Hello everyone, I'm the new guy, both here in the forum and generally at eBlocker!

When I was looking for some protection against data octopuses, websites full of advertising and other dangers on the Internet, I came across eBlocker, among others. I also looked at AdGuard

and PiHole, but eBlocker ultimately convinced me for various reasons! Above all, the (relatively) easy handling, the protection can be switched on and off separately for each device (PC, TV, tablet...), I don't have to change too many settings in my FritzBox and especially on my devices and everything still works wonderfully!

What struck me as negative here at eBlocker was the fact that the VM editions are treated very poorly, they are outdated and buggy!

That's why I decided to create my own bug-free version and that finally worked! In this tutorial I want to show you how I did it and how you can always create an up-to-date image for your preferred VM version in the future, using VMware Workstation 16 as an example. I realize that VMware is already available in version 17+, but unfortunately VMware also has some bugs in newer versions, including defective audio output in older Windows VMs (XP and lower I think). Although it's probably not that relevant for this purpose, I'm sticking with version 16 anyway. You can of course use a current version too... One more small note, the finished image is significantly larger (almost 10GB) than the ones offered here in the forum (almost 3GB if I see it correctly), but I think that's probably secondary these days.

Hallo zusammen, ich bin der Neue, sowohl hier im Forum, als auch generell bei eBlocker!By the way, this tutorial was created with the kind support of Google Translate, in case it contains spelling mistakes...

Ok, enough of the preamble, now let's get started!
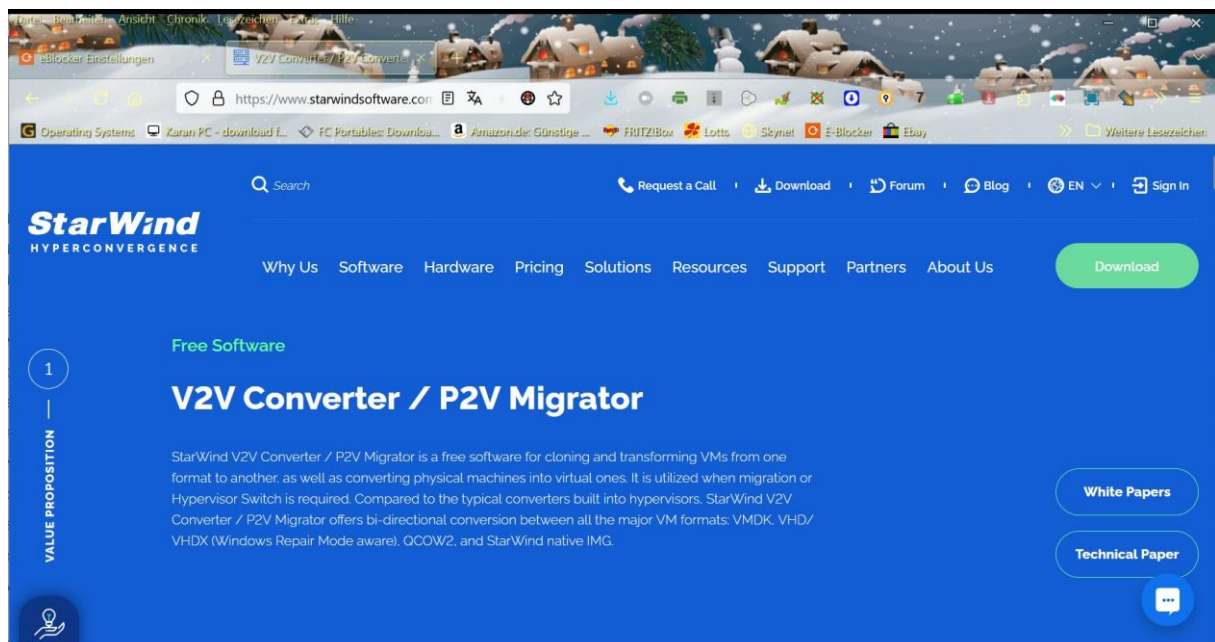
First, go to the following Website

https://de.starwindsoftware.com/starwind-v2v-converter

and download the starwind-v2v-converter from there. You do have to register with the manufacturer to do this, but the program itself is free!

I myself downloaded a portable version of the program from a "dubious" website,

but firstly, it's not entirely legal and secondly, it carries the risk of catching viruses, Trojans and other vermin, which is why I STRONGLY recommend using the OFFICIAL VERSION from the manufacturer!!!

I used the unofficial version because I generally don't like installing programs that often make autostart and registry entries!

This tutorial is aimed at the portable version, but should be almost identical to the installed version.
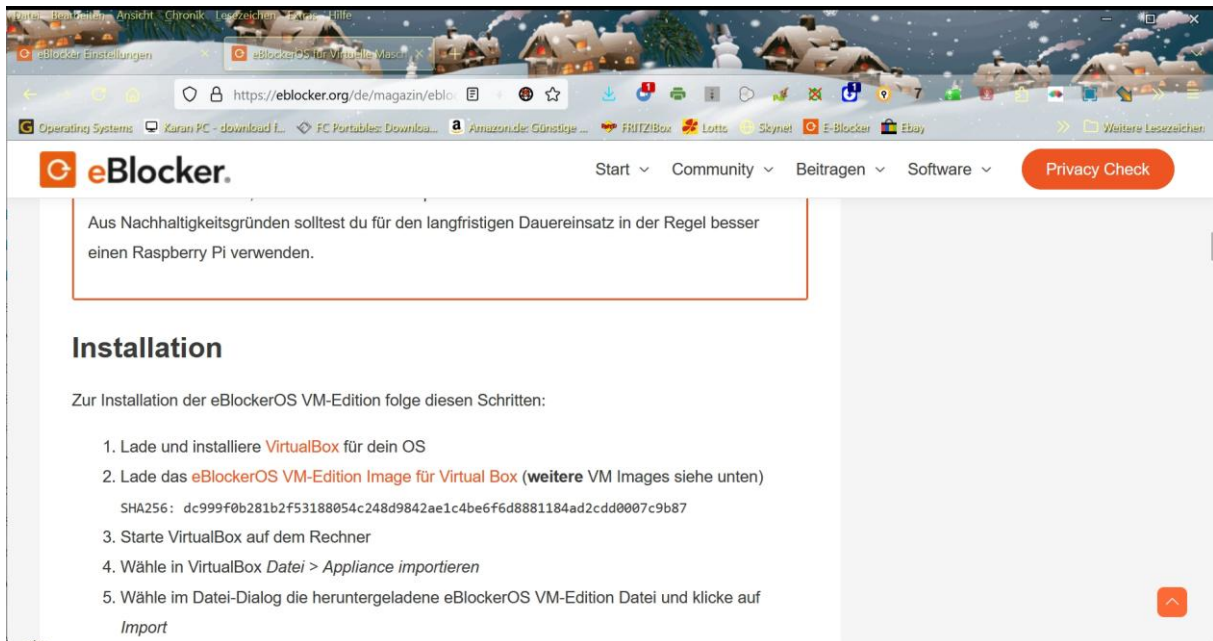
Then go to the eBlocker website and download the OFFICIAL VM image in .omv format. It's best to save everything in a single folder like in the example!

Then unpack e.g. with 7zip (portable) or install the starwind-v2v-converter.

Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Grö
⭕ StarWind V2V Image Converter.exe	06.05.2018 16:42	Anwendung	
🗜 StarWind V2V Image Converter.zip	22.01.2025 19:13	ZIP-Datei	

You can also unpack the .omv image with 7zip, preferably into a separate folder!

Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Grö
📦 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64.ova	26.01.2025 14:19	Open Virtualization F...	1.
⭕ StarWind V2V Image Converter.exe	06.05.2018 16:42	Anwendung	

There should then be 3 files in the folder as shown.

Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Grö
📁 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64	26.01.2025 14:22	Dateiordner	
📦 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64.ova	26.01.2025 14:19	Open Virtualization F...	1.
⭕ StarWind V2V Image Converter.exe	06.05.2018 16:42	Anwendung	

Then you create a subfolder in your work folder, in my example I named this eBlocker converted.

| Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Grö
📁 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64	26.01.2025 14:22	Dateiordner	
📁 eBlocker Konvertiert	26.01.2025 14:26	Dateiordner	
📦 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64.ova	26.01.2025 14:19	Open Virtualization F...	1.
⭕ StarWind V2V Image Converter.exe	06.05.2018 16:42	Anwendung	

When you open the portable version of starwind-v2v-converter (preferably as administrator)

for the first time, your anti-virus program may complain. If you are sure that you can trust the source of the program (this may also happen if you start the official program), you must create a share. In the portable version, the program creates a folder called Data.

Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Grö
📁 eBlocker Konvertiert	26.01.2025 14:26	Dateiordner	
📁 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64	26.01.2025 14:22	Dateiordner	
🗄 eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64.ova	26.01.2025 14:19	Open Virtualization F...	1.
🔵 StarWind V2V Image Converter.exe	06.05.2018 16:42	Anwendung	
📁 Data	26.01.2025 13:17	Dateiordner	

On the welcome window, click on next, then when the selection is on local file, click on next again, then under Source Image in the folder in which you previously unpacked the .omv image, select the file eBlockerVM-disk001.vmdk and click on next

StarWind V2V Converter
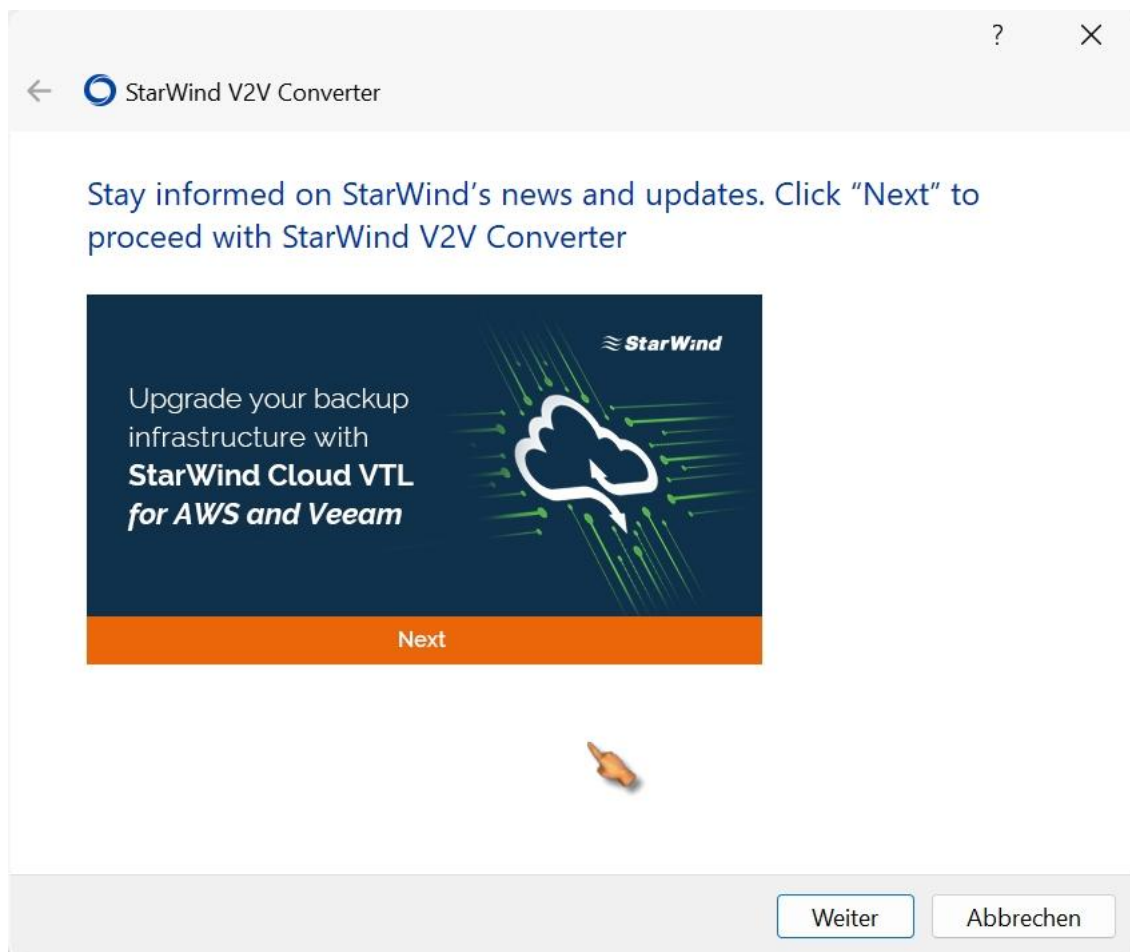
Source image location

Source image location:
- ⦿ Local file
- ◯ VMware ESXi Server
- ◯ Microsoft Hyper-V Server

Location description:
File on the local machine.

Next >   Cancel

StarWind V2V Converter

? ✕

← ○ StarWind V2V Converter

Source image

File name:

File info:

No info

Next > | Cancel

○ Öffnen ✕

← → ⌄ ↑ 📁 « Star... › eBlocker... ⌄ ↻ | eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64 du... 🔍

Organisieren ▾   Neuer Ordner ☰ ▾ ▢ ?

Name	Änderungsdatum
🖥 Desktop	
🏠 Start	
🖼 Katalog	
🖼 Bilder	
🖥 Desktop	
📄 Dokumente	
⬇ Downloads	
🎵 Musik	

eBlockerVM-disk001.vmdk   06.02.2024 15:22

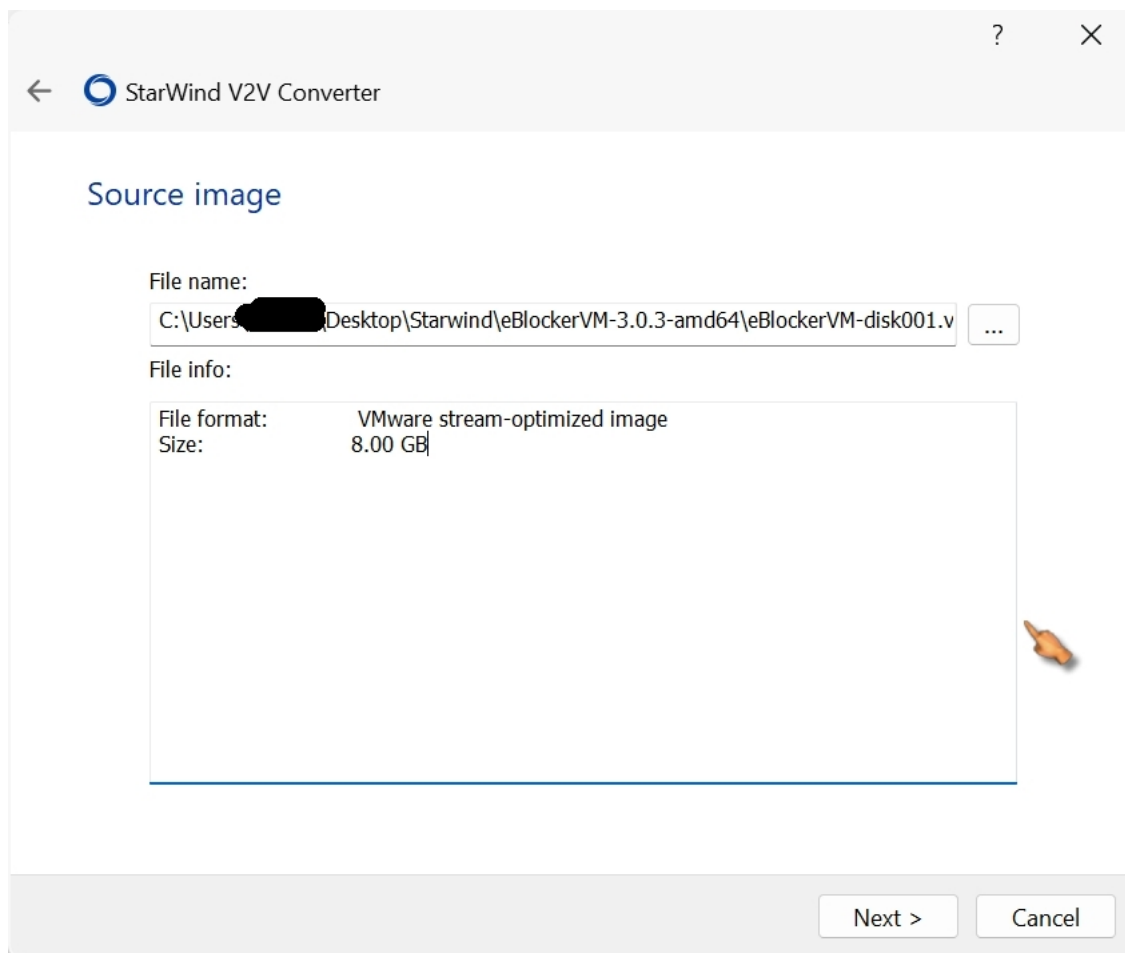Dateiname: [⌄]   All supported image files (*.vmc ⌄)

