About the Metasploit Installer

The standard Metasploit installer uses a graphical interface to guide you through the installation process. Installation is a simple process that takes you through a series of prompts to identify the location you want to install Metasploit and the ports that you want Metasploit to use. After you define your preferences, the installer installs the dependencies that are necessary to run Metasploit.

Before You Begin

Task	Description
Download the Installer	Visit http://www.metasploit.com/download/ and download the Windows installer. Save the file to a location on your computer, like your Desktop.
Disable Antivirus Software	Antivirus software detects Metasploit as malicious and may cause installation and runtime issues. Before you install Metasploit, disable any antivirus software that your system uses, such as Windows Defender.
Disable Any Firewalls	Local firewalls, like the Windows Firewall, interfere with exploits and payloads. Please disable the local firewalls before you install or run Metasploit.

System Requirements

2 GHz+ processor

2 GB RAM

500MB+ available disk space

10/100 Mbps NIC

Browser Requirements

Mozilla Firefox 4.0+

Microsoft Internet Explorer 9+

Google Chrome 10+

Supported Operating Systems

Windows XP, 2003, Vista, 2008 Server, and Windows 7

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.x, 6.x - x86 and x86_64

Ubuntu Linux 8.04, 10.04, 12.04 - x86 and x86_64

Installing Metasploit

1. Locate the Windows installer file and double-click on the installer icon. When you see the security warnings about anti-virus software and firewalls, click **OK** to close the warnings.

2. When the Setup screen appears, click **Next** to continue.
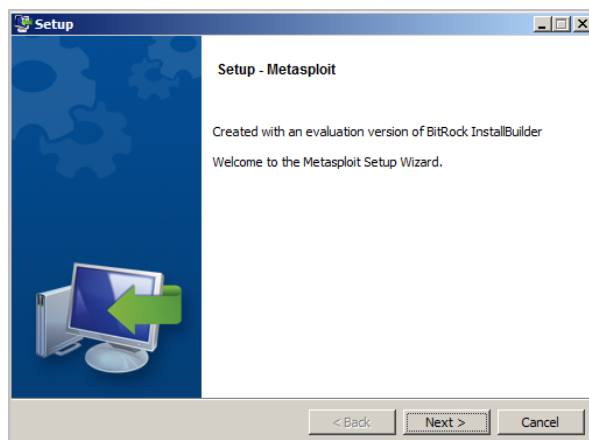
3. Accept the license agreement and click **Next**.

4. On the next screen, choose an installation directory for Metasploit. The directory you choose must be empty. Click **Next** to continue.
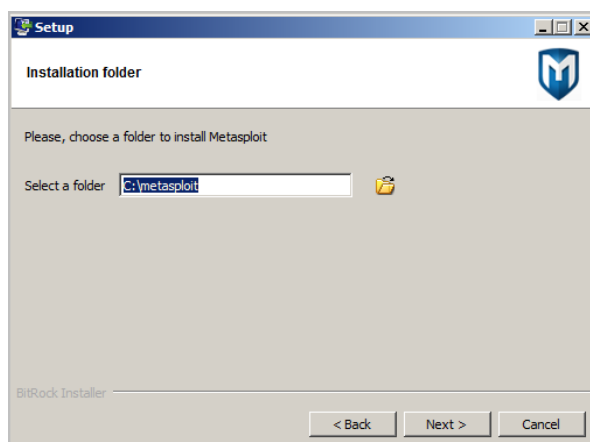
5. Enter the SSL port that the Metasploit service uses and click **Next** to continue. By default, the Apache server uses port 3790 for HTTPS. If the port is already bound to another process, you can use netstat to determine if a process is listening on that port and kill the process, or you can enter another port such as 8080 or 442.
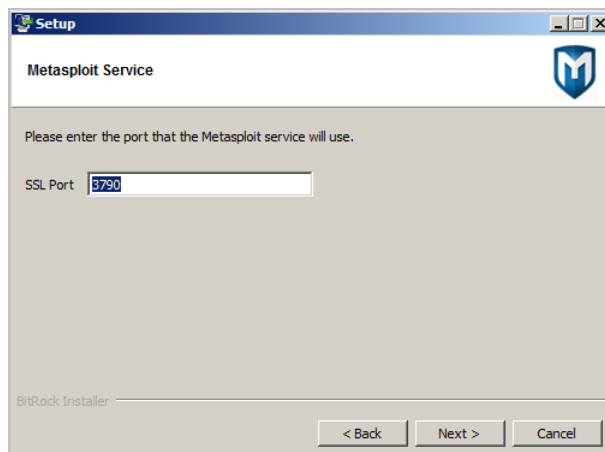

