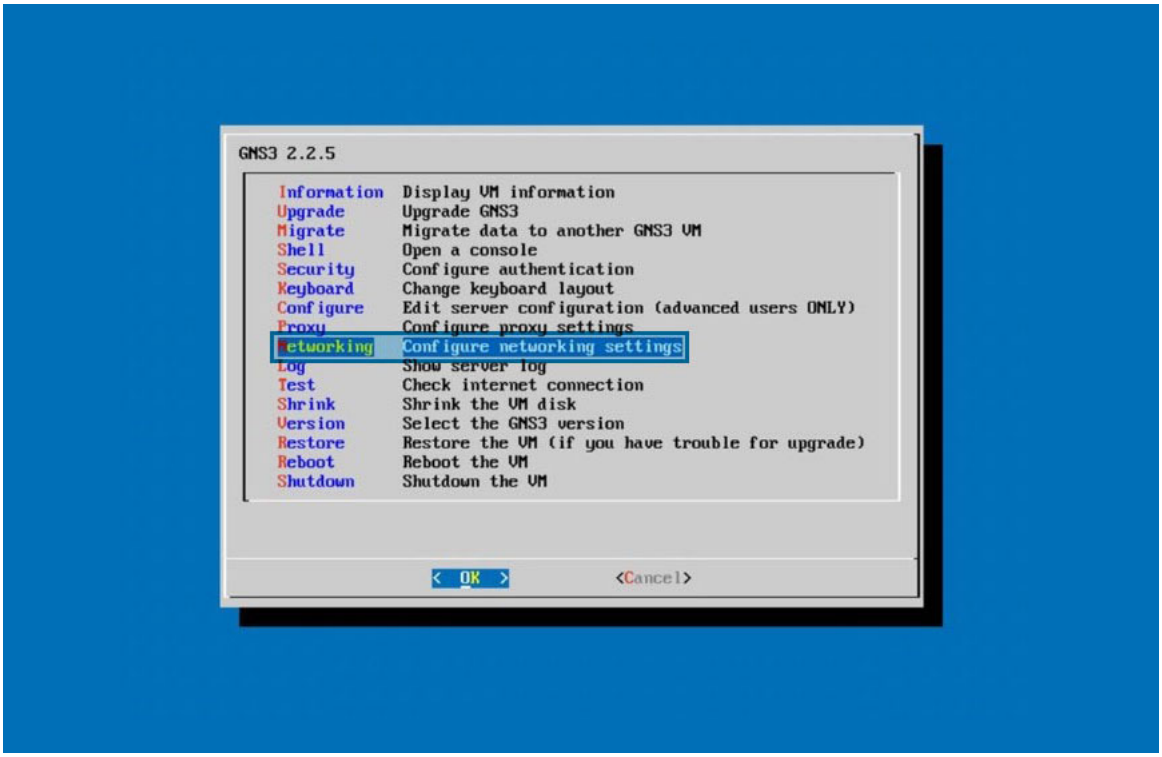
1. Go to GNS3 and download the GNS3 VM software.



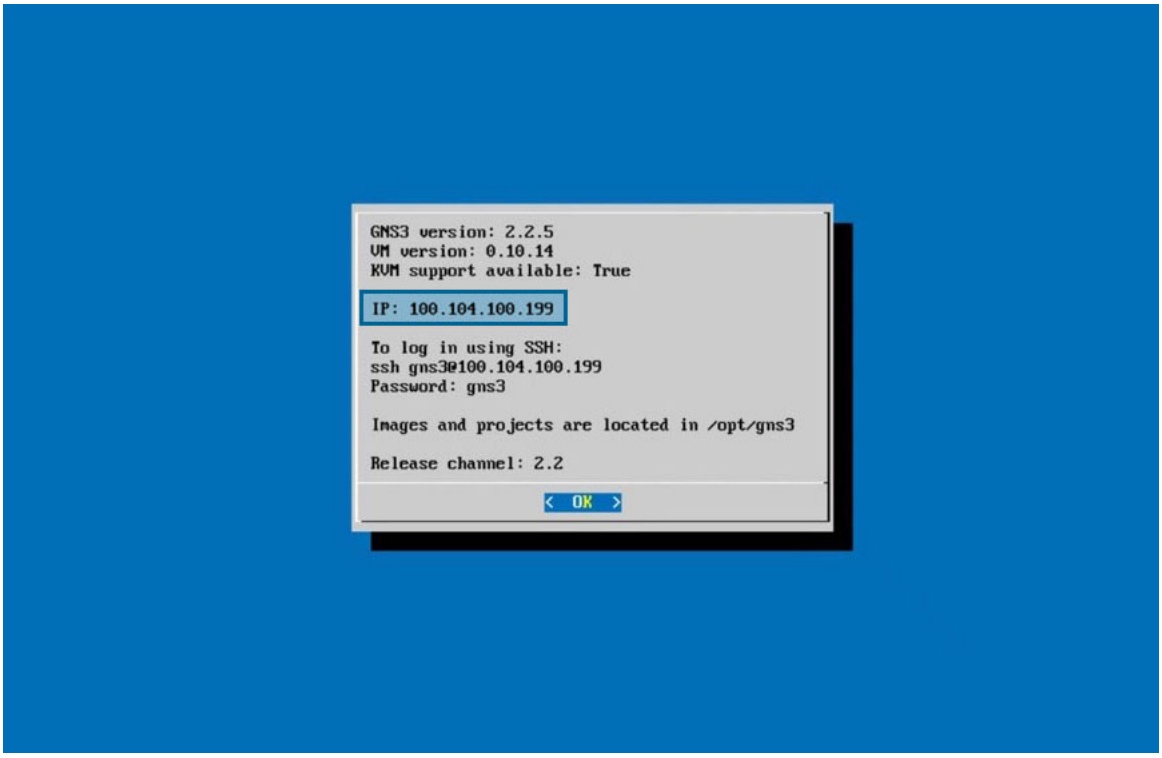
2. Import the GNS3 VM. Extract the GNS3 VM file, then import the ESXi GNS3 Server VM (see video on importing an OVA file). Ensure that **Nested Virtualization** is enabled after importing the GNS3 Server OVA.



