

Fling on Arm Neoverse N1 System Development Platform

Info

The N1 SDP is Arm's own evaluation platform for the Neoverse N1 cores that are powering next-generation server systems like Graviton2-based instances from AWS or Ampere Computing Altra-based systems. It is a development platform for hardware prototyping, software development, system validation, with advanced technologies such as CCIX.

The N1 SDP has 4 N1 cores, and supports DDR4 memory, USB3, SATA, PCIe, CCIX, and GbE ethernet.

See official info at <https://developer.arm.com/tools-and-software/development-boards/neoverse-n1-sdp>

Required and supported hardware

Minimally, you need:

- An N1 SDP.
- 1 x USB drive for installer ISO
- 1 x USB, SATA or NVMe drive for actual ESXi installation
- 1 x USB or PCIe NIC

The following hardware is supported:

- USB, SATA, and NVMe storage
- USB and PCIe networking
- Serial console

Preparation

This document does not cover server unpacking, assembly or configuration as UEFI firmware updates. Please use official documentation, especially <https://community.arm.com/developer/tools-software/oss-platforms/w/docs/457/n1sdp-getting-started-guide>

Install ESXi

- Connect a USB cable for serial console.
- Connect the USB drive with ESXi installer.
- Power on system
- When prompted, choose to boot from USB drive
- Follow the generic installation steps.