Öffnen | Abbrechen
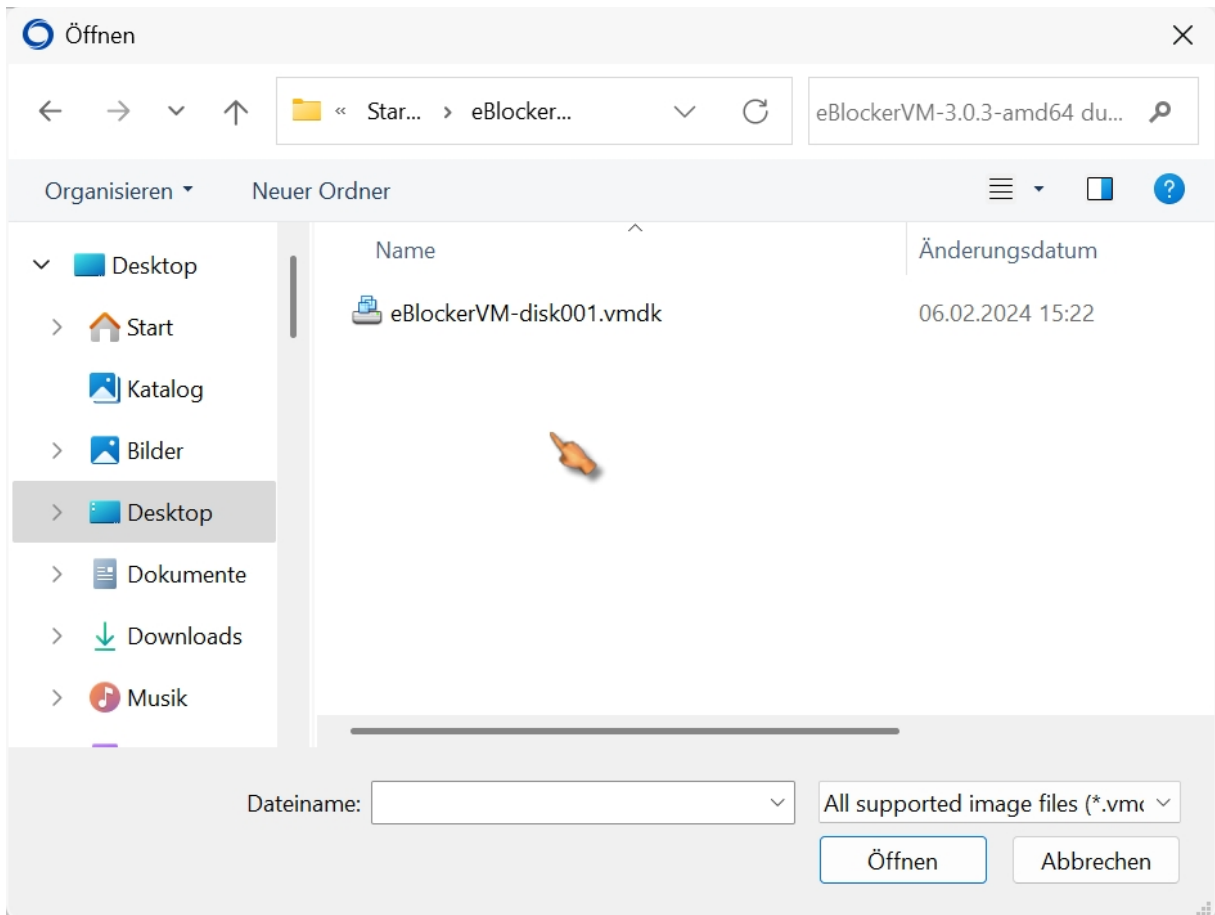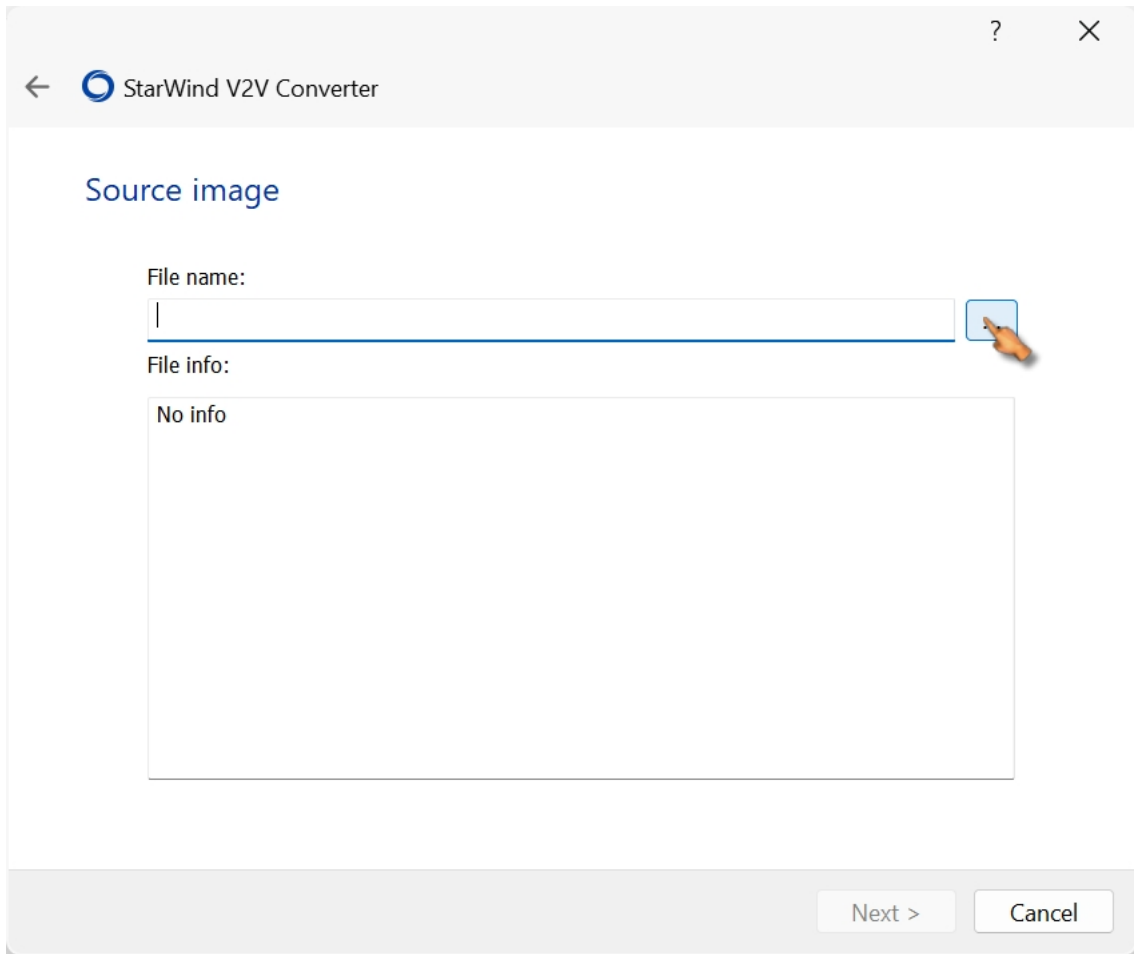
and comes to the Destination Image Format window, there you can choose the one for your preferred VM, in my case I chose the third option, VMware pre-allocated

Image!

