Using snapshots in a virtual machine (VM) is a powerful way to save the current state of the system so you can revert to it later if needed. This is especially useful for testing, software installation, system updates, or penetration testing (e.g., with Kali Linux).

Here’s a quick overview of how snapshots work and how to use them:

What Is a Snapshot?

A snapshot captures the VM's current state, including:

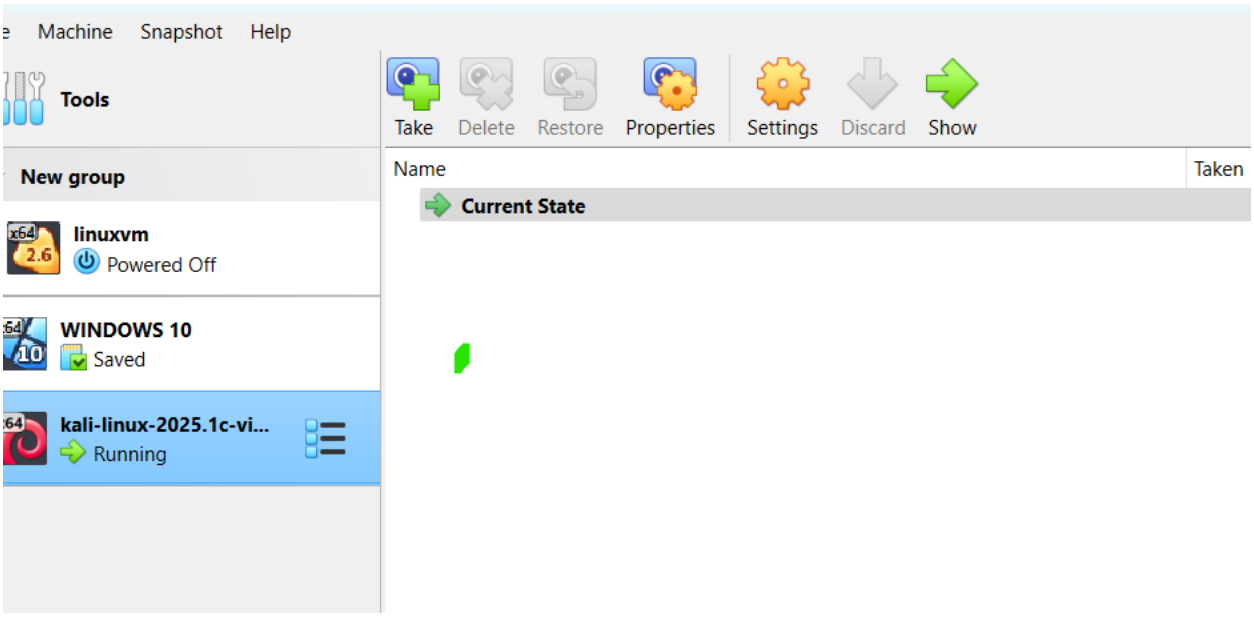
- Memory (RAM)
- Disk contents
- VM settings

It allows you to restore the VM to that exact point in time.

