

## A Quick Linux VM on Windows with Vagrant

Created by Brennen Bearnes

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "MINGW32:/c/Users/Brennen/vagrant\_demo". The terminal shows a user named Brennen at a host named SACRIFICIAL-BOX in the directory ~/vagrant\_demo. They run the command "vagrant ssh", which opens an SSH session to a virtual machine named "precise32". The terminal output shows the Ubuntu 12.04 LTS login banner, including documentation links and upgrade information. The user then runs "echo 'HELLO WORLD'", which outputs "HELLO WORLD".

```
MINGW32:/c/Users/Brennen/vagrant_demo
Brennen@SACRIFICIAL-BOX ~/vagrant_demo
$ vagrant ssh
welcome to Ubuntu 12.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.2.0-23-generic-pae i686)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com/
New release '14.04.2 LTS' available.
Run 'do-release-upgrade' to upgrade to it.

welcome to your Vagrant-built virtual machine.
Last login: Fri Sep 14 06:22:31 2012 from 10.0.2.2
vagrant@precise32:~$ echo "HELLO WORLD"
HELLO WORLD
vagrant@precise32:~$
```

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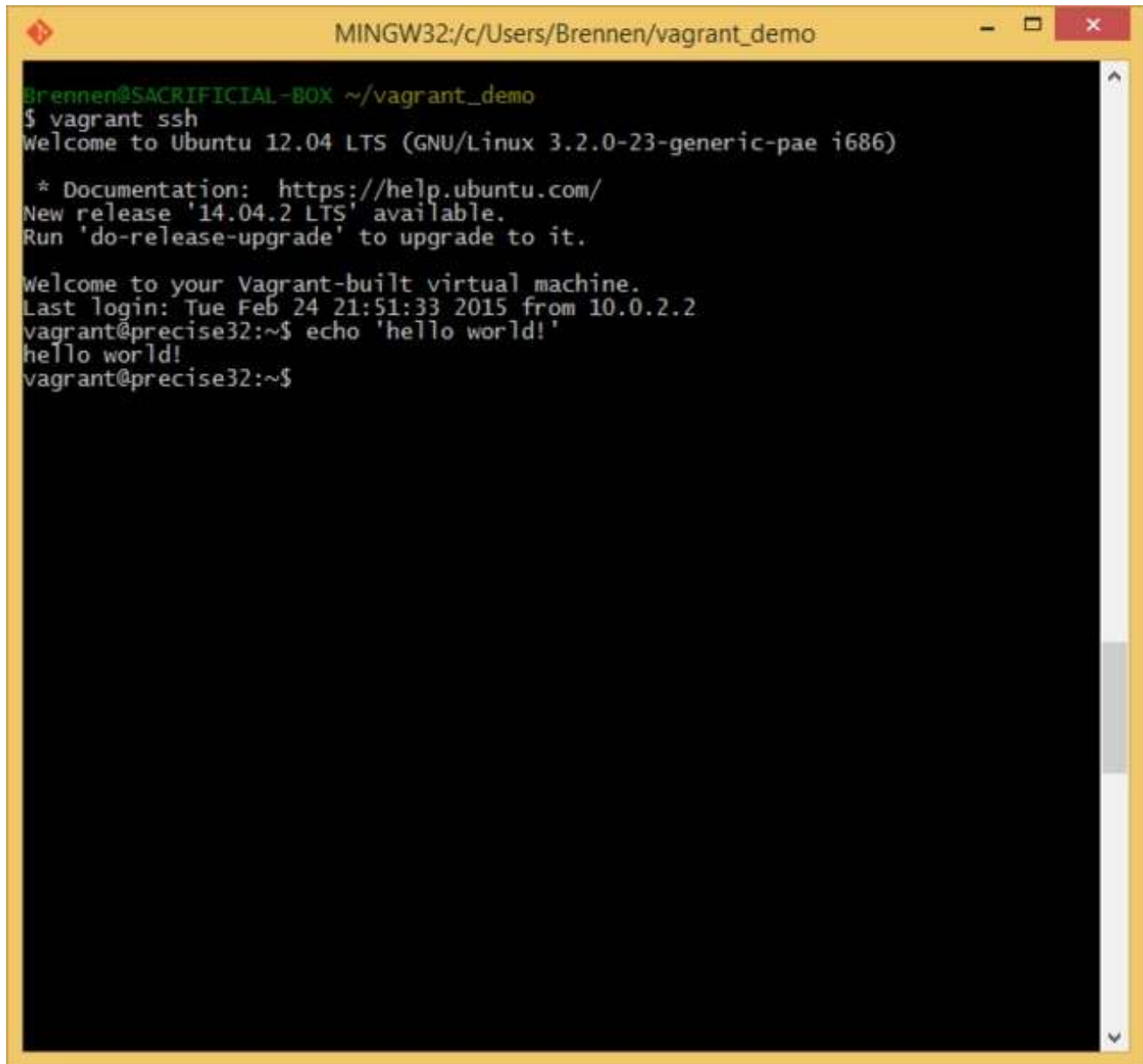
# Overview

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In [What is this "Linux", anyhow? \(http://adafru.it/eBw\)](http://adafru.it/eBw) we mention using Vagrant as a way to quickly configure a Linux **virtual machine**, and the [Raspberry Pi Kernel-o-Matic \(http://adafru.it/eBx\)](http://adafru.it/eBx) uses Vagrant to set up a VM for cross-compiling a custom Raspberry Pi kernel.