← StarWind V2V Converter

Destination image format

Image format:

- ● VMware growable image
- ○ VMware stream-optimized image
- ○ VMware pre-allocated image
- ○ VMware ESX server image
- ○ VMware direct conversion to ESXi
- ○ Microsoft VHD growable image
- ○ Microsoft VHD pre-allocated image
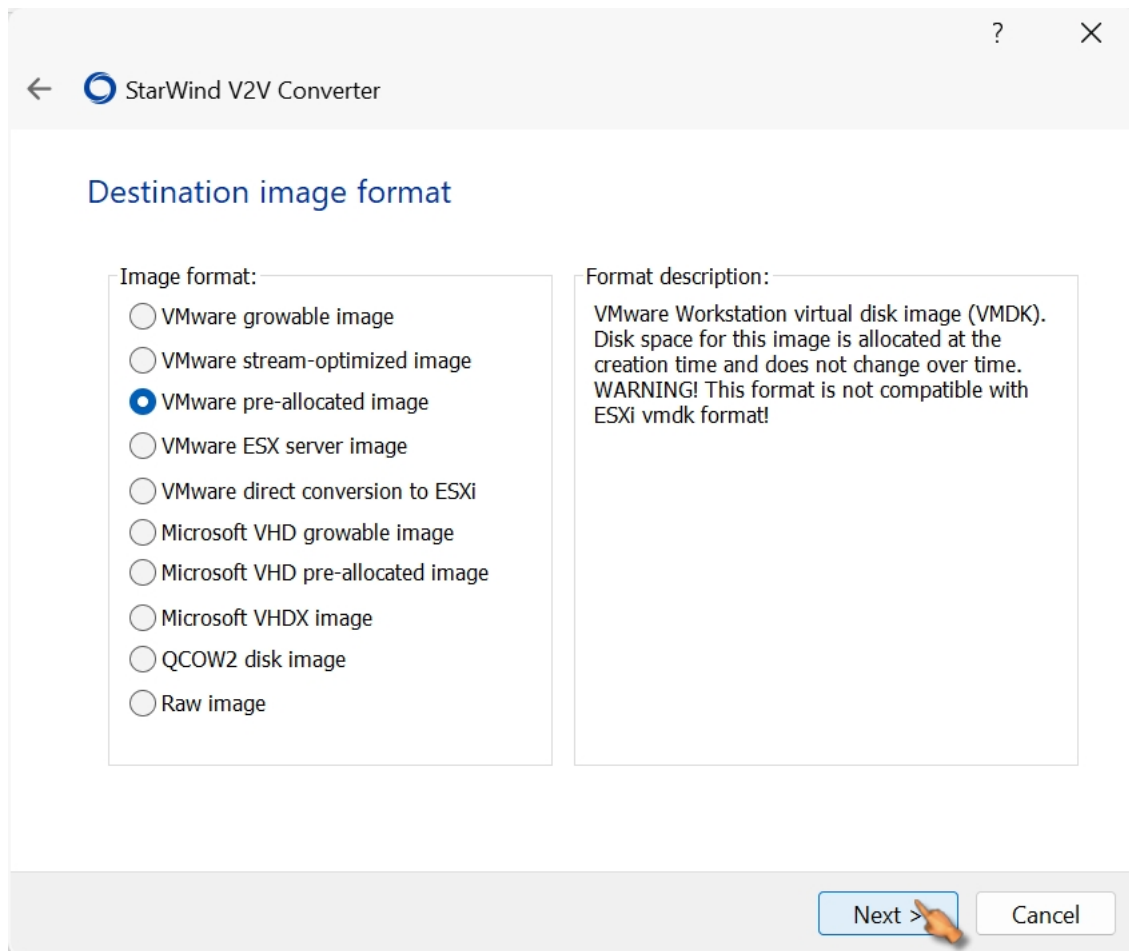- ○ Microsoft VHDX image
- ○ QCOW2 disk image
- ○ Raw image

Format description:

VMware Workstation virtual disk image (VMDK). Disk space for this image is allocated on demand, so disk size of this image grows over time. WARNING! This format is not compatible with ESXi vmdk format!

Next >   Cancel

I simply confirmed the next window and in the following window selected the folder in which the converted image should be saved. Remember, we called the folder eBlocker converted!

← ⬤ StarWind V2V Converter
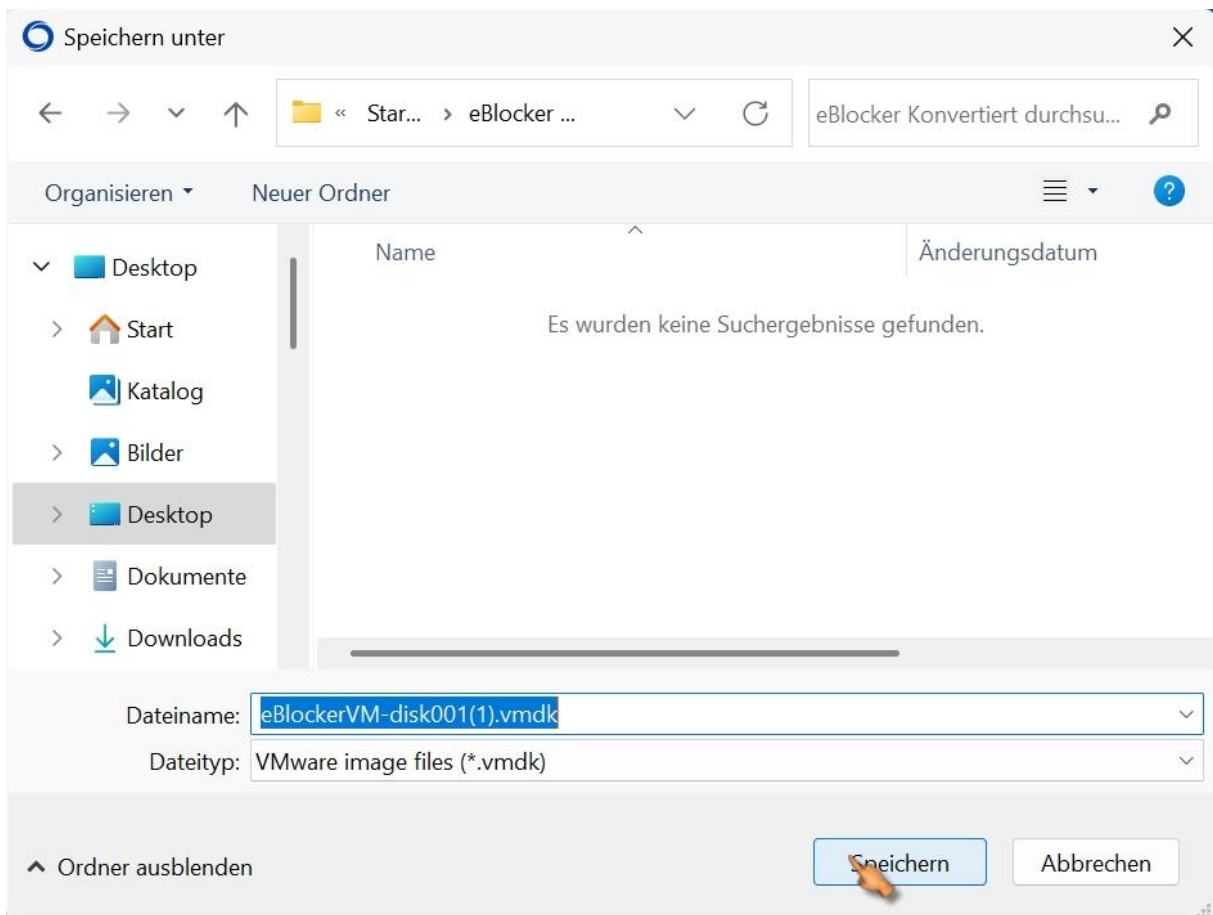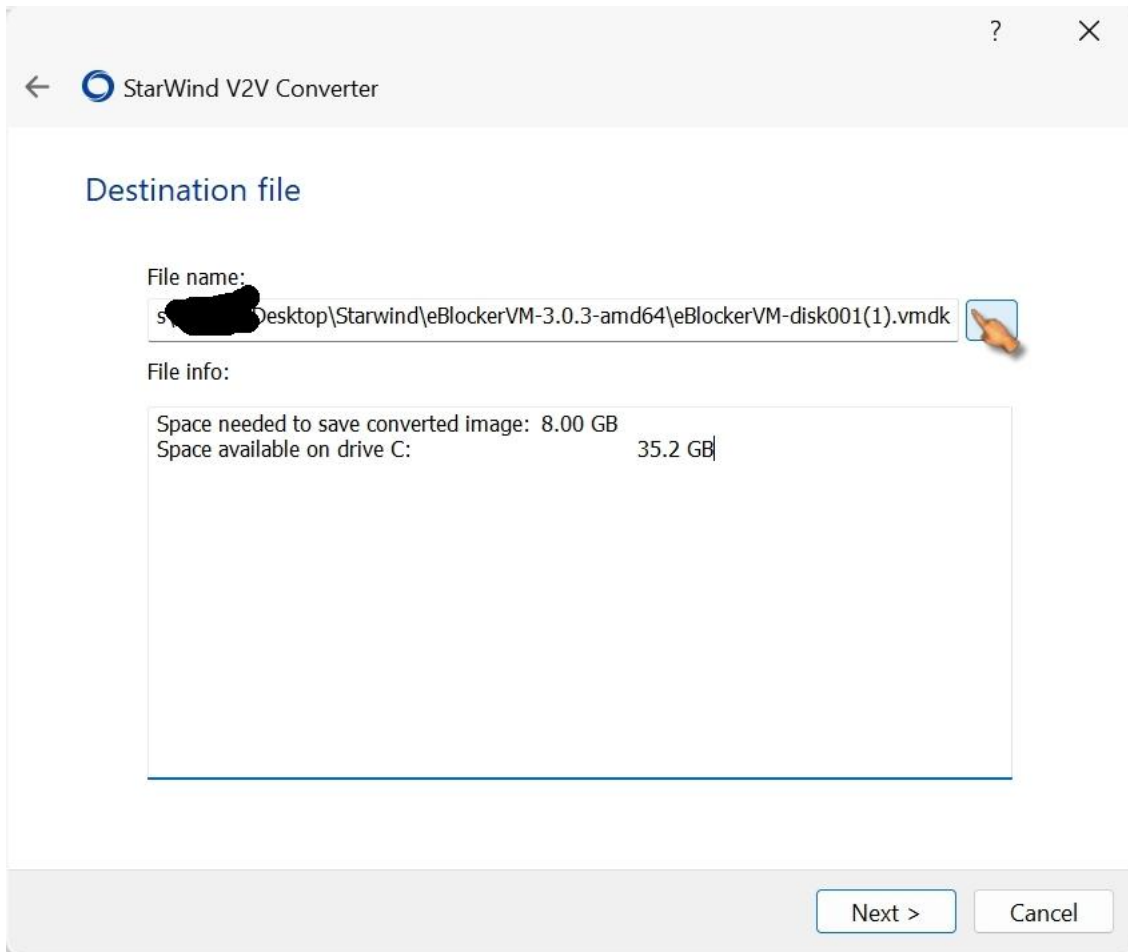
VMDK Options