3. Boot the VM, and configure networking. You need at least one network interface controller with connectivity. Configure the IP address of `eth0`.



You must use the IP address when configuring the GNS3 client on your laptop. The IP address is shown at boot time, and by selecting the **Information - Display VM information** option.

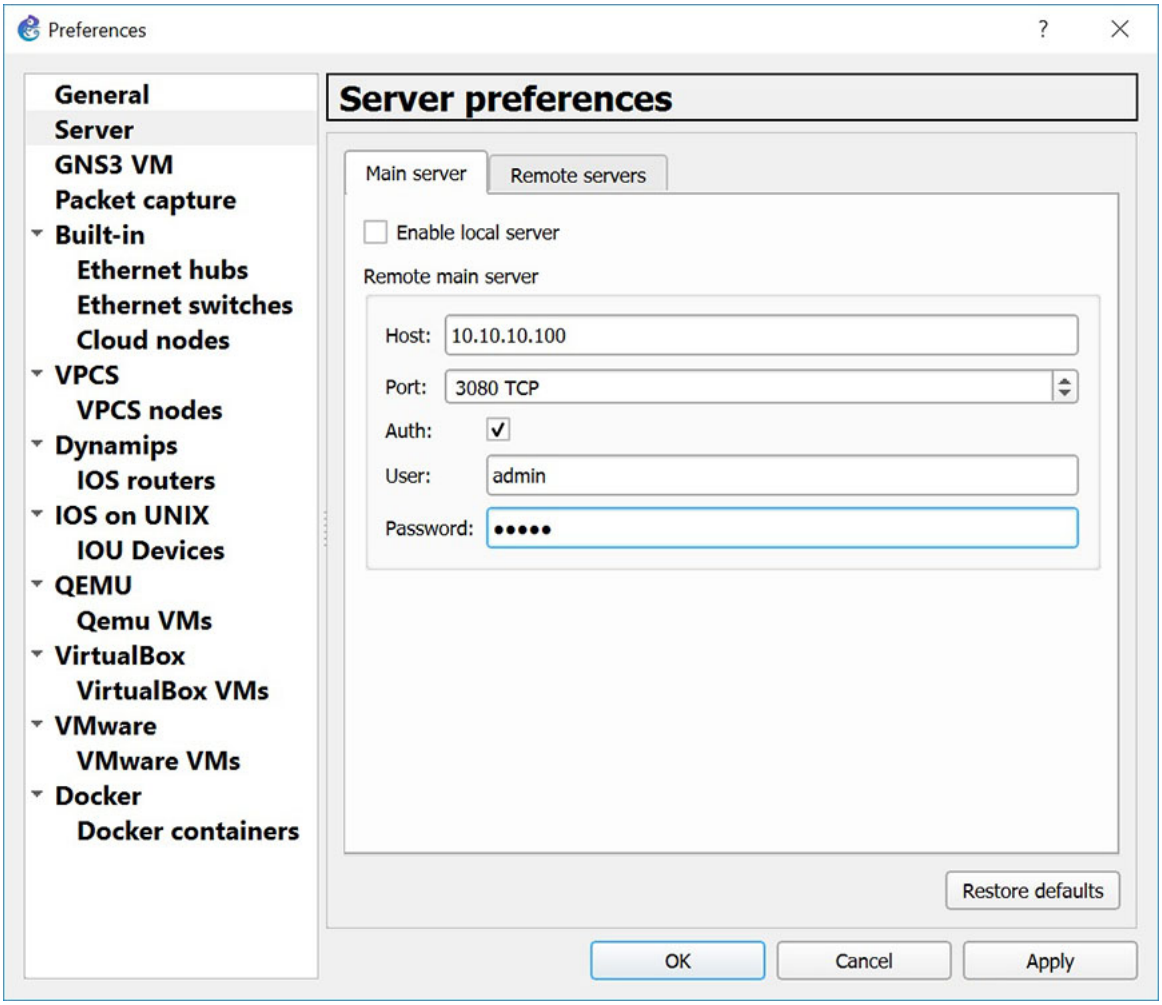


4. On the GNS3 server (GNS3 Server VM appliance), use the password that you have configured in the `gns3_server.conf` file to connect the client to the server. The `gns3_server.conf` file can be found in */home/.config/GNS3* (your installation may differ).

   `gns3_server.conf` example

   ```
   [Server]

   port = 3080
   ...
   user = admin
   auth = True
   password = admin
   ...
   ```

5. Restart the GNS3 server for any changes to take effect.



It may take a few seconds to connect to the GNS3 server.

3

Setup GNS3 client

Now that you have set up the GNS3 Server VM to act as your server, you are ready to set up the client side of your network to simulate OS10 devices.

