

Is your important financial data stuck in Tally 4.5? You don't want to migrate your data and are unable to install Tally 4.5 on windows and retrieve your data? Here's how to do it...

### Tally, an introduction

Tally is an age-proven accounting/financial software. Ever since Tally 4.5, users have found drastic improvements in overall technology and functionality. But there are some, who have chosen to stay with old times. There are a lot of people (lot of people I know of) have stored their accounts in Tally 4.5 of previous years (viz 2000-01) and have a sales-tax case pending for that. The latest release of Tally (viz ERP 9) does not include native import from Tally 4.5 to version 9. You have to first migrate data from Tally 4.5 to Tally 7.5 and then from Tally 7.5 to Tally 9/ERP, if you choose the **Migrate to Tally 7.5** way, this tutorial is not for you. However, you can know more about the migration procedure here.

### Let's start

- Grab a copy of Sun xVM VirtualBox from <http://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads> . It is a good 65MB in weight and is expected to come down at you in about 10 minutes.
- Go ahead and install it. You should see a Registration Screen (either during setup or on the first run). You can skip it if you want, but I suggest you register for updates on VirtualBox. If you skip it this time, it will nag you at regular intervals (you can always skip it though).
- Download a copy of FreeDOS from <http://www.freedos.org/freedos/files> You can download ISO disk image of either full version (fdfullcd.iso) or basic version (fdbasecd.iso). Basic version should be ideal for you if you just want to run Tally 4.5 and do nothing else (PS: you can also play classic games such as Wolf and run classic FoxPro applications)
- At some point or later you will require Magic Disk. I will tell you why but, right now just download it from <http://www.magiciso.com/tutorials/miso-magicdisc-overview.htm>
- Start VirtualBox. Click "New" icon on the toolbar. In the wizard that follows, click Next.
- In the Name field, type any name e.g. "DOS" (without the quotes). In the OS Type, select "Other", select "DOS" in the version dropdown. Click Next.
- Specify at least 32MB of RAM. Click Next.
- Check on "Boot Hard Disk (Primary Master)" and select "Create a new hard disk". Click Next.
- Specify a "Fixed Sized Storage" in the next screen. Click Next.
- Specify a location. Please allocate at least 100MB for the hard disk size. This should create a \*.VXD file in the location you specify. Click Next.
- Review the parameters and click Finish
- Now we have our virtual hard disk ready. Let us boot from it. Before doing that (since the new virtual hard disk does not have an OS installed), we need to supply a bootable disk. To specify FreeDOS ISO as the bootable CD-ROM, click on "Settings" icon on the toolbar. Click "CD/DVD-ROM". Check on Mount CD/DVD drive and select the ISO image file. Before clicking

## Installing Tally 4.5 on Windows XP/Vista or later

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OK, review the "System" option on the right to re-check the boot order. It should have CD Drive before the Hard Disk. If not, use arrows at the side to do it. Click OK. You have a virtual CD drive ready and ready to boot.

- Let us boot from it. Click "Start" on the toolbar. Ignore the information box (but do not check "Do not show this message again", sometimes things can go wild, this help can be handy) Click OK. You should see Free DOS bootable screen. Choose "Continue to boot from Free DOS CD ROM".

- The VirtualBox will boot and present you with another menu. Choose "Install FreeDOS"