Virtual disk type
- ⦿ IDE
- ◯ SCSI

Additional options
- ☐ Activate Windows Repair Mode

Next >   Cancel

StarWind V2V Converter

? ✕

← ◯ StarWind V2V Converter

Destination file

File name:

s█████esktop\Starwind\eBlockerVM-3.0.3-amd64\eBlockerVM-disk001(1).vmdk 👆

File info:

```
Space needed to save converted image:  8.00 GB
Space available on drive C:                       35.2 GB
```

Next >   Cancel

◯ Speichern unter   ✕

← → ∨ ↑   📁 « Star... > eBlocker ...   ∨ C   eBlocker Konvertiert durchsu... 🔍

Organisieren ▾   Neuer Ordner   ≡ ▾   ❓

∨ 🖥 Desktop

> 🏠 Start

📷 Katalog

> 🖼 Bilder

> 🖥 Desktop

> 📄 Dokumente

> ⬇ Downloads

Name   Änderungsdatum

Es wurden keine Suchergebnisse gefunden.

Dateiname: | eBlockerVM-disk001(1).vmdk | ∨

Dateityp: | VMware image files (*.vmdk) | ∨

⌃ Ordner ausblenden   Speichern 👆   Abbrechen

StarWind V2V Converter

Destination file

File name:

C:\Users\▓▓▓▓▓▓\Desktop\Starwind\eBlocker Konvertiert\eBlockerVM-disk001(1).vmd   ...

File info:

Space needed to save converted image: 8.00 GB
Space available on drive C: 35.3 GB

Next >   Cancel

If you confirm this time, the conversion will begin and at the end it should look something like this
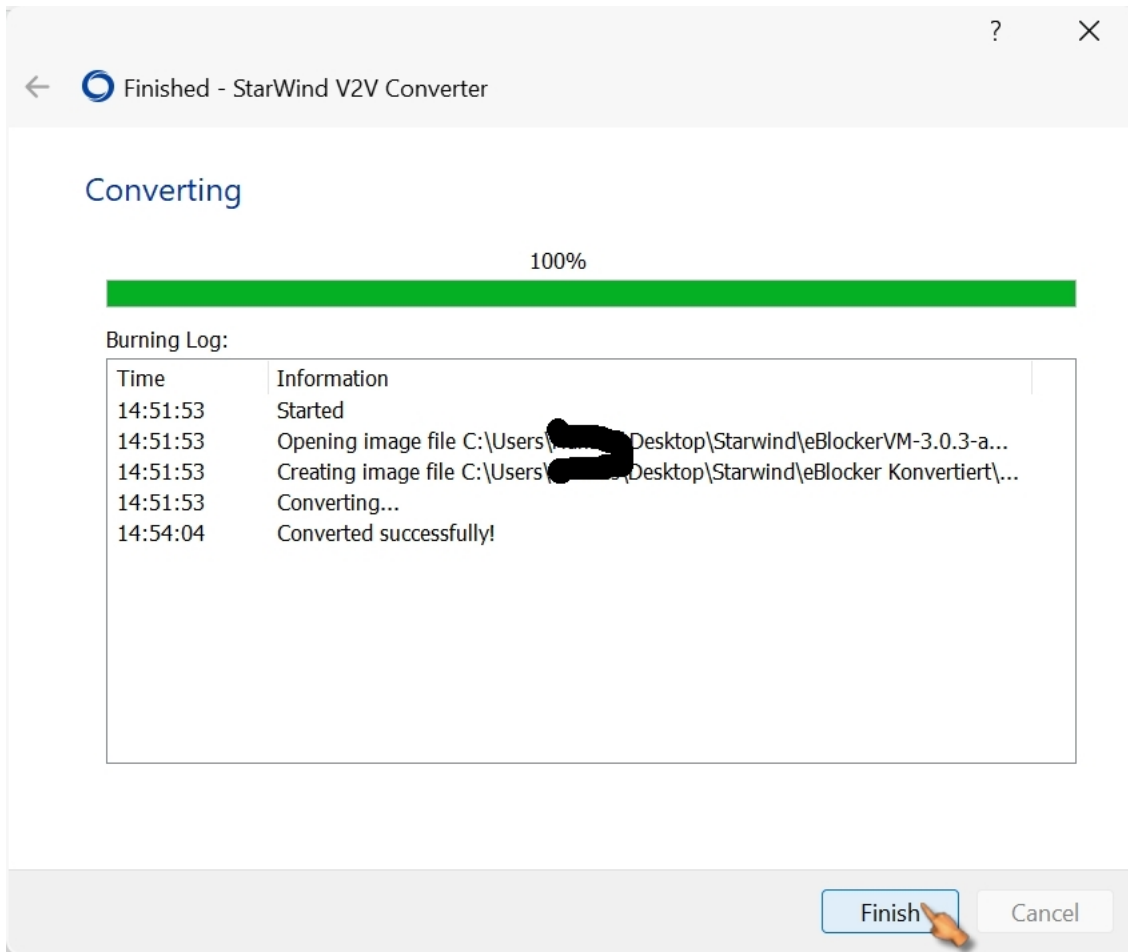
? ✕

← ◯ 30 % - StarWind V2V Converter

Converting

30 %

[progress bar ~30%]
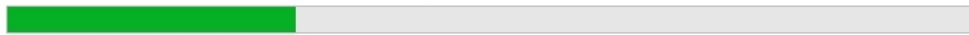
Burning Log:

Time	Information
14:51:53	Started
14:51:53	Opening image file C:\Users____\Desktop\Starwind\eBlockerVM-3.0.3-a...
14:51:53	Creating image file C:\Users____\Desktop\Starwind\eBlocker Konvertiert\...
14:51:53	Converting...

Finish   Cancel

The following files should then be found in the eBlocker converted folder.