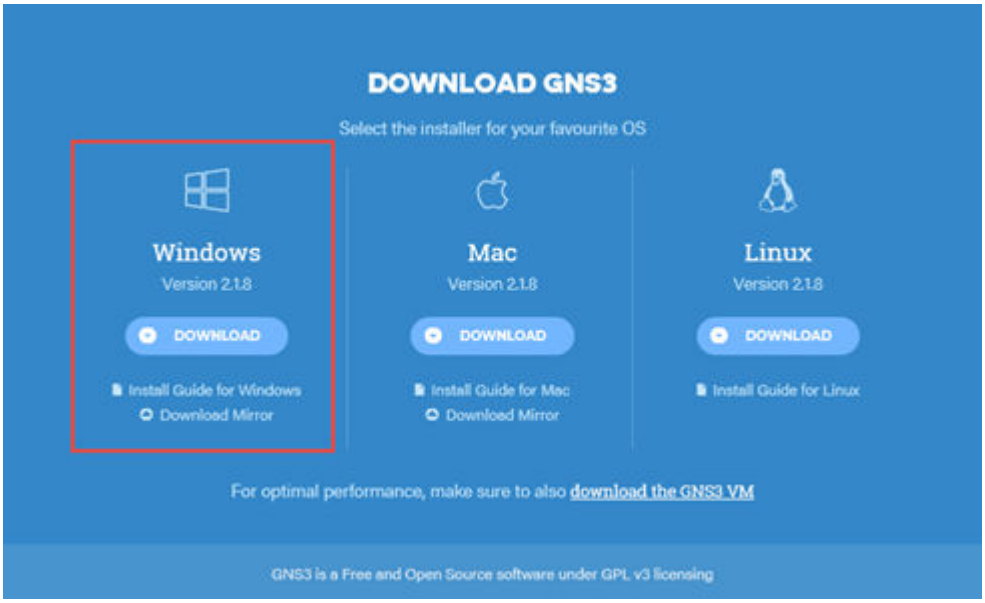
Once you install the GNS3 client on your Windows laptop, you can then connect to the remote GNS3 server. The GNS3 client and server must have the same version.

Install GNS3 client on Windows

NOTE: Bare metal GNS3 server functionality on Windows is not supported for OS10 simulation.

1. Go to GNS3 and download the Windows software. The most current software downloads, for example. `GNS3-2.1.8-all-in-one.exe`). GNS3 is open source free software, but you must create an account to download the software.

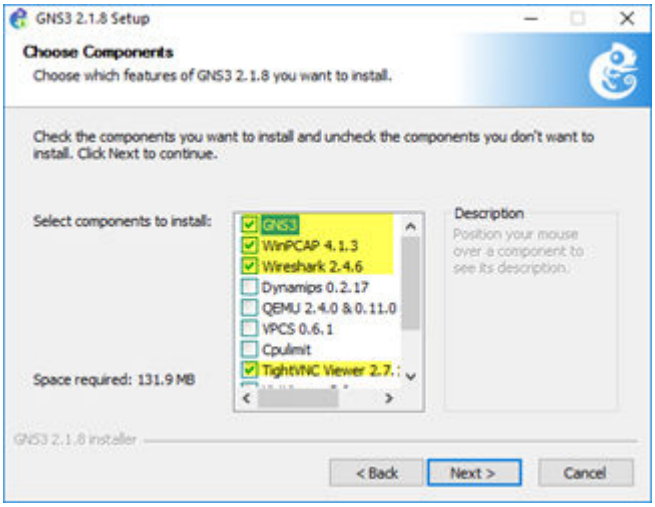
   If you do not have an account, register to create an account. If you do have an account, click Login and enter your username and password, then click Login and continue. If you prefer to download GNS3 without creating an account, you can download the software from GNS3 GitHub.



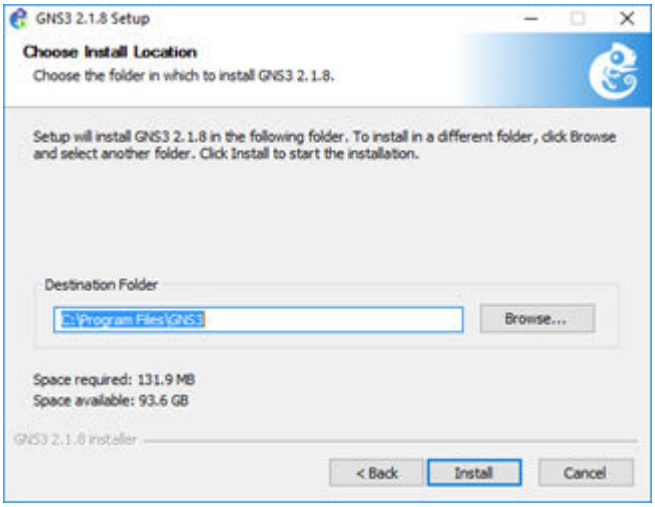
2. Click **Run** to start the installer, then click **Next**.

3. Click **I Agree**, then **Next** to add the shortcut.

4. Select **GNS3** and **TightVNC Viewer**, then click **Next**. You can experiment with Wireshark and WinPCAP for packet capturing on inter-VM links.