Vagrant is a software package designed to let you easily create disposable VMs from a library of freely-downloadable images and connect to them, all with a few simple commands in a terminal. The idea is that you can continue to run your desktop OS like Mac OS X or Windows 7 or whatever, but then make a tiny new Linux computer in a window that you can connect to whenever you need to run Linux software

Unfortunately this isn't quite as seamless on Windows machines as on GNU/Linux or OS X systems, but with a few minutes of effort you should be able to do this any time you feel like it:



```
MINGW32:/c/Users/Brennen/vagrant_demo
Brennen@SACRIFICIAL-BOX ~/vagrant_demo
$ vagrant ssh
Welcome to Ubuntu 12.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.2.0-23-generic-pae i686)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com/
New release '14.04.2 LTS' available.
Run 'do-release-upgrade' to upgrade to it.

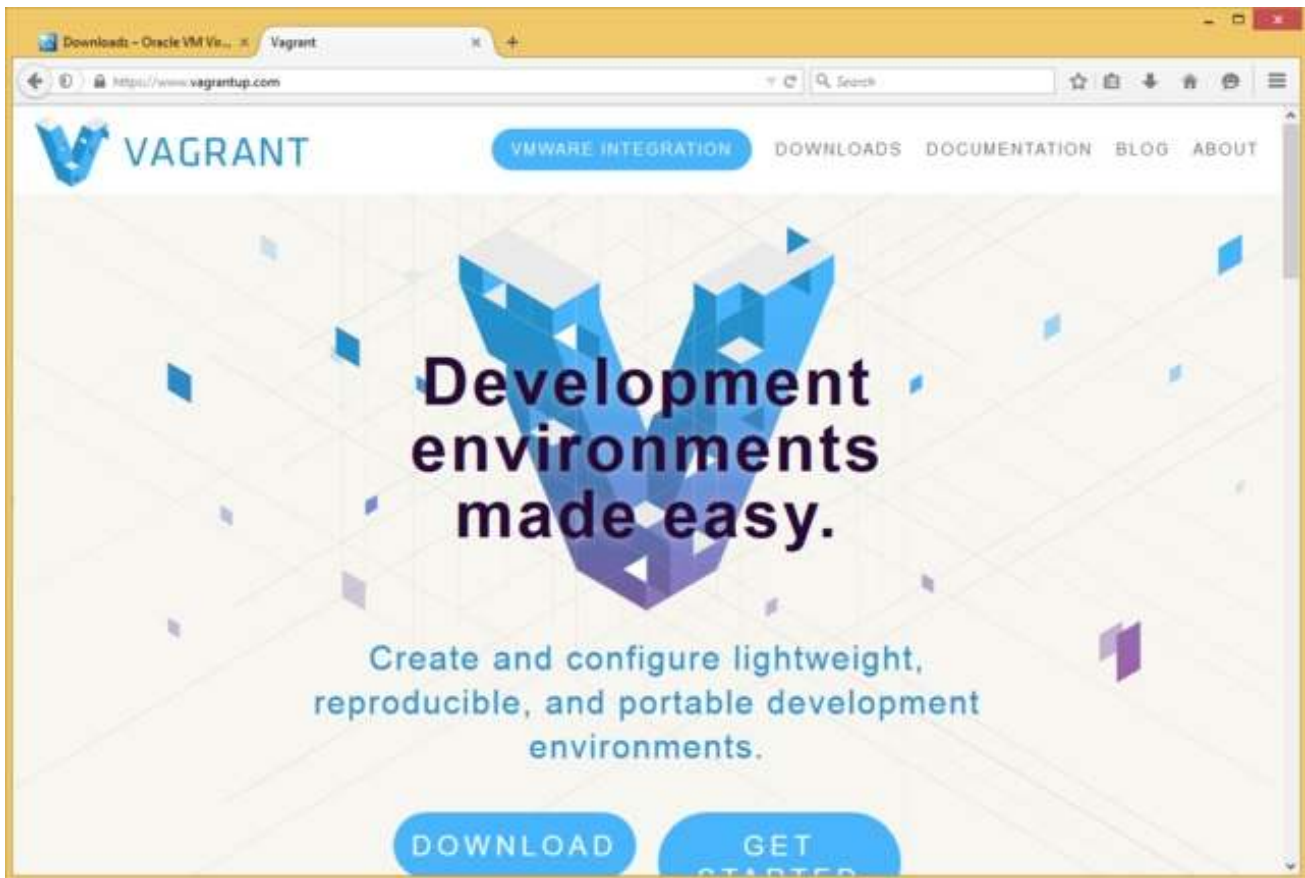
Welcome to your Vagrant-built virtual machine.
Last login: Tue Feb 24 21:51:33 2015 from 10.0.2.2
vagrant@precise32:~$ echo 'hello world!'
hello world!
vagrant@precise32:~$
```

This is a brief guide to installing the three moving pieces needed to make this work well on a Windows machine:

1. Vagrant itself
2. VirtualBox to run virtual machines
3. msysGit, a Windows distribution of Git and some other Unix tools, for cloning git repositories containing Vagrant configurations and connecting to your new VM with SSH

# Install Vagrant

First, [hit the Vagrant site \(http://adafru.it/epl\)](http://adafru.it/epl) and look for a "DOWNLOAD" button.



Click on the Windows installer link, and save the installer:

[Click here to download full PDF material](#)