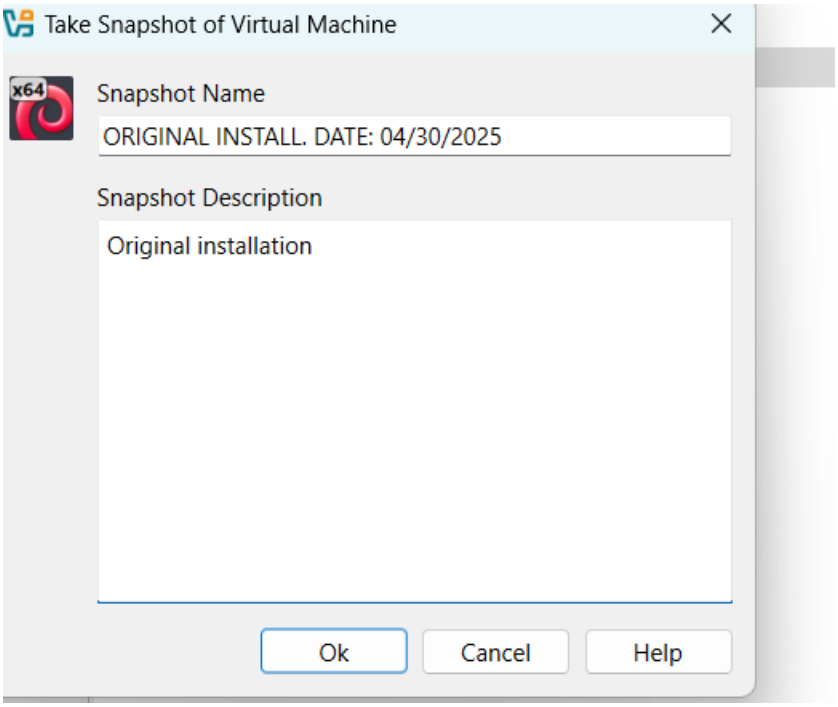
When to Use Snapshots

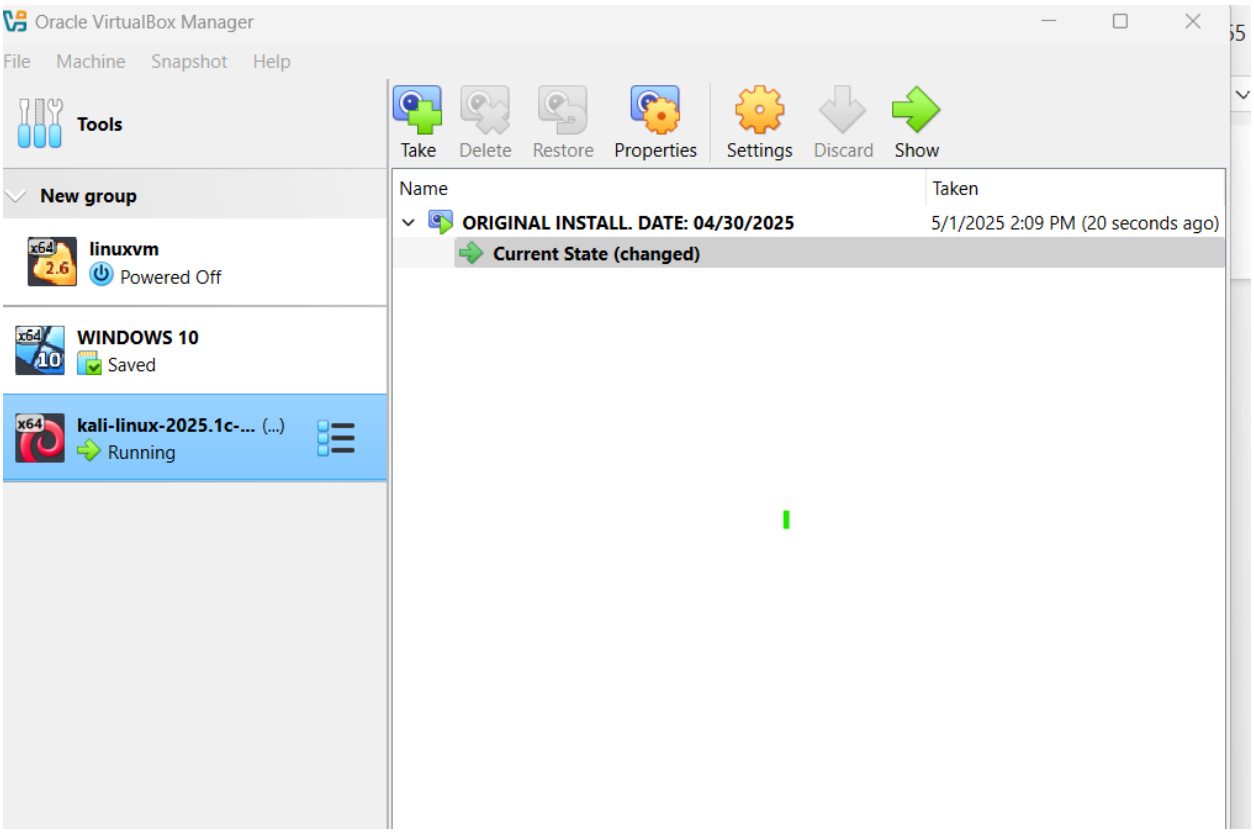
- Before installing or updating software
- Before making system configuration changes
- During penetration testing or malware analysis
- As a checkpoint during long experiments

STEP1: Select the virtual machine you want to create the snapshot. Click on snapshot and then click on take.



STEP2: Give a name to the snapshot and some brief description.





Best Practices

- Avoid keeping too many snapshots (they consume disk space).
- Use descriptive names (e.g., “Before Update Jan 2025”).
- Don’t rely on snapshots as backups; they are temporary checkpoints.