5. Select an installation folder, then click **Install**.



6. Click **Next** to complete installation, then click **Finish**.

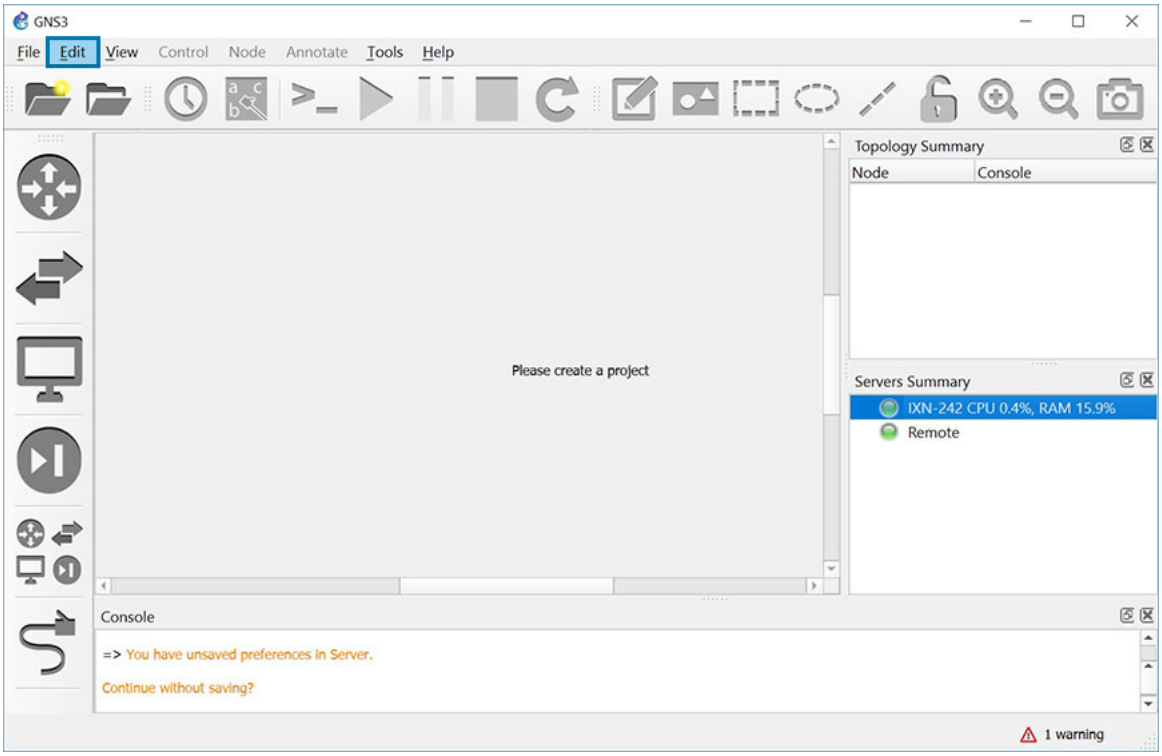
The `Thank You for Installing GNS3!` message appears. You can browse documentation, GNS3 Academy network training content, or explore the Marketplace.

Start and configure the GNS3 client

Prerequisite: IP address of a started GNS3 server (a GNS3 server executed as a VM).

1. Click **Start > GNS3** in the Windows Start Menu.

   Configure the GNS3 client to use a remote server rather than a local server; the GNS3 server executed as a guest operating system in either ESXi or VMware Workstation.
2. Select **Remote Server** when the GNS3 client starts for the first time. If the client has already started, select **Edit > Preferences > Server**.

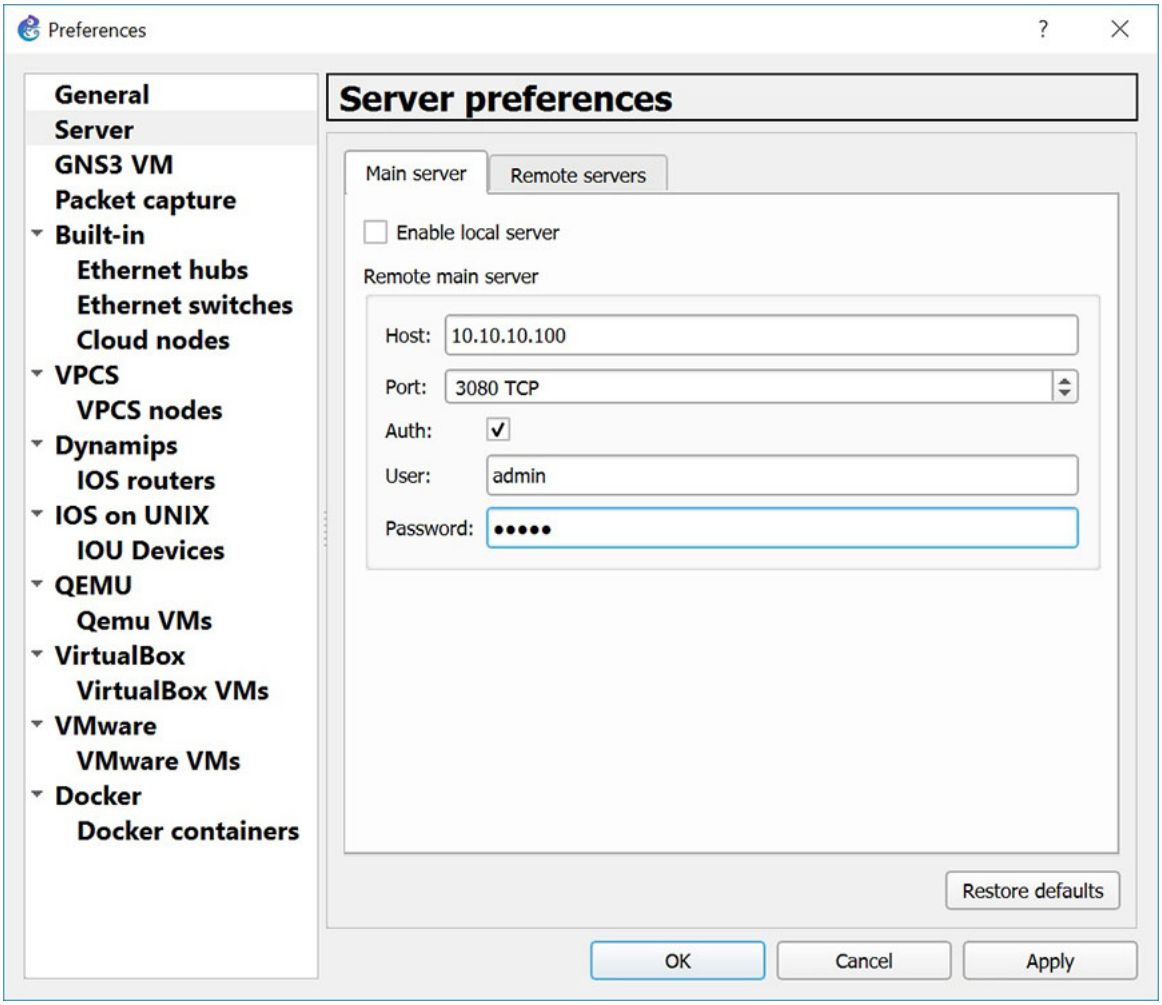


3. Disable the local server, configure the GNS3 server IP address (for example, 10.10.10.100, TCP port is 3080), then enable authentication.
4. On the GNS3 server (GNS3 server VM appliance), use the password that you have configured in the `gns3_server.conf` file to connect the client to the server.