Copy or move the eBlocker converted folder to your VMware folder

(My Virtual Machines) and rename eBlocker converted to e.g.

eBlocker 3.1 or whatever...

Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Grö
eBlockerVM-disk001(1).vmdk	26.01.2025 14:51	VMware virtual disk file	
eBlockerVM-disk001(1)-flat.vmdk	26.01.2025 14:54	VMware virtual disk file	8.

Then start VMware Worktation and click on Create a new Virtual Machine
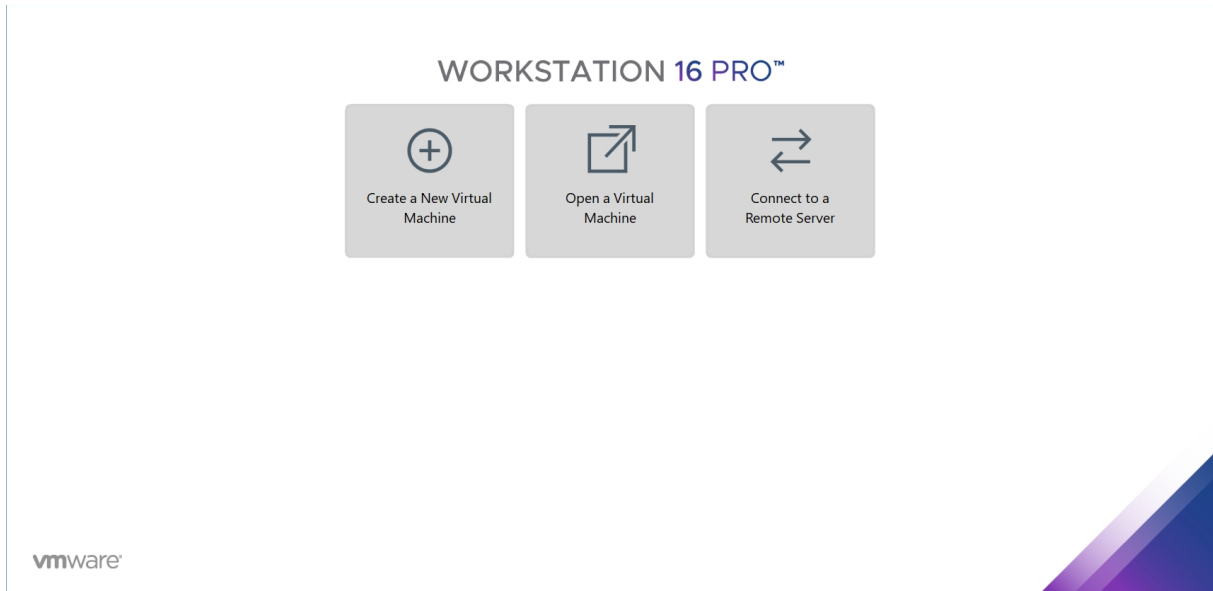
In the following window select custom (advanced), continue,

Choose the Virtual Machine Hardware Compatibility
Which hardware features are needed for this virtual machine?

Virtual machine hardware compatibility

Hardware compatibility: Workstation 16.x

Compatible with: ☑ ESX Server

Compatible products:

Fusion 12.x
Workstation 16.x

Limitations:

128 GB memory
32 processors
10 network adapters
8 TB disk size
8 GB shared graphics memory

Chose the Virtual machine Hardware Compatibility (I left it like that), continue

Guest Operating System Installation
A virtual machine is like a physical computer; it needs an operating system. How will you install the guest operating system?

Install from:

○ Installer disc:

No drives available

○ Installer disc image file (iso):

G:\VMware\Backup Zubehör\tiny10 x64 23h2\tiny10 x6 ⌄   Browse...
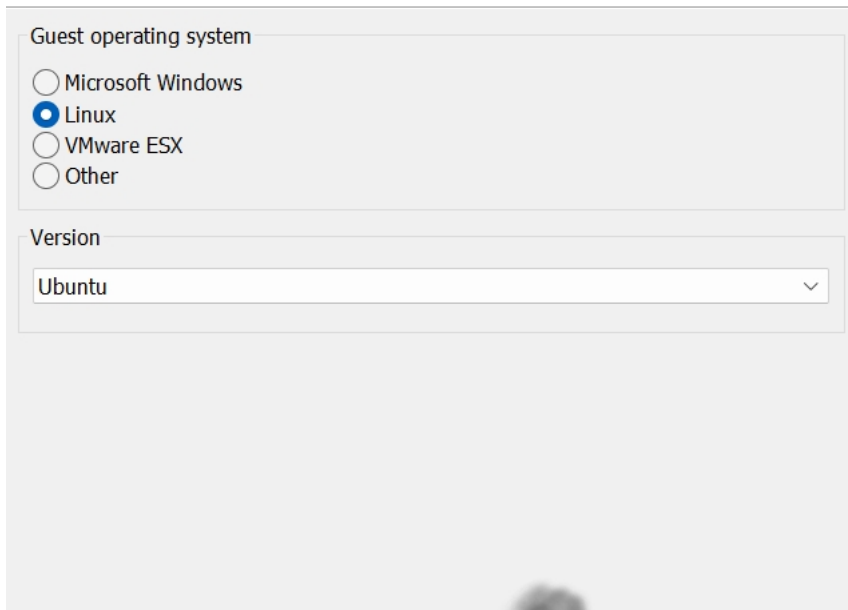
● I will install the operating system later.

The virtual machine will be created with a blank hard disk.

there you select i will install the operating system later, next

Select a Guest Operating System
Which operating system will be installed on this virtual machine?

Guest operating system
- ○ Microsoft Windows
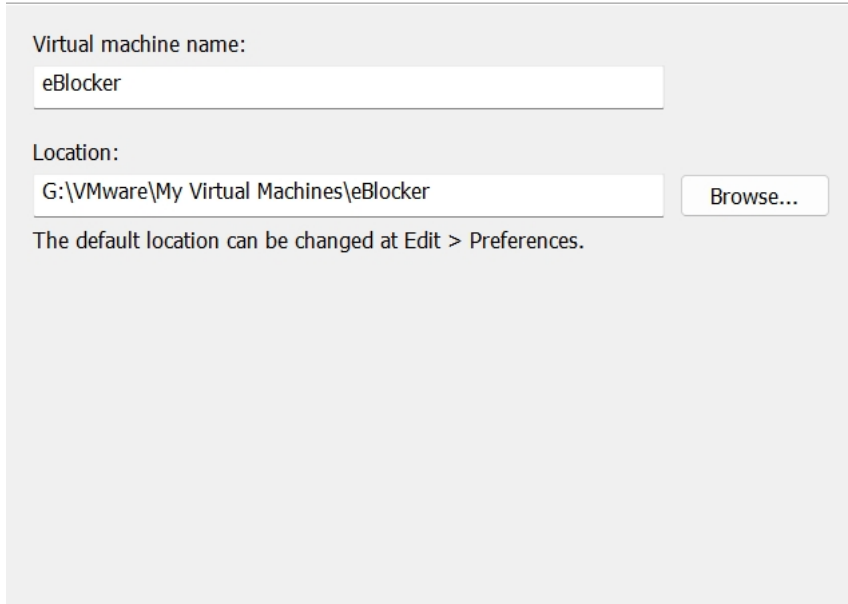- ● Linux
- ○ VMware ESX
- ○ Other

Version

Ubuntu ⌄

I chose Linux, which one I think doesn't really matter, the most suitable would probably be Debian, but since I wasn't sure which kernel or 32 or 64 bit I left it on Ubuntu..., more

Name the Virtual Machine
What name would you like to use for this virtual machine?

Virtual machine name:

eBlocker

Location:

G:\VMware\My Virtual Machines\eBlocker   Browse...

The default location can be changed at Edit > Preferences.

Here you can change the name of your VM, it doesn't matter what you want to call it!, continue

Processor Configuration
    Specify the number of processors for this virtual machine.

Processors

Number of processors: 1

Number of cores per processor: 2

Total processor cores: 2

In this window you should select the processor configuration, no idea why

in the standard configuration 2 processors, 1 core is selected, if you leave it like that,

I haven't noticed any difference so far, for most private

PCs the correct option would be 1 processor, 2 cores as shown! Maybe it's because many

professional servers actually have several processors with several cores installed and therefore 2
processors are preselected..., more

Memory for the Virtual Machine
    How much memory would you like to use for this virtual machine?

