The book was written using vSphere version 6.5 and NSX for vSphere version 6.3.
vSphere 5.5 and later can be used no issue but you should have a compatible
hardware to run vSphere as per VMware HCL www.vmware.com/go/hcl
NSX 6.2 can be used but there are some new features in NSX 6.3 that are not available
in NSX 6.2 such as Controller Disconnected Operation (CDO) mode, DFW timers,
Application Rule Manager and Endpoint Monitoring

All chapter requires a supported guest operating systems, web browser and Adobe
Flash Player to access the vSphere Web Clients and the minimum version differ
depending on the vSphere version.
For example, the requirement for vSphere 6.5 is listed in this
link:https://docs.vmware.com/en/VMware-
vSphere/6.5/com.vmware.vsphere.install.doc/GUID-F6D456D7-C559-439D-8F34-
4FCF533B7B42.html
SSH client such as Putty

Two recipes in Chapter 4 are on Hardware VTEP bridging which requires a compatible
hardware.
While this may be hard to simulate, there is an online interactive simulation provided
by VMware Hands-on Labs here: http://docs.hol.vmware.com/hol-isim/HOL-2017/hol-
1703-arista.htm

Chapter 6 on IdFW and Chapter 11 on Endpoint Monitoring require Desktop OS such as
Windows 10, Windows 8, Windows 7, Windows Vista

Chapter 7 is a multi-site setup which requires a double amount of resources such as
two vCenter servers, two NSX Managers and so on

Chapter 8 requires an FTP/SFTP server

One of the recipe in Chapter 11 requires additional software vRealize Log Insight
which comes with NSX https://www.vmware.com/go/try-log-insight

Software for Chapter 12
- Postman https://www.getpostman.com/
- Windows PowerShell
- Python 2.7 or Python 3 https://www.python.org/downloads/
- vRealize Orchestrator
- NSX-vRO Plugin

Most of the recipes can be simulated in VMware Hands-on
Labshttp://labs.hol.vmware.com

There are few blogs on how to downsize NSX components for homelabs but please
note this is not supported in production:

- https://www.virten.net/2016/05/deploy-vmware-nsx-in-homelabs-with-limited-resources/
- http://nsx.world/
- http://vmusketeers.com/2016/07/23/journey-to-vcix-nv-part-1-deploying-nsx-manager-on-vmware-workstation/
- http://www.routetocloud.com/2014/04/nsx-home-lab-part-1/