   `gns3_server.conf` example

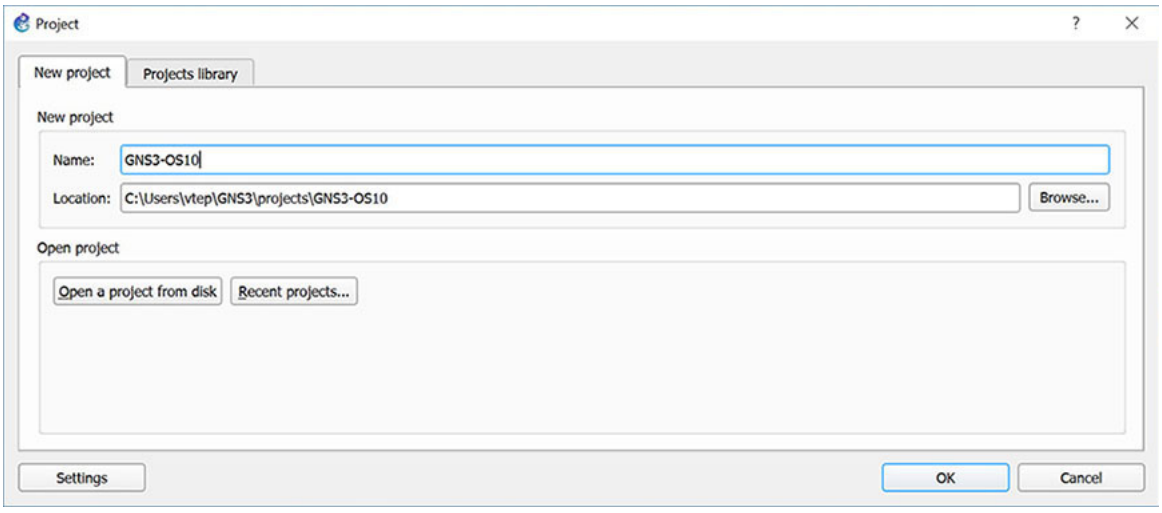
```
[Server]

port = 3080
...
user = admin
auth = True
password = admin
...
```

5. Restart the GNS3 server for any changes to take effect.



It may take a few seconds to connect to the GNS3 server.

6. Create a project. Select File > New blank project or File > Open project.



7. Import the GNS3 OS10 appliance (see Import OS10 appliance).
8. Create nodes (OS10 devices) and links (see Using the GNS3 client and GNS3 online documentation).

4

Start GNS3 client

The process of using the GNS3 client is straight-forward. Here are the steps:

NOTE: When an OS10 VM starts for the first-time, the boot time is longer. ONIE installs the OS10 image.

1. Start the GNS3 client.
2. Import the OS10 ONIE appliance.
3. Create a VM.

Start GNS3 client

You have two choices:

- Ubuntu: Type `gns3` on the command line
- Windows: **Start > GNS3**

Import the OS10 ONIE appliance

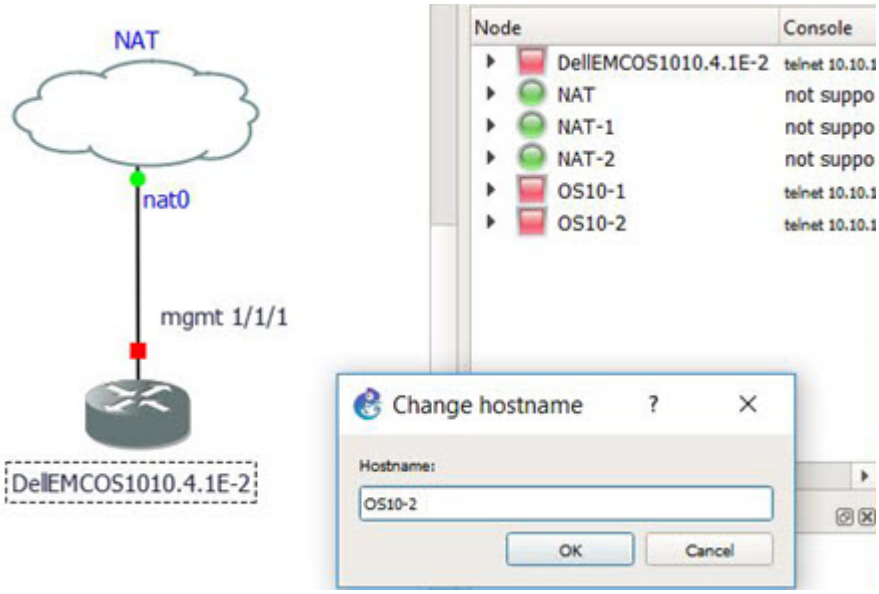
See Import and run OS10 appliance for complete information.

Create a VM

1. Click the  icon to display all simulated devices (appliance templates).

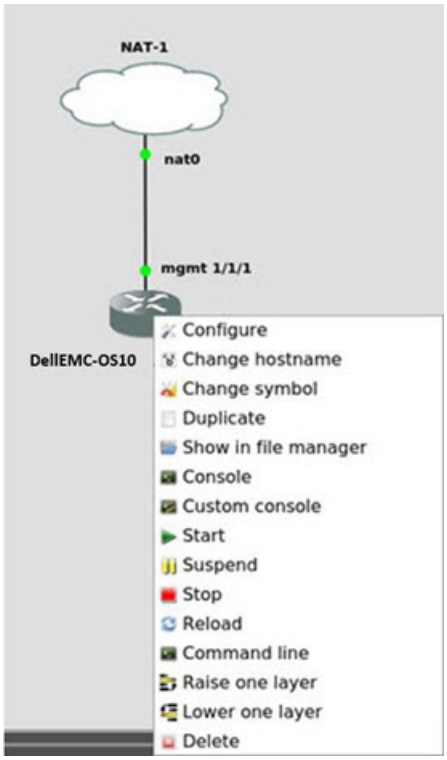
GNS3 menus

Double-click the VM name, then enter the new name in the `Change hostname` dialog.