Specify the amount of memory allocated to this virtual machine. The memory size
must be a multiple of 4 MB.

128 GB	Memory for this virtual machine: 2048 MB
64 GB	
32 GB	
16 GB	
8 GB	Maximum recommended memory:
4 GB	13.2 GB
2 GB	
1 GB	Recommended memory:
512 MB	4 GB
256 MB	
128 MB	
64 MB	Guest OS recommended minimum:
32 MB	2 GB
16 MB	
8 MB	
4 MB	

The storage is preselected at 4096GB, I halved that to 2048MB and haven't noticed any

negative side effects so far!, continue

Network Type
What type of network do you want to add?

Network connection

○ Use bridged networking
Give the guest operating system direct access to an external Ethernet network.
The guest must have its own IP address on the external network.

○ Use network address translation (NAT)
Give the guest operating system access to the host computer's dial-up or
external Ethernet network connection using the host's IP address.

○ Use host-only networking
Connect the guest operating system to a private virtual network on the host
computer.

○ Do not use a network connection

I chose bridged for the network type, and I also gave this VM a FIXED IP address in my Fritzbox, e.g.
192.168.178.78, you have to adapt this to your

specific network settings and release TCP port 3000 and UDP port 1194!!! Continue

Select I/O Controller Types
Which SCSI controller type would you like to use for SCSI virtual disks?

I/O controller types
SCSI Controller:

○ BusLogic (Maximum disk capacity: 2 TB)

● LSI Logic (Recommended)

○ LSI Logic SAS

○ Paravirtualized SCSI

Just confirm this window and the following one, continue

Select a Disk Type
What kind of disk do you want to create?

Virtual disk type
- ○ IDE
- ● SCSI   (Recommended)
- ○ SATA
- ○ NVMe

In the Select a Disk window, select use an existing virtual disk, continue

Select a Disk
Which disk do you want to use?

Disk
- ○ Create a new virtual disk

  A virtual disk is composed of one or more files on the host file system, which will appear as a single hard disk to the guest operating system. Virtual disks can easily be copied or moved on the same host or between hosts.

- ● Use an existing virtual disk

  Choose this option to reuse a previously configured disk.

- ○ Use a physical disk (for advanced users)

  Choose this option to give the virtual machine direct access to a local hard disk. Requires administrator privileges.
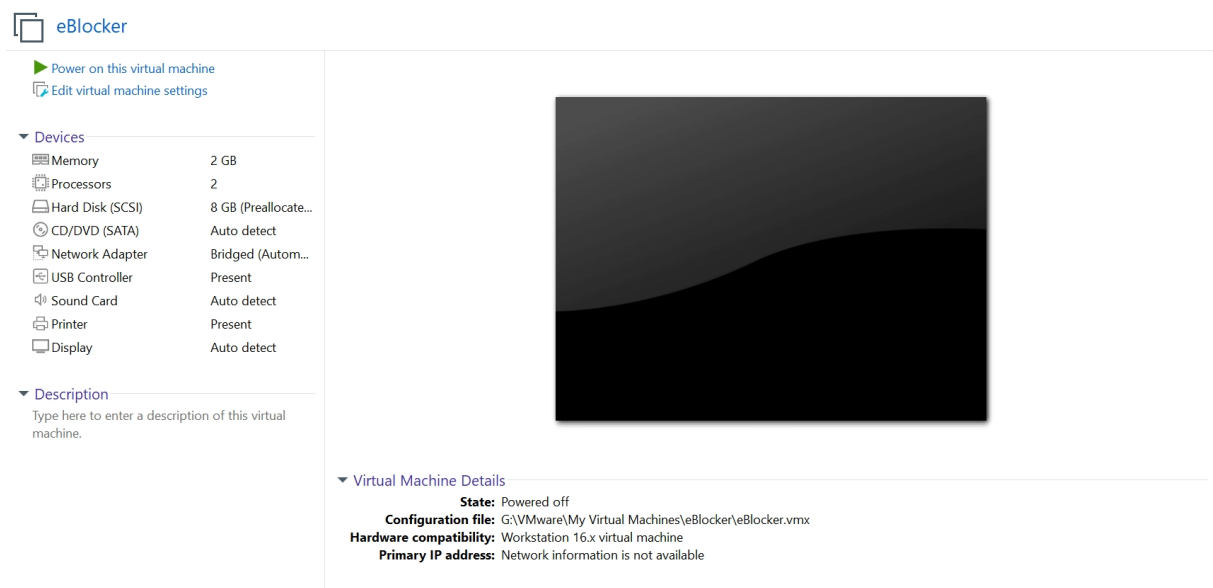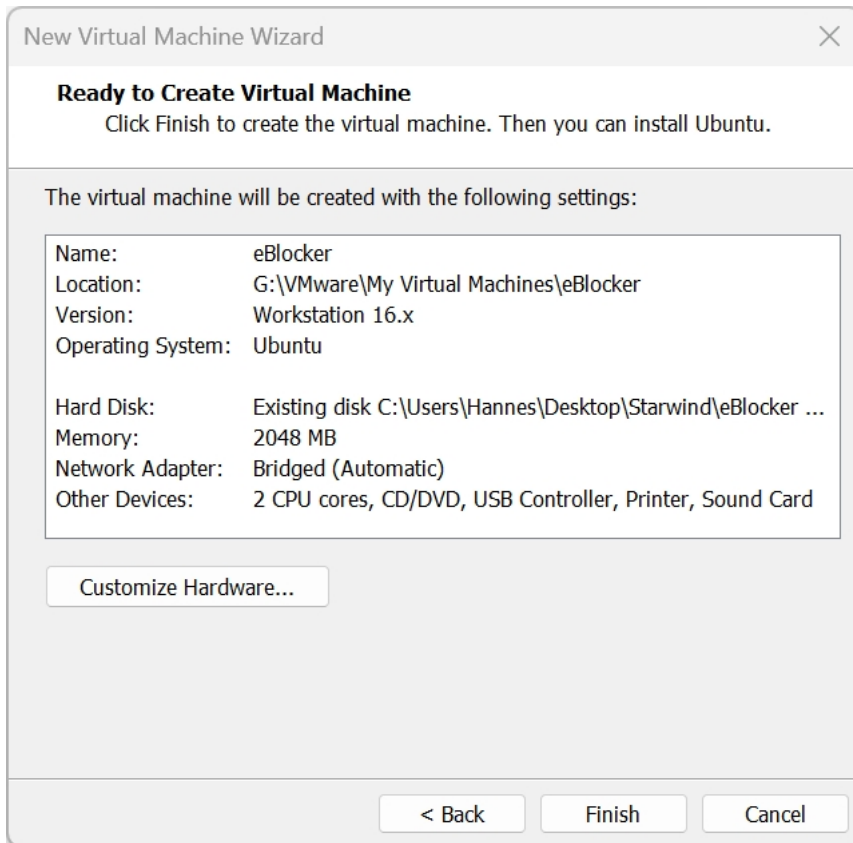
now you have to select the image you created before, NOT the flat.vmdk but the vmdk, continue
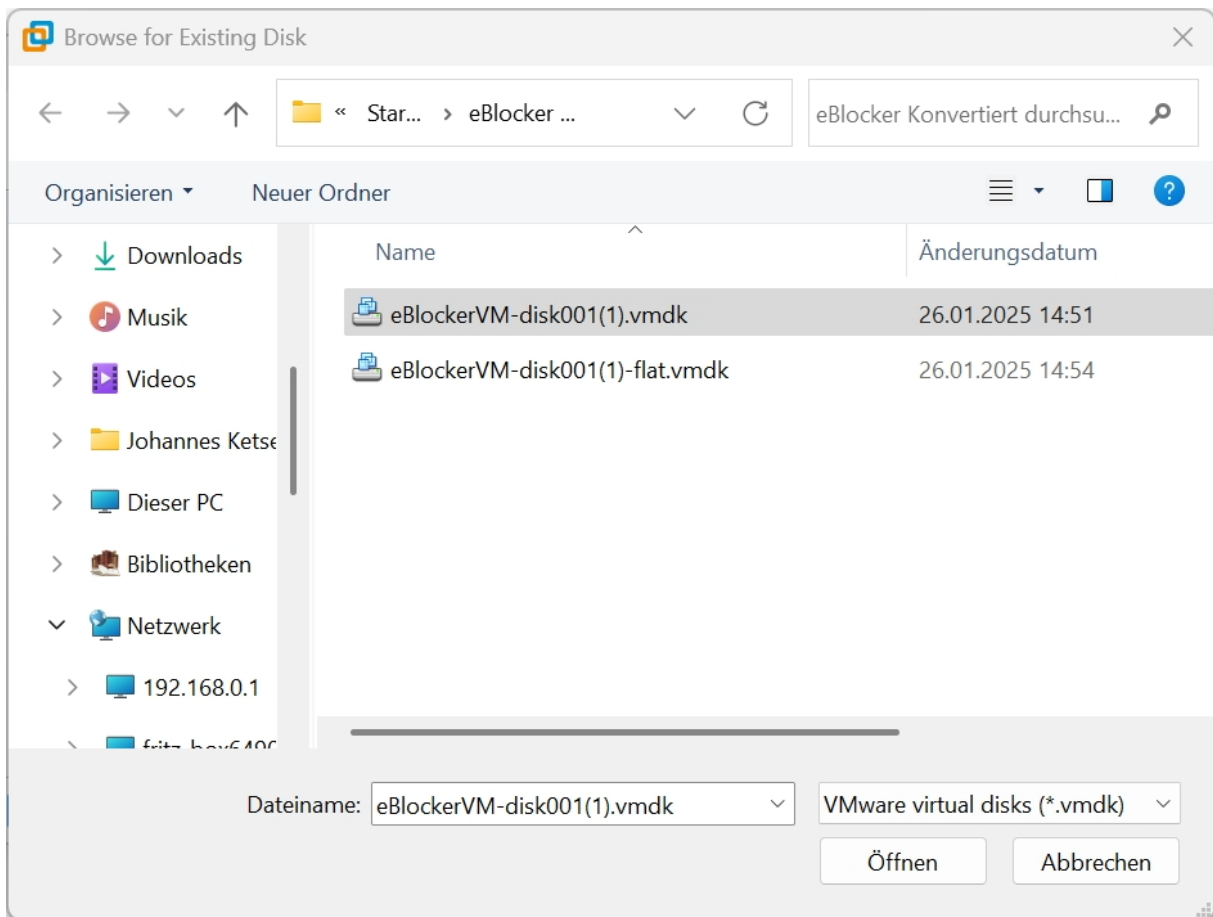
If you continue, you will be asked if you wanna keep the existing VM format or change tot he new format, i chosed keep!!!
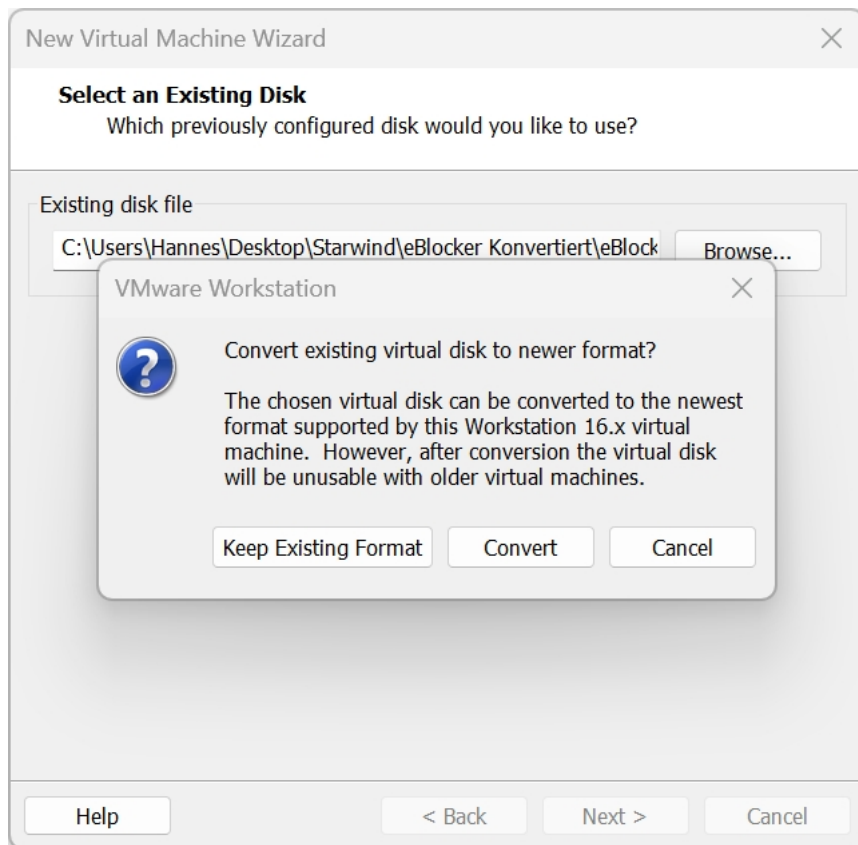
and select Finish, and at the end this window appears…