6. Enter the web server name that you want to use to generate the SSL certificate.
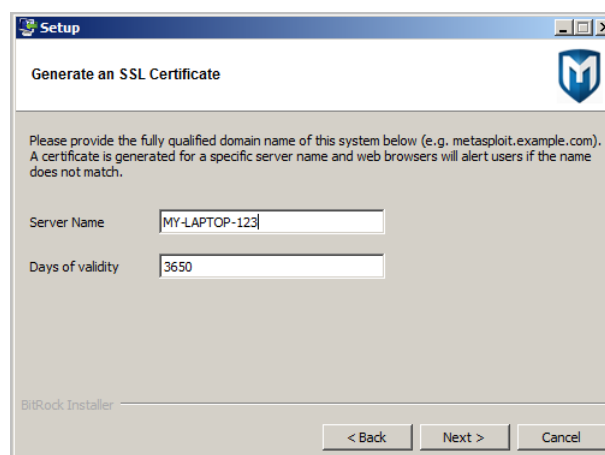
7. Enter the number of days the certificate will be valid in the Days of validity field.

8. Enter the port that you want the PostgreSQL database to use. The default server port is 7337. Click Next to continue.
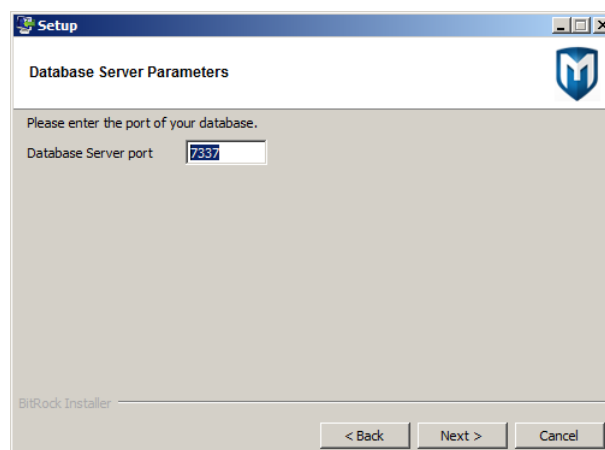
9. Enter a port for the Thin server. The default Thin server port is 3001. Click **Next** to continue.
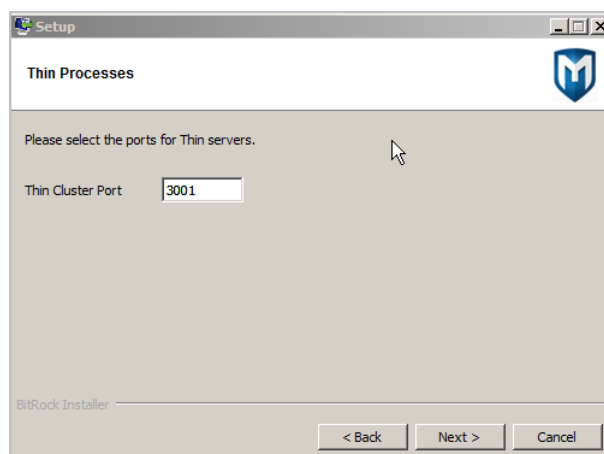
10. Select Yes to enable automatic updates for the Metasploit Framework. Click **Next** to continue.
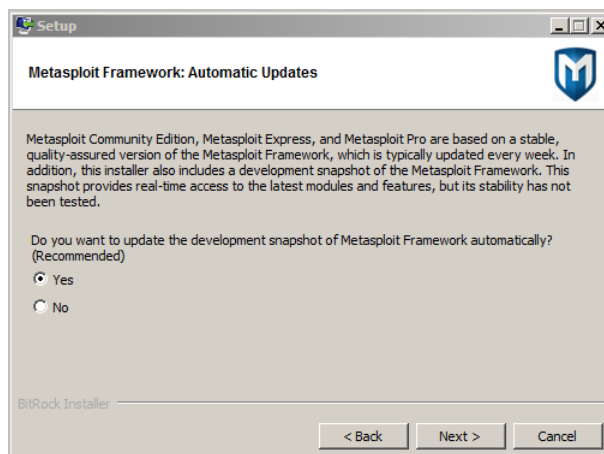

