

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Linux monitor mode](#)

D4vidrax - January 5, 2026, 7:18 am

Hi

Is there a way to put my virtual machine in monitor mode without using any physical adapter?
What is the best way to do it for pentesting?

DramaKing - January 5, 2026, 7:27 am

(Jan 5, 2026 08:18 AM)D4vidrax Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hi

Is there a way to put my virtual machine in monitor mode without using any physical adapter?
What is the best way to do it for pentesting?

Absolutely not. System-level access to the physical WiFi adapter is required. A virtual adapter won't even show up when running iw dev. Is it critical that you use a virtual machine? Have you verified that your adapter supports monitor mode?

D4vidrax - January 5, 2026, 2:32 pm

(Jan 5, 2026 08:27 AM)DramaKing Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Absolutely not. System-level access to the physical WiFi adapter is required. A virtual adapter won't even show up when running iw dev. Is it critical that you use a virtual machine? Have you verified that your adapter supports monitor mode?

Well, the problem is solved. I bought the Alfa AWUS036NHA Wi-Fi adapter, and from what I've seen, it does what I needed it to do.

Terry A. Davis - January 5, 2026, 4:05 pm

(Jan 5, 2026 03:32 PM)D4vidrax Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Well, the problem is solved. I bought the Alfa AWUS036NHA Wi-Fi adapter, and from what I've seen, it does what I needed it to do.

You solved the problem doing what you didn't want to do even if it was the solution. Good job.

Cosa Nostra - January 17, 2026, 4:20 pm

No, true monitor mode cannot be achieved in a VM without passing through a physical wireless adapter. However, since you purchased an adapter and managed to make it work, you're good to go I guess.