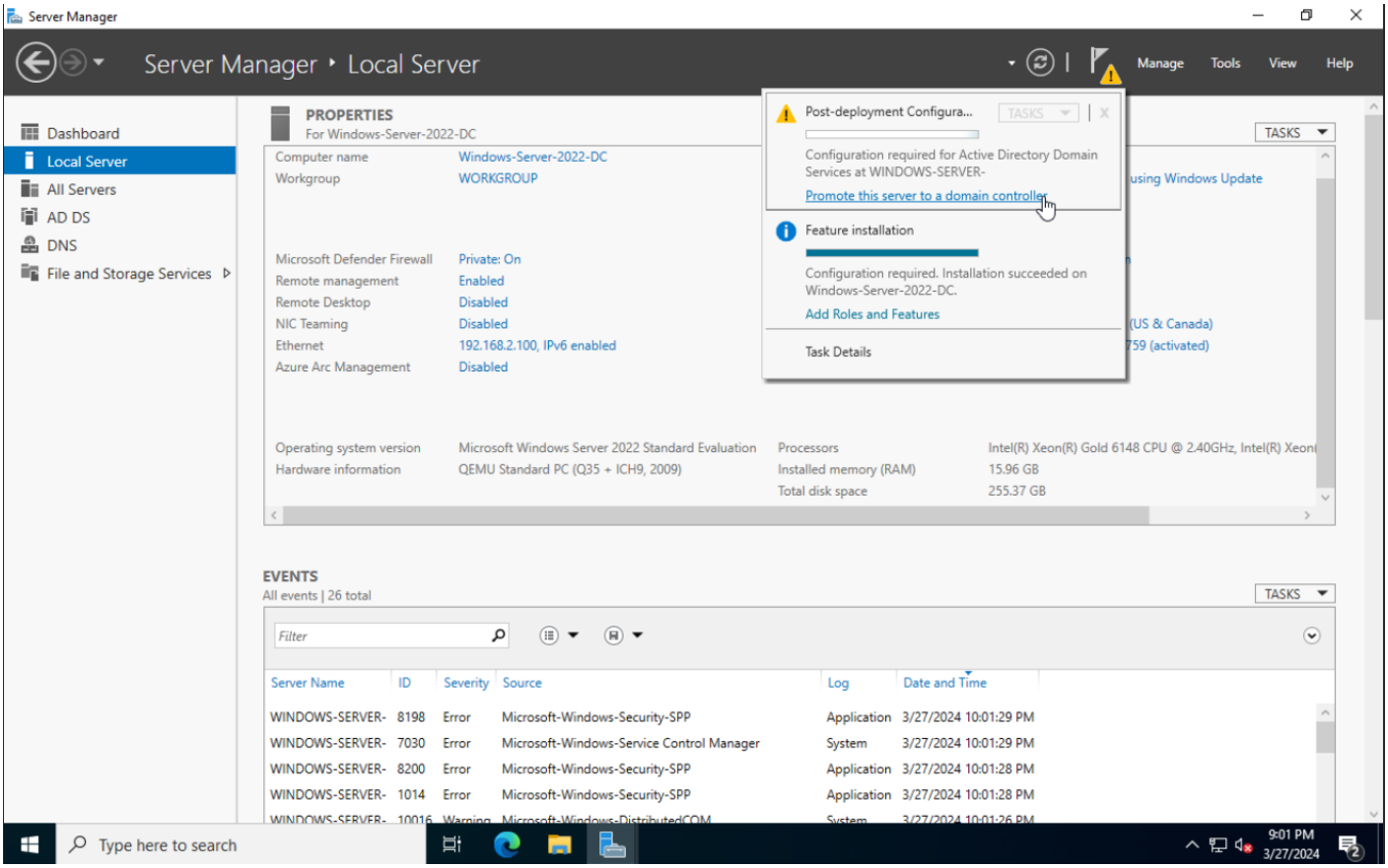
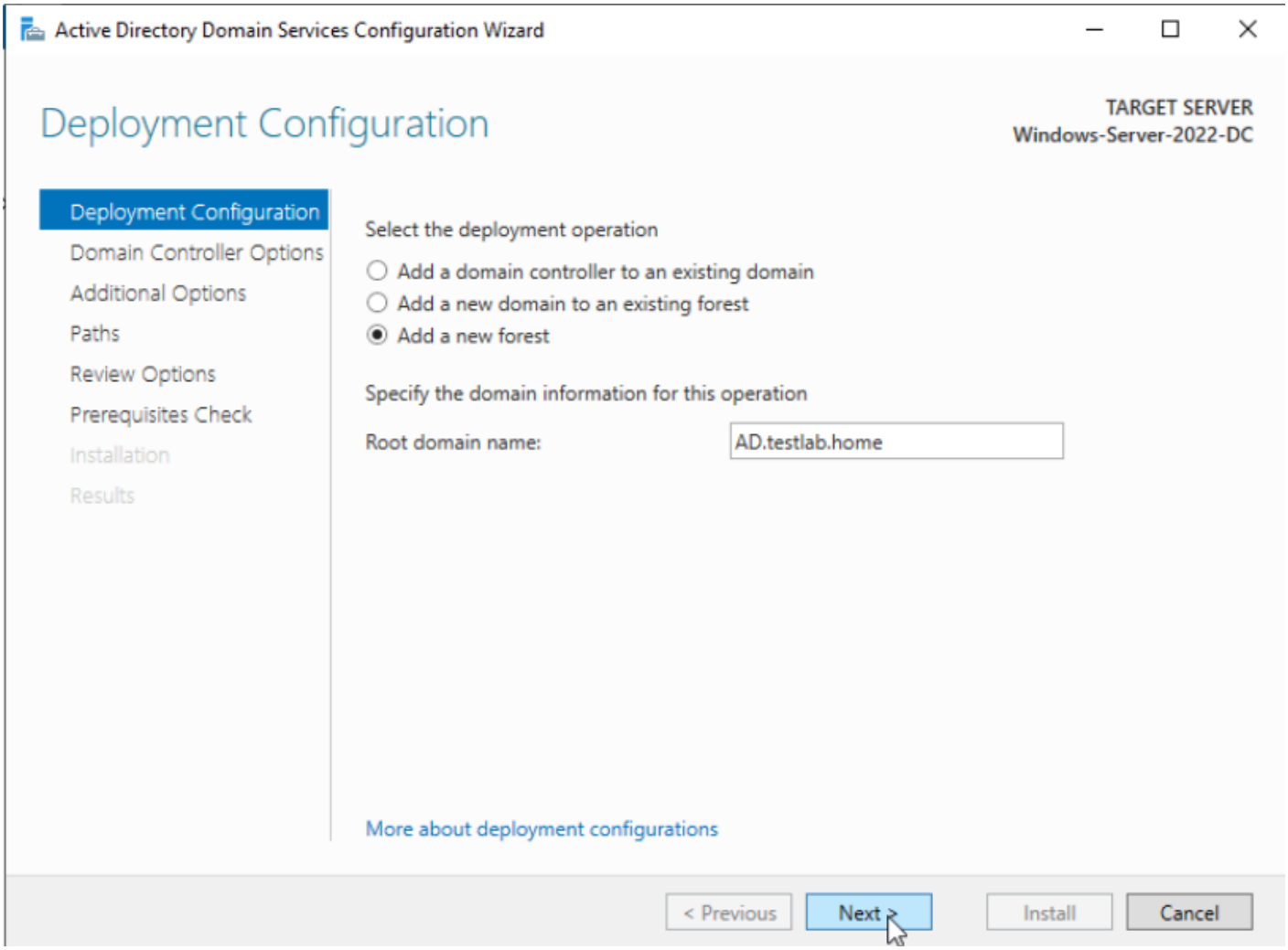
Setting Up Server as Active Directory Domain Controller