VM instance menus

Right-click a VM in the main topology view to open the drop-down menu.



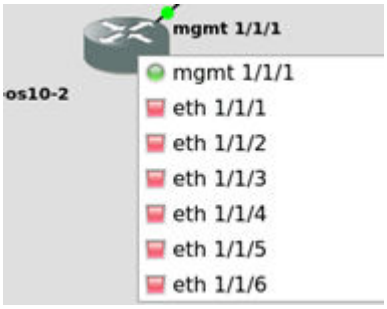
- Start a VM—Click **Start**.
- Select the Console menu item to open a device console (if the VM is started).
- Open the Configure menu item to configure a device.
- Create links between VMs with the

  icon—The symbol changes to

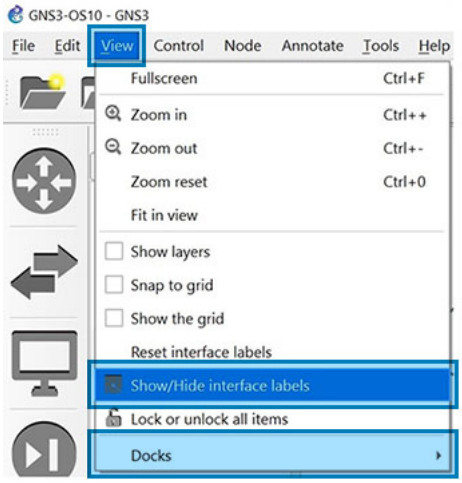
  

  when the link creation is active. Click a VM, select the port to connect to, drag the link to another VM, then repeat the operation. Unconnected ports are marked with a red rectangle (for example, `eth 1/1/3`). `mgmt 1/1/1` corresponds to the Management interface.

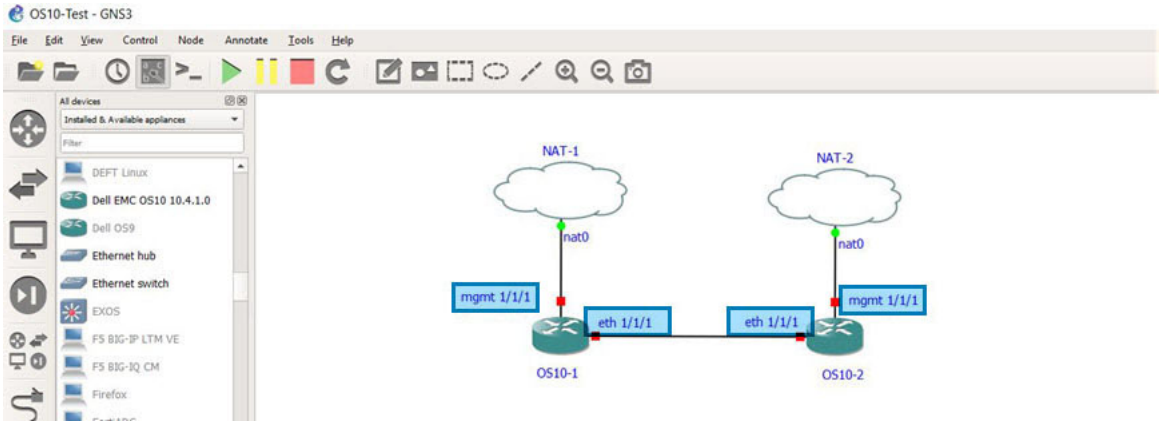
  

Interface label view

Select **View > Show/Hide interface labels** to view interface labels.

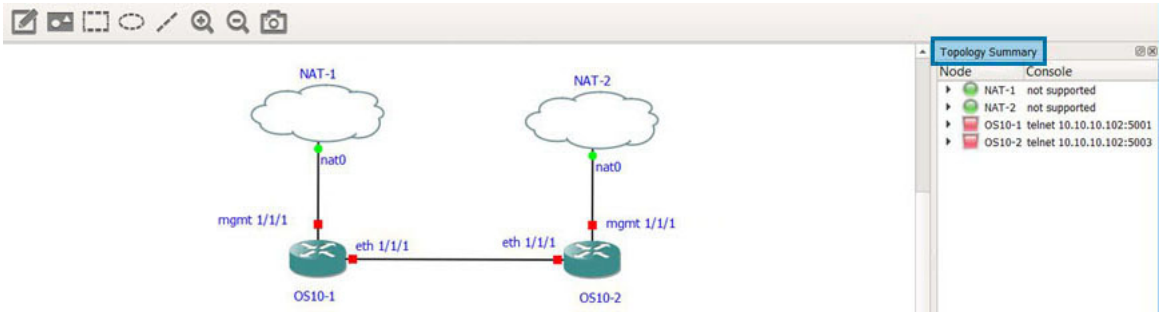


You can drag interface labels and node labels to respective positions on the topology view.



Topology summary view

Select **View > Docks > Topology summary**. The Topology summary shows active and inactive nodes and their console connections.



5

Import OS10 appliance

You are now ready to import an OS10 appliance into your simulated network.

