

Resizing and Snapshot

Snapshots in Redshift

Snapshots are point-in-time backups of a Redshift cluster.

They can be used to restore a cluster to a previous state.

Snapshots can be created automatically or manually.

It is best practice to take a manual snapshot before resizing a cluster to avoid data loss.

Automatic Snapshots

Automatic snapshots are created by Redshift automatically at regular intervals.

They usually have a retention period of one day by default.

Automatic snapshots cannot be renamed, and they are managed by AWS.

You can view existing snapshots under the Snapshots section in the Redshift console.

Cluster Resizing

Cluster resizing is used to adjust compute capacity or storage to match workload requirements.

You can change either the node type or the number of nodes.

Resizing can be done in two ways:

Classic Resize: Takes longer; cluster is read-only during the process (can last hours or days).

Elastic Resize: Recommended method; faster and causes minimal downtime.

To begin with the Lab

Summary of the Lab

In this lab, you learn how to manage **snapshots** and **resize clusters** in Amazon Redshift.

Snapshots are point-in-time backups used to restore clusters, created automatically or manually. It is best practice to take a manual snapshot before resizing to prevent data loss. Snapshots can be restored to new clusters and deleted when no longer needed. Cluster resizing adjusts compute or storage capacity by changing node type or count. The **Elastic Resize** method is recommended for faster resizing with minimal downtime, while **Classic Resize** is slower and makes the cluster read-only during the process.

- You can create a manual snapshot at any time.
Steps to create a snapshot:
 - Go to the Redshift console and select the cluster.
 - Choose “Create Snapshot.”

Screenshots (0) Info Last updated: November 13, 2025, 20:56 (UTC+05:30)

No snapshots
Create a snapshot

- Provide a snapshot identifier (default uses the current date).
- Choose a retention period (for example, one day).
- Create the snapshot.

Create snapshot

Cluster identifier
Choose the cluster for the snapshot.

Snapshot identifier
Identifier for the snapshot to be created.

Manual snapshot retention period
Specify how long do you want to retain your snapshot.

- Once created, the snapshot appears in the snapshot list and can be used for restoration.
- Manual and automatic snapshots can both be used to restore clusters.

Snapshots (2) Info Last updated: November 13, 2025, 21:17 (UTC+05:30)

Created	Snapshot	Status	Total size	Type	Time until deletion
Today November 13, 2025, 21:11 (UTC+05:30)	redshift-cluster-1-2025-11-13-21-09	Available	360 MB	Manual	< 1 day November 14, 2025, 21:11 (UTC+05:30)...
Today November 13, 2025, 21:07 (UTC+05:30)	rs:redshift-cluster-1-2025-11-13-15-37-05-769	Available	360 MB	Automated	< 1 day November 14, 2025, 21:07 (UTC+05:30)...

- Snapshots can be restored to either:
- A new provisioned Redshift cluster.

Snapshots (1/2) [Info](#)
Last updated: November 13, 2025, 21:17 (UTC+05:30)
Find snapshots
Actions ▾
Delete [Create snapshot](#)

Any Type ▾
Any Time ▾
Restore snapshot ▾
Actions ▾
Delete
Create snapshot

Restore to provisioned cluster
Restore to serverless namespace

- When restoring, you can modify some cluster settings like node type or network configuration.

▼ Monitoring
CloudWatch alarm
Create a CloudWatch alarm to monitor the disk usage of your cluster.
 No alarms
 Create alarm
 Duplicate Cloudwatch alarm

► Backup

Cancel [Restore cluster from snapshot](#)

- Click on Restore cluster from snapshot to restore the cluster.
- After testing or restoring, if a snapshot is no longer needed, it can be deleted from the Snapshots section.
- Select the snapshot and choose “Delete.”

Snapshots (1/2) [Info](#)
Last updated: November 13, 2025, 21:17 (UTC+05:30)
Find snapshots
Actions ▾ [Delete](#) [Create snapshot](#)

Any Type ▾
Any Time ▾
Any Clusters ▾

Created	Snapshot	Status	Total size	Type	Time
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Today November 13, 2025, 21:11 (UTC+05:30)	redshift-cluster-1-2025-11-13-21-09	Available	360 MB	Manual	< 1 d. Noven

- Go to the Clusters section in the Redshift console.
- Select the cluster and choose “Resize.”
- Choose Elastic Resize.

Amazon Redshift > [Clusters](#) > Resize cluster

Resize cluster: redshift-cluster-1

Resize cluster [Info](#)

With elastic resize, you can change from one node type to another quickly.

Elastic resize (recommended)
Choose elastic resize for most uses. You can change the node type, number of nodes, or both. Elastic resize changes or adds nodes to your existing cluster, and typically completes in 10-15 minutes.

Classic resize
Choose classic resize only when your configuration can't use elastic resize. You can change the node type, number of nodes, or both. The cluster is read-only for 2 hours to several days.

- Adjust the node type or node count as needed.
- Otherwise leave all the settings on default.
- Optionally, schedule the resize for a later time.
- If elastic resize is not supported for the cluster type, Redshift falls back to classic resize.