11. The installer is ready to install Metasploit and all its bundled dependencies. Click **Next** to continue.

12. When the installation completes, click the **Finish** button.

After the installation completes, a window appears and prompts you to launch the Metasploit Web UI. At this point, you should launch the Metasploit Web UI to create a user account and to activate your license key. You do not need to restart your system to launch Metasploit for the first time.
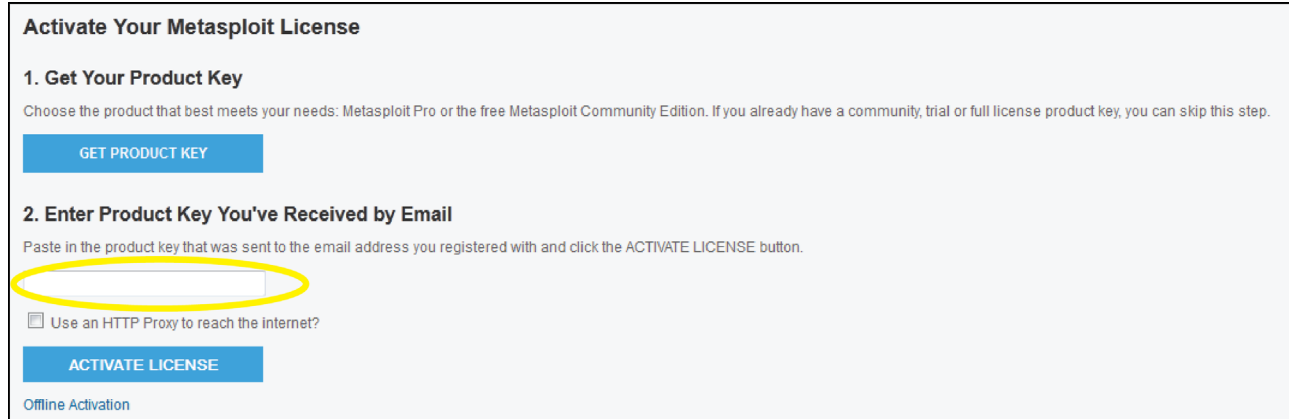
Activating a License Key

1.   Select **Start > Programs > Metasploit > Access Metasploit UI** to launch the user interface for Metasploit Pro.

2.   If you receive a warning about the trustworthiness of the security certificate, select that you understand the risks and want to continue to the website. The wording that the warning displays depends on the browser that you use.
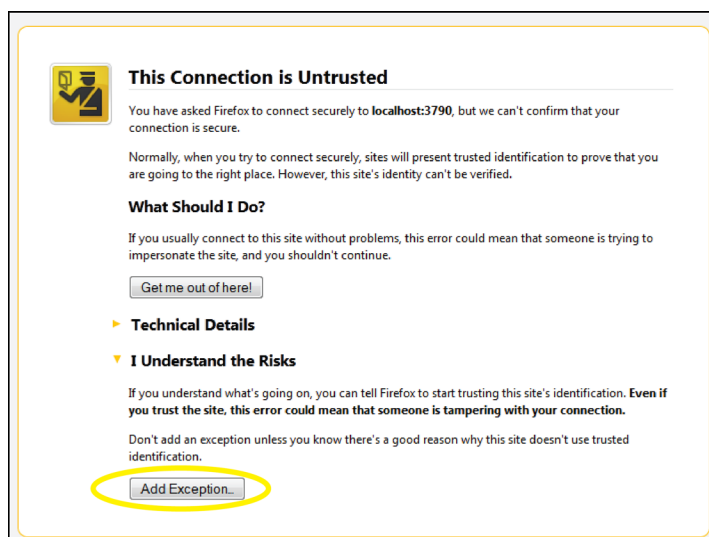
3.   When the web interface for Metasploit Pro appears, the **New User Setup** page displays. Follow the onscreen instructions to create a user account for Metasploit Pro. Save the user account information so that you can use it later to log in to Metasploit Pro.

4.   After you create a user account, the **Activate Metasploit** page appears. Enter the license key that you received from Rapid7 in the **Product Key** field.

Activate Your Metasploit License

1. Get Your Product Key

Choose the product that best meets your needs: Metasploit Pro or the free Metasploit Community Edition. If you already have a community, trial or full license product key, you can skip this step.

GET PRODUCT KEY

2. Enter Product Key You've Received by Email

Paste in the product key that was sent to the email address you registered with and click the ACTIVATE LICENSE button.

☐ Use an HTTP Proxy to reach the internet?

ACTIVATE LICENSE

Offline Activation

5.   If you need to use an HTTP proxy to reach the internet, you can select the HTTP proxy option and provide the information for the HTTP proxy server that you want to use.

6.   Activate the license key.

After you activate the license key, the Projects page appears. If you need help getting started, read the Metasploit Pro Getting Started Guide.

FAQs

How do I get a license key?

Please contact our support team to get a license key.

How can I resolve the "Metasploit is initializing error"?

After you install Metasploit, you may need to wait at least five minutes for the service to restart. If the service does not restart, you need to stop the Metasploit service and restart it. Choose **Start > Programs > Metasploit > Services > Stop Services**. Then, choose **Start > Programs > Metasploit > Services > Start Services** to restart the Metasploit service.

How can I troubleshoot installation issues?

You can look at the production log to debug any errors that occured during installation. Metasploit stores the production log in the following directory: $INSTALL\apps\pro\ui\log. Additionally, you can also view the framework log, which is located in $INSTALL\apps\pro\engine\config\logs, if the production log does not provide you with any clues. You should look for error messages about firewalls, postgres, anti-virus software, or server/ port connections. If you cannot diagnose the issue, please contact our support team.