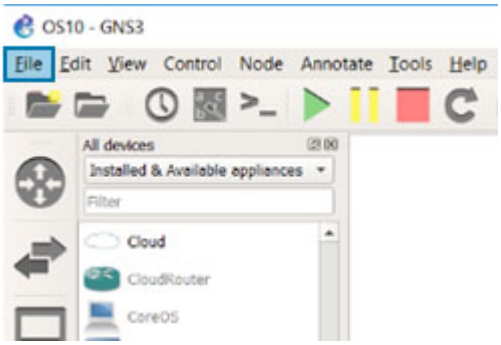
1. Unpack the .zip file. The contents of the zip file include the .gns3a and platform.vmdk files for each of the supported VM platforms.
   - Dell-EMC-OS10-S4112F-10.5.1.0.gns3a—Dell EMC OS10 GNS3 appliance
   - OS10-Installer-10.5.1.0.vmdk—Virtual disk that stores the OS10 installer binary
   - OS10-Disk-1.0.0.vmdk—Virtual disk where ONIE installs OS10
   - List of files in .zip file
     - Dell-EMC-OS10-S6010-10.5.1.0.gns3a
     - OS10-platform-S6010-10.5.1.0.vmdk
     - Dell-EMC-OS10-S4128F-10.5.1.0.gns3a
     - OS10-platform-S4128F-10.5.1.0.vmdk
     - Dell-EMC-OS10-S5212F-10.5.1.0.gns3a
     - OS10-platform-S5212F-10.5.1.0.vmdk
     - Dell-EMC-OS10-S5224F-10.5.1.0.gns3a
     - OS10-platform-S5224F-10.5.1.0.vmdk
     - Dell-EMC-OS10-S5248F-10.5.1.0.gns3a
     - OS10-platform-S5248F-10.5.1.0.vmdk
     - Dell-EMC-OS10-S6000-10.5.1.0.gns3a
     - OS10-platform-S6000-10.5.1.0.vmdk
     - OS10-Disk-1.0.0.vmdk
     - OS10-Installer-10.5.1.0.vmdk

   Select an appropriate platform.gns3a file to install the corresponding platform type VM.

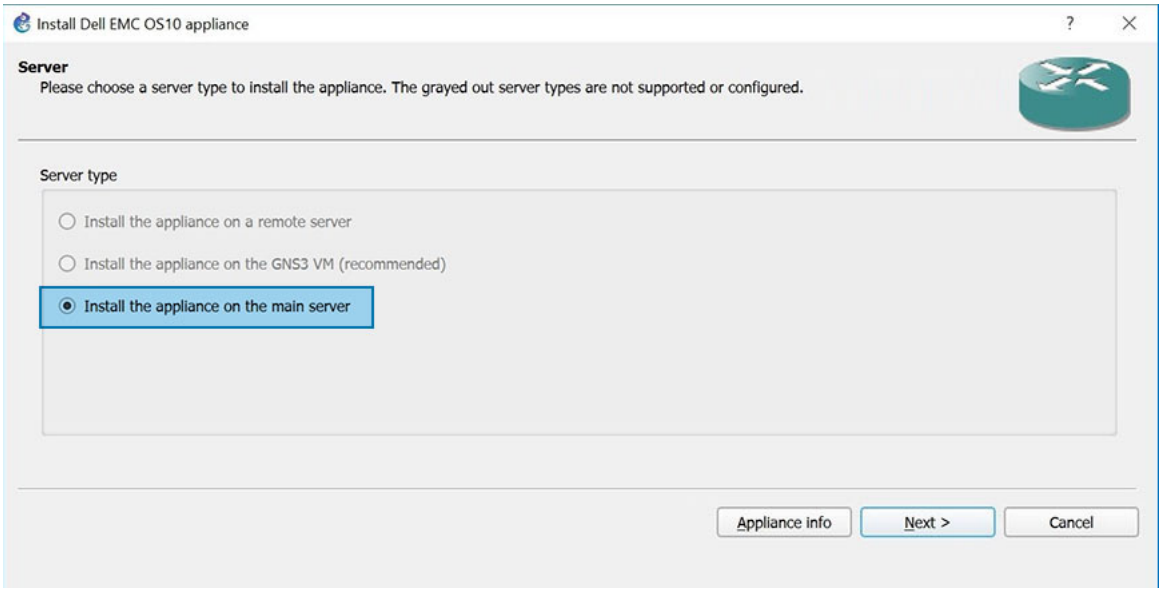
   Run a .zip extraction tool (such as WinZip) if you are using Windows, or run this command if you are using Linux:

   ```
   unzip OS10_Virtualization_10.4.1.0V.zip
   ```

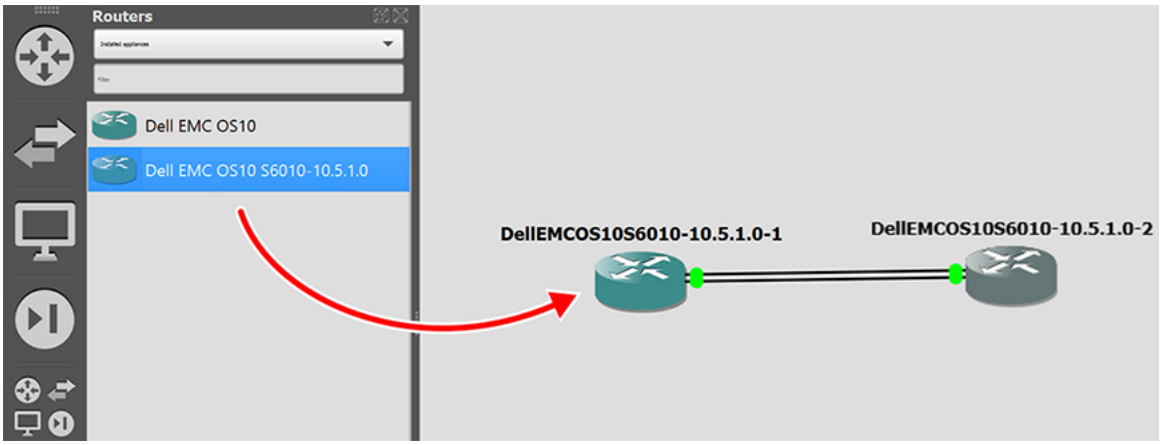
2. Select **File > Import Appliance**.



