

Running Virt-Manager inside Windows 10 using CygWin with Shortcut on Desktop

So... this was a difficult one to figure out! You may be better off using Windows Subsystem for Linux + Bash + Virt-Manager if you can get it, but it wasn't available for my version of Windows (LTSB).

Video! >> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDEAu3oPcR0>

The short version of the story is:

- [Install CygWin w/ virt-manager, xinit and openssh](#)
- [Configure PWDless SSH via RSA Key to KVM Host](#)

Note: If you place your private key inside `~/.ssh/id_rsa` and make sure permissions are the following SSH will automatically try using the Private Key. To create the directory `.ssh` with proper permissions and create the "known_hosts" file, I usually SSH into KVM Host and accept the host-key fingerprint manually. Then move over the Private Key and test ssh'ing into KVM Host. It shouldn't ask you for your password and just auto-login.

```
chmod 400 ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

Default Username is "YouLoginName" and in windows, you can copy the file manually to the default location via

```
C:\cygwin64\home\YouLoginName\.ssh\id_rsa
```

- [Configure XWin to autostart Virt-Manager](#)

```
cat << 'EOF' > ~/.startxwinrc
export DISPLAY=:0.0
virt-manager
sleep inf
EOF
chmod +x ~/.startxwinrc
```

- Create Shortcut on Desktop: (This is the contents of my .cmd)

```
tskill.exe xwin

C:\cygwin64\bin\run.exe /usr/bin/bash.exe -l -c /usr/bin/startxwin
```