

1: Tips for getting started

Thank you for downloading XNAT, the most widely-used informatics platform for imaging research. With the release of XNAT 1.6.5, we have made the UI for setting up and administering XNAT easier than before. Here are some tips for installing and upgrading XNAT.

Ready to build XNAT from the ground up?

- Follow the [Step by Step Instructions for Installing XNAT](#). Also, check out the necessary [prerequisites for XNAT installation](#), and instructions on [how to upgrade XNAT](#) while retaining your existing data.

Need a quick and easy XNAT VM to experiment with?

- Try [Building an XNAT VM with Vagrant](#). This toolkit for VirtualBox and VMWare makes it delightfully easy to get an XNAT demonstration and development instance up and running.

Thinking about how to store massive amounts of data?

- Read this guide to [setting up a ZFS file storage system](#) using commercial hard drives, written by our on-site data architect. This approach helped us save considerable money and get better performance than the proprietary data system that we used to have.

What to stay in the loop?

- [Will Horton – Add link to subscripton here --> Subscribe to the XNAT newsletter](#). The newsletter provides high-level, non-technical updates and information on the XNAT project. If you're an IT lead or programmer, make sure to pass the link on to your lab chiefs and other stakeholders so they can stay informed.
- [Subscribe to our technical support discussion group](#). The discussion group is a great place to get nitty gritty support on those tough XNAT issues and to join in the open source development effort.

Questions? We know you've got them.

If you're new to XNAT – or planning big changes to an existing XNAT – contact us to schedule a free video conference consultation with the XNAT experts. Email us at info@xnat.org to schedule your free consultation.