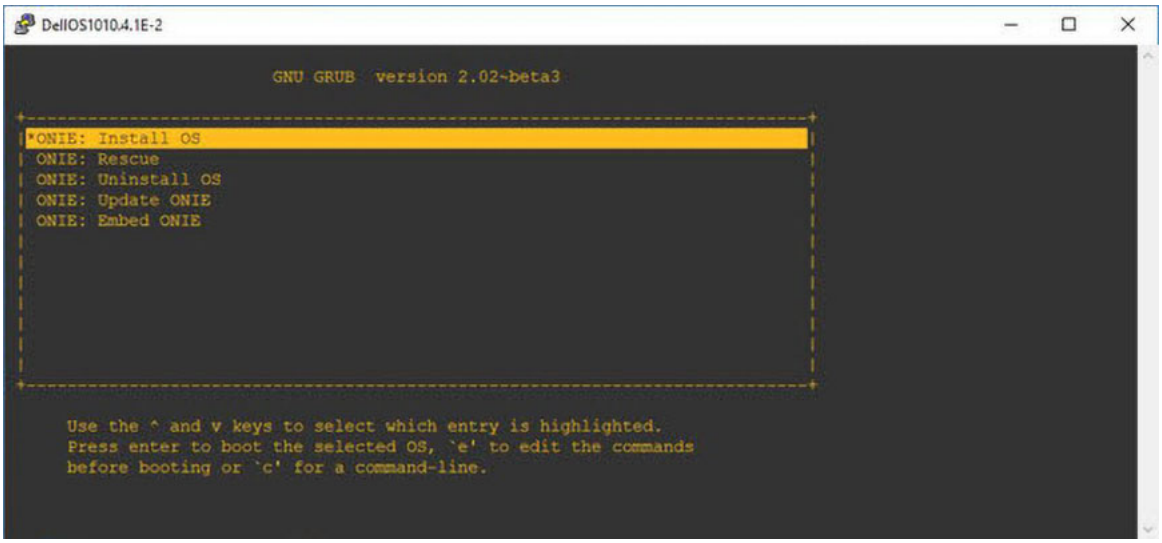
3. Select Dell-EMC-OS10-S5248F-10.5.1.0.gns3a to install the S5248F-ON platform, then click **Next**.
4. Select **Install the appliance on the main server**, then click **Next**.



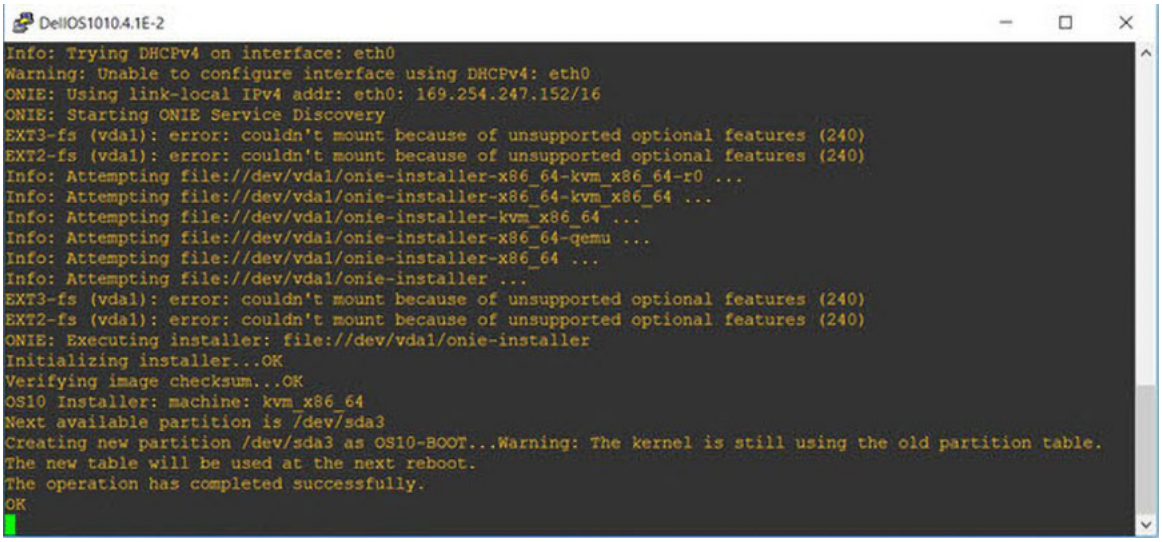
5. Import OS10-Disk-1.1.0.vmdk, OS10-platform-S5248F-10.5.1.0.vmdk, and OS10-Installer-10.5.1.0.vmdk (if GNS3 does not automatically detect them), then click **Next**.
6. Create a VM and drag the appliance to the project frame.



7. Connect the VM to a NAT device for network connectivity (see GNS3 online documentation for more information).
8. Start the VM. On first reboot, the VM starts an ONIE image and automatically installs the OS10 image using a standard OS10 installer (same as on hardware).



The installation process may take a couple of minutes, depending on the speed of your laptop or server. OS10 prompts when installation completes. The VM starts OS10 directly at subsequent reboots.



See the *Dell EMC SmartFabric OS10 User Guide* for complete information about using OS10. The OS10 VM CLI is the same as for OS10 CLI on hardware devices.

6 FAQs

How many OS10 VMs can I run in a GNS3 environment?

It depends but the rule of thumb is [GNS3 server VM memory size in qcow2 - 2GB] / 2 GB per OS10 VM.

How do I convert from a virtual disk image format to another?

On Linux, you can use `qemu-img convert`. For example:

```
qemu-img convert -O vmdk Ubuntu.qcow2 Ubuntu.vmdk
```

This command converts VHD disk image to a VMDK image. Refer to the `qemu-ing` man page and online documentation for more information.