

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Arrow keys keep moving after releasing them in Kali Linux VM on VMware Workstation](#)

D4vidrax - August 6, 2026, 8:34 am

Hello everyone,

I'm having a very strange keyboard issue with my Kali Linux virtual machine running on VMware Workstation 16.2.5 on Windows 11.

The problem only happens with the arrow keys (Left/Right, and also Up/Down). When I hold an arrow key for a short time and then release it, the cursor keeps moving for a moment instead of stopping immediately. Because of this, it is very difficult to place the cursor exactly where I want in a text editor.

It feels like VMware or Kali is buffering the key presses, because after releasing the key I still receive many repeated key events.

Things I have already tested:

The physical keyboard works correctly on the Windows host.

Other keys like Backspace work normally.

The issue only happens inside the Kali VM.

Changing the keyboard repeat rate with `xset r rate` only changes the speed, but the problem remains.

Running `xset r off` completely fixes the issue, but obviously disables key repetition.

Using `xev`, I can see that the arrow keys continue generating repeated `KeyPress` events even after releasing the key.

Example:

Code `keycode 113 (keysym 0xff51, Left)`

`keycode 114 (keysym 0xff53, Right)` Has anyone experienced this issue before? Could this be related to VMware keyboard input handling, VMware Tools, X11/XFCE, or a Kali Linux configuration problem?

Any help would be appreciated.

DramaKing - August 6, 2026, 11:47 am

Yep, your problem is high latency with keypresses. Sorry I don't have a solution.

D4vidrax - August 7, 2026, 5:30 am

(Aug 6, 2026 08:34 AM)D4vidrax Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hello everyone,

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I found the solution just in case someone have the same problem:

Enable Virtualize IOMMU: Go to VM Settings > Processors and check the box for Virtualize IOMMU (IO memory management unit). This resolves lag for many users on Windows 11 hosts.

Edit .vmx File: If IOMMU is unavailable, add the following line to the virtual machine's .vmx configuration file:

Code `keyboard.vusb.enable = "TRUE"`