Keeping it simple, select install Active Directory Domain Services and DNS Server, via Manage ---> Add Roles and Features.

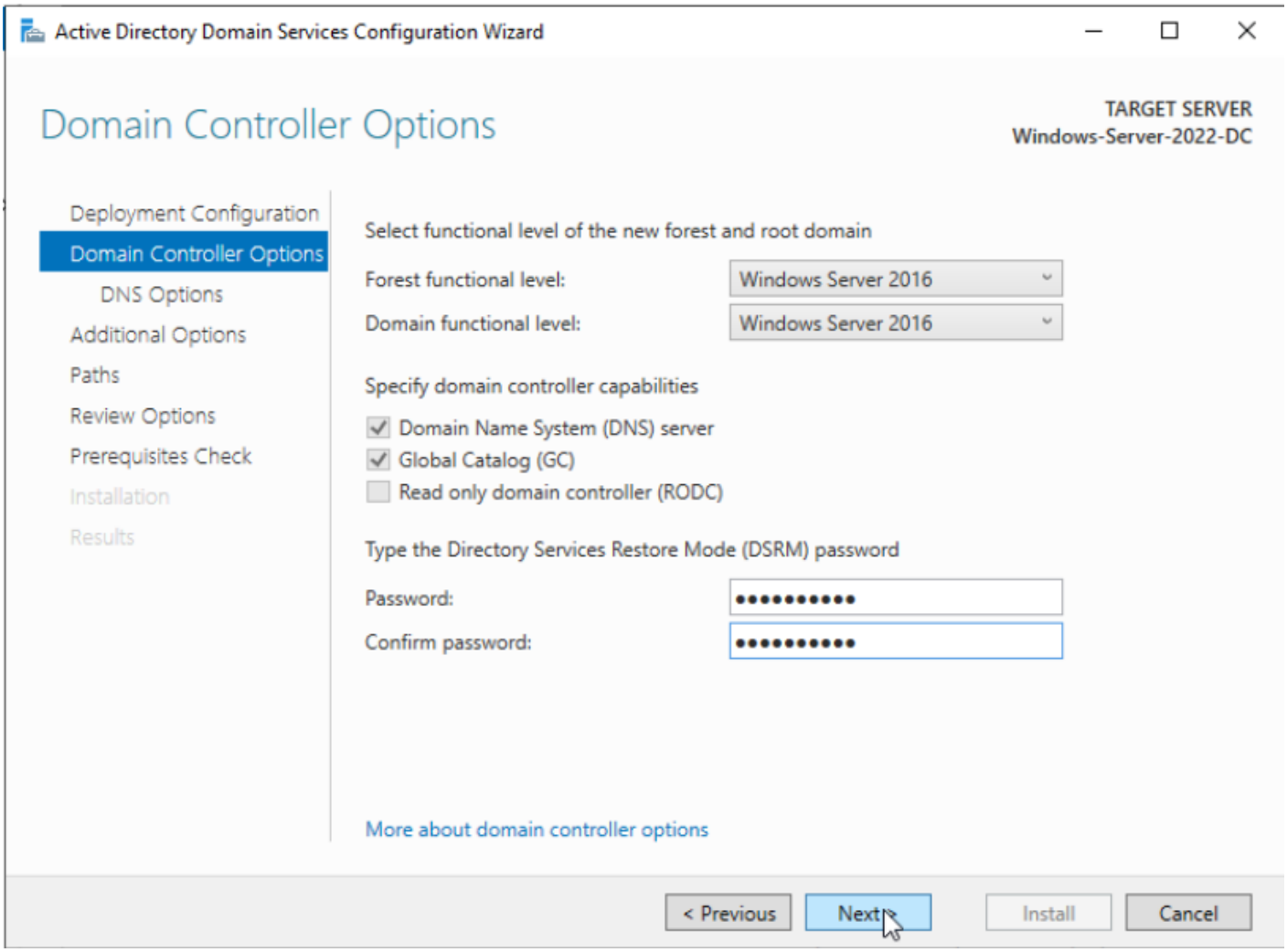
After installation, promote your Windows server to a Domain Controller :



A Deployment Configuration Wizard screen will pop-up. This step is important to properly setting up active directory services! Select Add a new Forest to begin the configuration wizard:

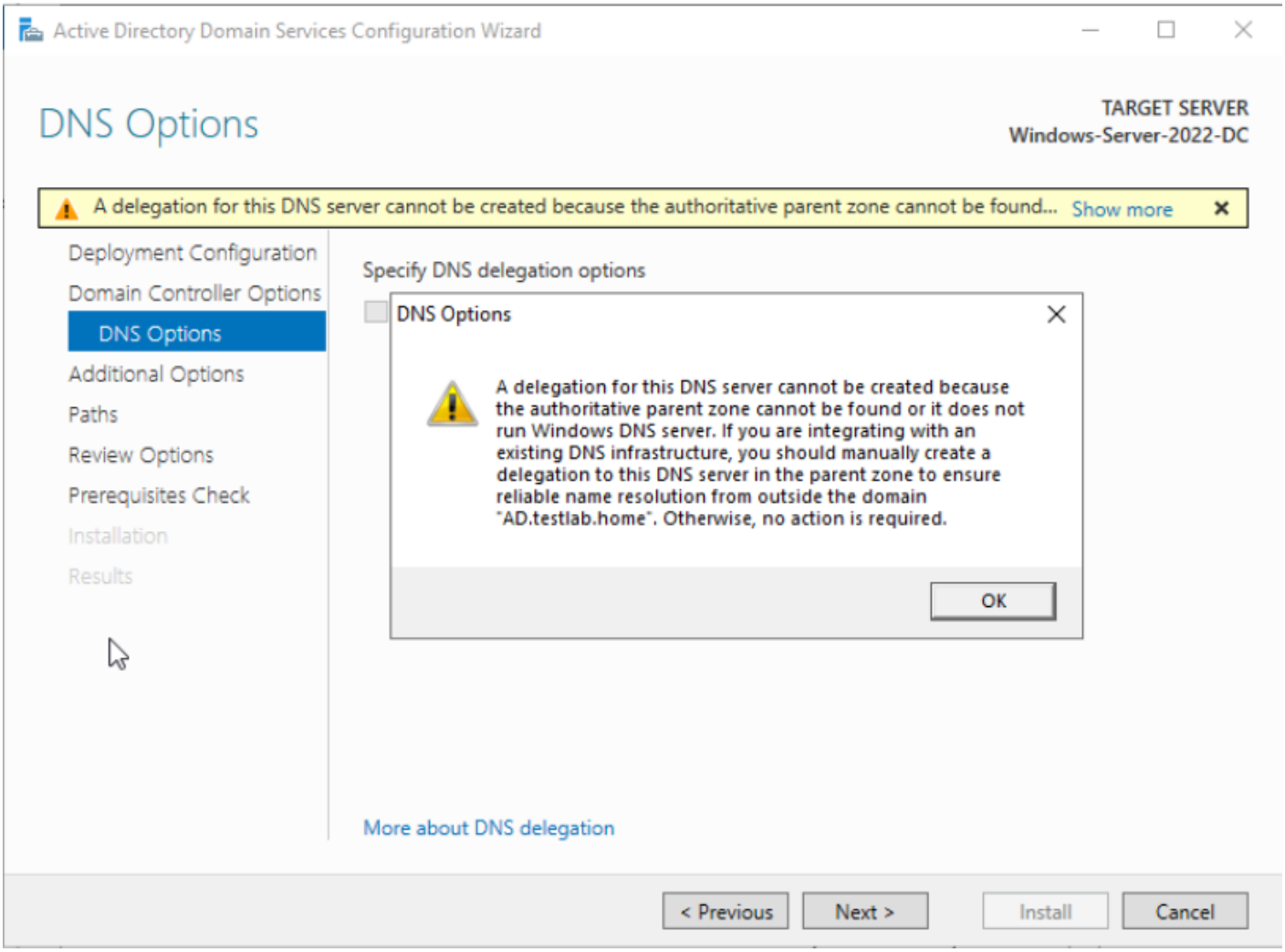


- Here you can see I've entered AD.testlab.home as my Root Domain Name

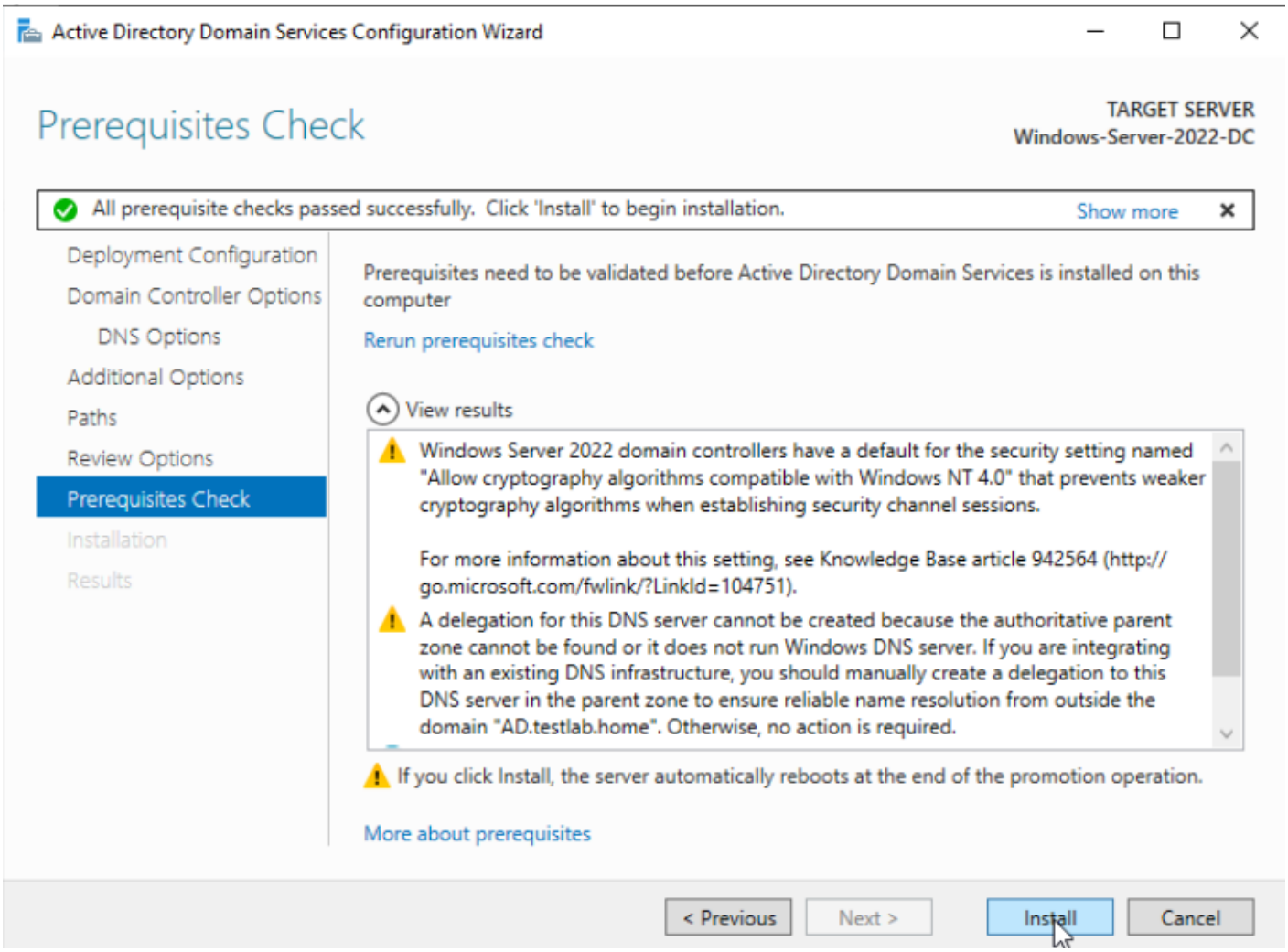


- Here you can set levels if you plan on connecting other Windows Servers. For my purposes, I'll be keeping it at its default of Windows Server 2016
- Set your DSRM password and store it safely.