When you then click on Power on, after a few seconds (you may have to confirm 1-2 more messages) this window should appear, of course with an IP that matches your network!

In this window you will be shown how to access the eBlocker user interface via your preferred web browser, in my case

http://192.168.xx.xx1:3000 (I replaced the numbers replaced with x because I don't know how safe it is to publish the IP here in full, even if it is only an internal address, I have blacked them out in the picture...

You will then definitely get a message saying something like this address is not secure, depending on the web browser this page is not secure, there I then had to confirm with continue to the http page, and add exception or something similar and then you get to the eBlocker welcome page, where you can log in, register and select your preferred language. For all further steps you have to consult the help or other tutorials here in the forum!
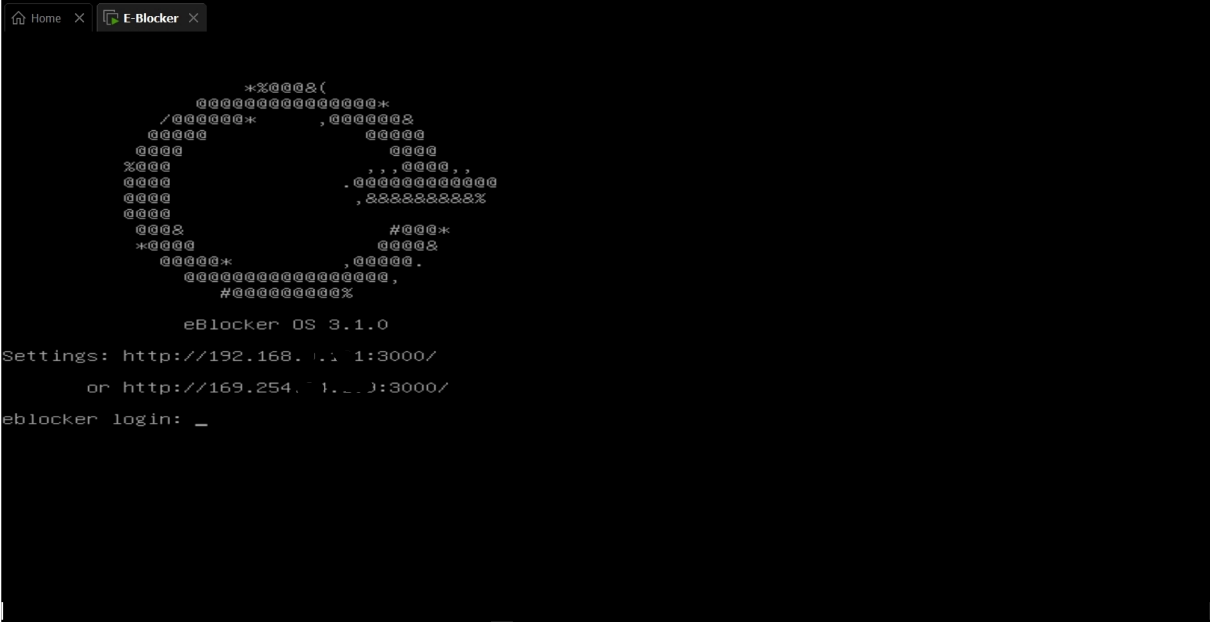
This is my first tutorial, so I hope you'll be lenient and understand, along with the pictures, what it's actually about and because German is my mother tongue and this forum is English, I've written it in two languages...

Have fun crafting!!!