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Learning Style: Virtual Classroom

Technology: VMware

Difficulty: Beginner

Course Duration: 5 Days

Next Course Date: **October 6, 2025**

VMware vSphere: Fast Track 8.0



About this Course:

This five-day, intensive course takes you from introductory to advanced VMware vSphere 8 management skills. Building on the installation and configuration content from our best-selling course, you will also develop advanced skills needed to

manage and maintain a highly available and scalable virtual infrastructure. Through a mix of lecture and hands-on labs, you will install, configure and manage vSphere 8. You will explore the features that build a foundation for a truly scalable infrastructure and discuss when and where these features have the greatest effect. This course prepares you to administer a vSphere infrastructure for an organization of any size using vSphere 8, which includes VMware ESXi 8 and VMware vCenter Server 8

Course Objectives:

- Describe the software-defined data center (SDDC)
- Explain the vSphere components and their function in the infrastructure
Describe the benefits and capabilities of VMware Skyline
- Install and configure VMware ESXi™ hosts
- Deploy and configure VMware vCenter® Server Appliance™
- Use VMware vSphere® Client™ to manage the vCenter Server inventory and the vCenter Server configuration
- Manage, monitor, back up, and protect vCenter Server Appliance
- Create virtual networks with vSphere standard switches
- Describe the storage technologies supported by vSphere
- Configure virtual storage using iSCSI and NFS storage
- Create and manage VMware vSphere® VMFS datastores
- Use the vSphere Client to create virtual machines, templates, clones, and snapshots
- Create a content library and deploy virtual machines from templates in the library
- Manage virtual machine resource use and manage resource pools
- Migrate virtual machines with VMware vSphere® vMotion® and VMware vSphere® Storage vMotion®
- Create and manage a vSphere cluster that is enabled with VMware vSphere® High Availability and VMware vSphere® Distributed Resource Scheduler™
- Create virtual networks with VMware vSphere® Distributed Switch™ and enable distributed switch features
- Discuss solutions for managing the vSphere life cycle
- Use VMware vSphere® Lifecycle Manager™ to perform upgrades to ESXi hosts and virtual machines
- Use host profiles to manage ESXi configuration compliance
- Describe how vSphere storage APIs help storage systems integrate with vSphere
- Configure and use virtual machine storage policies

Audience:

- System administrators
- System engineers

Prerequisites:

- System administration experience on Microsoft Windows or Linux operating systems

Course Outline:

1 Course Introduction

- Introductions and course logistics
- Course objectives

2 Introduction to vSphere and the Software-Defined Data Center

- Explain basic virtualization concepts
- Describe how vSphere fits into the software-defined data center and the cloud infrastructure
- Explain how vSphere interacts with CPUs, memory, networks, and storage
- Recognize the user interfaces for accessing the vCenter Server system and ESXi hosts
- Describe the ESXi host architecture
- Navigate the Direct Console User Interface (DCUI) to configure an ESXi host
- Recognize ESXi host user account best practices
- Install an ESXi host
- Use VMware Host Client™ to configure ESXi host settings
- Describe how to proactively manage your vSphere environment using VMware Skyline

3 Virtual Machines

- Create and provision a virtual machine
- Explain the importance of VMware Tools™
- Install VMware Tools
- Identify the files that make up a VM
- Recognize the components of a VM
- Recognize virtual devices supported by a VM
- Describe the benefits and use cases for containers
- Identify the parts of a container system

4 vCenter Server

- Describe the vCenter Server architecture
- Discuss how ESXi hosts communicate with vCenter Server
- Deploy and configure vCenter Server Appliance
- Use the vSphere Client to manage the vCenter Server inventory
- Add data center, organizational objects, and hosts to vCenter Server
- Use roles and permissions to enable users to access objects in the vCenter Server inventory
- Back up vCenter Server Appliance
- Monitor vCenter Server tasks, events, and appliance health
- Use vCenter Server High Availability to protect a vCenter Server Appliance

5 Configuring and Managing Virtual Networks

- Create and manage standard switches
- Describe the virtual switch connection types
- Configure virtual switch security, traffic-shaping and load-balancing policies

- Compare vSphere distributed switches and standard switches

6 Configuring and Managing Virtual Storage

- Identify storage protocols and storage device types
- Discuss ESXi hosts using iSCSI, NFS, and Fibre Channel storage
- Create and manage VMFS and NFS datastores
- Explain how multipathing works with iSCSI, NFS, and Fibre Channel storage
- Recognize the components of a VMware vSAN™ configuration

7 Virtual Machine Management

- Use templates and cloning to deploy new virtual machines
- Modify and manage virtual machines
- Create a content library and deploy virtual machines from templates in the library
- Use customization specification files to customize a new virtual machine
- Perform vSphere vMotion and vSphere Storage vMotion migrations
- Describe Enhanced vMotion Compatibility
- Create and manage virtual machine snapshots
- Examine the features and functions of VMware vSphere® Replication™
- Describe the benefits of vSphere Storage APIs – Data Protection

8 Resource Management and Monitoring

- Discuss CPU and memory concepts in a virtualized environment
- Describe what overcommitment of a resource means
- Describe methods for optimizing CPU and memory usage
- Use various tools to monitor resource use
- Create and use alarms to report certain conditions or events

9 vSphere Clusters

- Describe the functions of a vSphere DRS cluster
- Create a vSphere DRS cluster
- Monitor a vSphere cluster configuration
- Describe options for making a vSphere environment highly available
- Explain the vSphere HA architecture
- Configure and manage a vSphere HA cluster
- Examine the features and functions of VMware vSphere® Fault Tolerance
- Describe the function of the vSphere® Cluster Service

10 Network Scalability

- Configure and manage vSphere distributed switches
- Describe how VMware vSphere® Network I/O Control enhances performance
- Explain distributed switch features such as port mirroring and NetFlow

11 vSphere Lifecycle Management

- Recognize the importance of vCenter Server Update Planner
- Describe how VMware vSphere® Lifecycle Manager™ works
- Describe how to update ESXi hosts using baselines
- Validate ESXi host compliance using a cluster image
- Describe how to upgrade VMware Tools and VM hardware
- Describe VMware vSphere® Lifecycle Manager™ and VMware vSAN™ integration

12 Host and Management Scalability

- Use host profiles to manage ESXi configuration compliance
- Create and manage resource pools in a cluster
- Describe how scalable shares work

13 Storage Scalability

- Explain why VMware vSphere® VMFS is a high-performance, scalable file system
- Explain VMware vSphere® Storage APIs - Array Integration, VMware vSphere® API for Storage Awareness™, and vSphere APIs for I/O Filtering
- Configure and assign virtual machine storage policies
- Create VMware vSAN™ storage policies
- Recognize components of the vSphere Virtual Volumes architecture
- Configure VMware vSphere® Storage DRS™ and VMware vSphere® Storage I/O Control

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