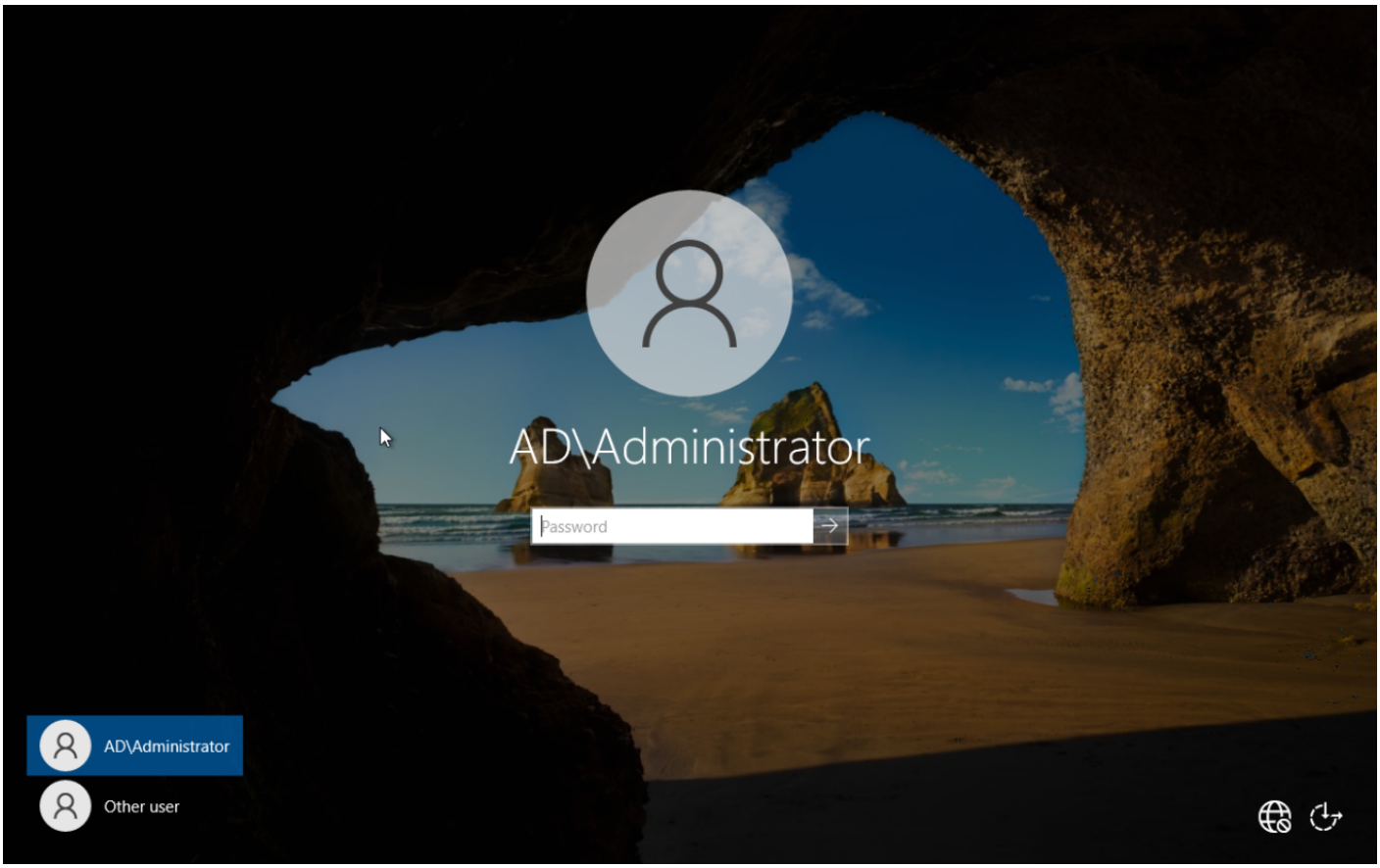
If you're setting this up in a test environment, you'll likely see the following warning pop-up. For our purposes, this is okay:



Click through Additional Options, Paths, and Review Options to get to the prerequisite checks:



- Again, these warnings are okay for test environments. For production, you'll want to acknowledge them and make changes accordingly.
- After installation, the server will need to restart, and you should now be able to log in as Domain Administrator, which should say AD/administrator:



Useful Tips:

- If you're like me, you're using an evaluation copy of Windows and don't have any plans of purchasing a costly license anytime soon. To rearm the license and reset the count back to 180 days, run the following command in PowerShell:
  - ```
    slmgr -rearm
    ```
    ```

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