

# vSphere VM Snapshots, Sanitation, and Pre-Maintenance Readiness Overview

This workflow documents the creation of pre-maintenance virtual machine snapshots in the vSphere Client. The snapshots serve as a sanitation step to ensure the environment is in a clean, recoverable state before performing system updates, configuration changes, or testing.

## What Was Done

Created snapshots for three virtual machines using the vSphere Client prior to maintenance activities.

Applied clear, descriptive snapshot names to document purpose and timing.

Included virtual machine memory to capture a complete runtime state.

Performed snapshot creation as part of an environment sanitation process, confirming systems were stable before changes.

## Result

Each virtual machine now has a reliable rollback point, allowing the environment to be quickly restored to a sanitized, known-good state if issues occur during maintenance or testing.

## Outcome

This process demonstrates proactive change management and sanitation practices in a virtualized environment, helping ensure system stability, reduced risk, and efficient recovery in enterprise operations.

A virtual machine snapshot is being created in vSphere prior to maintenance, capturing the current state of the system with memory included. This provides a safe rollback point, allowing the VM to be quickly restored if issues occur during configuration changes or updates.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface. On the left, the navigation tree displays a vCenter sandbox environment with various clusters and hosts. In the center, a summary card for a virtual machine named "dev-app-eg3.procure.prod1" is shown. At the top of the card, there is a "TAKE SNAPSHOT" button. A modal dialog box titled "Take snapshot" is open over the card. The dialog has fields for "Name" (set to "Snapshot before maintenance") and "Description". There are two checkboxes at the bottom: "Include virtual machine's memory" (which is checked) and "Quiesce guest file system (requires VM tools)". Below the dialog, the virtual machine's configuration details are visible, including CPU, Memory, Storage, and Network adapter information. The "CREATE" button is highlighted in blue at the bottom right of the dialog.

A snapshot is being taken of the dev-performance virtual machine in vSphere, capturing the VM's current state with memory included. This creates a reliable restore point prior to changes or testing, allowing the system to be rolled back quickly if issues arise.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the following details:

- Header:** Not secure, https://vcenter.sandbox.prod/ui/app/vm;nav=h/urn:vmomi:VirtualMachine:vm-2361:f095ce46-59d5-4...  
User: egarrido@procore.dev
- VM Selection:** dev-performance-eg3.procore.prod1
- Actions Bar:** Includes icons for Summary, Monitor, Configure, Permissions, Datastores, Networks, and Snapshots.
- Snapshots Tab:** Selected tab.
- Guest OS:** Take snapshot dialog open.
- Snapshot Details:**
  - Name: VM Snapshot 9/28/2025, 12:09:08 PM
  - Description: (Empty)
  - Include virtual machine's memory: Checked
  - Quiesce guest file system(requires VM tools): Unchecked
- Bottom Status:** CANCEL and CREATE buttons.
- VM Configuration:** Shows CPU, Memory, Storage, and Network adapter details.

A snapshot is being created for the stage-web virtual machine in vSphere prior to maintenance. The snapshot includes the VM's memory, providing a complete rollback point to quickly restore the system state if any issues occur during updates or configuration changes.

The screenshot shows the vSphere Client interface with the following details:

- Left Sidebar:** Shows the inventory tree with nodes like "vcenter.sandbox.prod", "Procore-DC", "10.1.10.40", "10.1.10.90", "alopez-cluster", "DTurner-CLUSTER", "egarndo-CLUSTER", "dev-app-eg3.procore.prod1", "dev-performance-eg3.procore...", "stage-web-eg3.procore.prod1" (selected), "egiron-cluster", "JKEOWN-CLUSTER", "dev-app-jk1.procore.prod1", "dev-performance-jk1.procore.p...", "stage-web-jk1.procore.prod1", "kgates-cluster", "kgrant-cluster", "khaynes-cluster", "MBOYLAN-CLUSTER", "MCLOW-CLUSTER", "New Resource Pool", and "PSEKAR2-CLUSTER".
- Top Bar:** Displays "vSphere Client" and a search bar. On the right are icons for "egarndo@procore.dev", a smiley face, and a refresh symbol.
- Selected VM:** "stage-web-eg3.procore.prod1" is selected in the inventory tree.
- Summary Tab:** Active tab in the VM details pane.
- Guest OS:** Sub-pane showing the VM's configuration.
- Take snapshot Dialog:** A modal window titled "Take snapshot" with the following fields:
  - Name:** "Snapshot before maintenance" (with "(Managed)" status)
  - Description:** (Empty text area)
  - Include virtual machine's memory:**
  - Quiesce guest file system (requires VM tools):**
- Bottom Summary:** Shows resource usage and compatibility.

CPU	19 MHz used	Allocated
Memory	51 MB used	1 GB allocated
Storage	3.49 GB used	21.08 GB allocated

Hard disk 1: 20 GB | Thin Provision  
Network adapter 1: YT-Intran-VLAN (connected) | 00:50:56:8b:4a:1a  
CD/DVD drive 1: Connected  
Compatibility: ESXi 7.0 U2 and later (VM version 19)

## Summary

Pre-maintenance snapshots were created for three virtual machines in the vSphere Client. Each snapshot includes system memory and was taken as a sanitation step to ensure the environment was in a clean, recoverable state. These snapshots provide reliable rollback points, enabling safe maintenance, reduced risk, and quick recovery if issues arise.