HOW TO EARN THE VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION CERTIFICATION

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This certification prep guide provides an overview of the VMware Certified Professional - Data Center Virtualization certification and offers helpful tips that you can use when preparing for your exam.

WHY GET CERTIFIED AS A VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION?

Getting your VMware Certified Professional - Data Center Virtualization certification proves that you know the fundamentals of designing, installing, configuring, and managing VMware vSphere environments. VMware is a popular vendor among enterprises, and vSphere is their flagship product.

If you have been in IT for any amount of time, chances are you have heard of vSphere. vSphere is the server virtualization software that powers the computing environment of many enterprises. Two VMware products hold the top two spots in the virtualization software market share, with vSphere leading the pack.

This means to remain competitive in IT, you need to know vSphere. The VCP-DCV certification from VMware was created for individuals who want to enhance their current career in IT, move up, and take on more responsibilities in their organization.

This guide will provide background, logistics, and essential tips for the VMware Certified Professional - Data Center Virtualization certification exam.

WHAT IS THE VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION CERTIFICATION?

VMware created the VCP-DCV certification to assess the skills and knowledge of IT professionals who use their own proprietary software, vSphere. Because of vSphere's widespread usage in enterprise infrastructure, this certification is intended for a wide variety of IT professionals who want to build a career in data center virtualization.

The VCP-DCV certification is designed to validate an applicant's knowledge of VMware's vSphere infrastructure. Professionals who pass the exam have proven their ability to install, configure, and manage vSphere. To get the certification, you must first take a VMware-approved course and then pass one exam: VCP-DCV 2021 - Professional VMware vSphere 7.x.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THE VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION EXAM?

Candidates for this certification are those who want to prove that they have the necessary skills and knowledge to build, configure, and manage an infrastructure that uses VMware's vSphere software. It is recommended that you have on-the-job experience with vSphere 7.x. Candidates are also required to attend a training course approved by VMware.

HOW WILL BECOMING A VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION IMPACT YOUR JOB AND CAREER?

The value of certifications is higher than they have ever been before, according to the Global Knowledge IT Skills and Salary Report. The IT industry views certifications as the ultimate way to validate the skills and capabilities of both job applicants and existing employees. Those who are certified will be rewarded with higher salaries and more responsibilities.

The report states that over 93% of the IT industry decision-makers believe that certified employees add value to their business above and beyond the cost of the certification.

Certifications also benefit the individual. IT professionals that are certified are consistently rewarded with higher salaries than their uncertified peers. And the VCP-DCV certification is #10 on the top paying IT certifications for 2021.

IT decision-makers agree that there are many other benefits to certifications, including:
- An edge over competitors
- Fewer skill gaps
- Better productivity
- Quicker product and service deployments
- Faster project completion
- Better promotions

VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION EXAM GUIDE

To get this certification, you must pass one exam: Professional VMware vSphere 7.x Exam (2V0-21.20). The exam is proctored and administered by Pearson VUE.

Registration fee: $250

Test format: The exam consists of 70 multiple-choice questions. Candidates are given 130 minutes to answer them and a passing score is 300 using a scaled method of grading. The exam has seven sections:

- Section 1 – Architecture and Technologies
- Section 2 – Products and Solutions
- Section 3 – Planning and Designing
- Section 4 – Installing, Configuring, and Setup
- Section 5 – Performance-tuning, Optimization, and Upgrades
- Section 6 – Troubleshooting and Repairing
- Section 7 – Administrative and Operational Tasks

SAMPLE TEST QUESTIONS

SAMPLE QUESTION 1
An administrator is tasked with assessing which virtual machines (VMs) can be migrated to new servers without any modification to a vSphere environment.

Which VM configuration would enable the use of vSphere vMotion for migrating the VMs to the new servers?

1. Virtual machine with raw device mapping (RDM) mapped only to the host it is on
2. Virtual machine mounted to a host CD-ROM
3. Virtual machine with a clustered virtual machine disk (VMDK)
4. Virtual machine with a physical USB security dongle

Correct answer: 1

SAMPLE QUESTION 2
Which two steps would an administrator complete when configuring vCenter Server High Availability using the vSphere Client? (Choose two.)

1. Indicate that the Passive and Witness nodes have been manually created.
2. Select the management network for the Passive and Witness nodes.
3. Choose the data replication network for the Active, Passive, and Witness nodes.
4. Configure the name of the vCenter Server High Availability cluster.
5. Select the deployment size for the Passive and Witness nodes.

Correct answers: 1, 3

SAMPLE QUESTION 3

An IT Department configures VMware Certificate Authority to assign certificates to its ESXi hosts. An administrator logs into the vCenter Server and notices some ESXi hosts have expired certificates.

How could the administrator renew VMware Certificate Authority-assigned certificates to the ESXi hosts?

1. Disconnect the ESXi hosts and reconnect them to the vCenter Server.
2. Restart each ESXi host via the vSphere Client.
3. Connect to each ESXi host and run the services. Restart command to restart the management agents.
4. Connect to the vCenter Server Appliance to stop and start the services.

Answer: 1

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION CERTIFICATION

VMware requires that applicants take an approved course before they take the Professional VMware vSphere 7.x Exam. Global Knowledge provides five training courses that are approved by VMware to teach you everything you need to know to pass the exam with confidence.

VMWARE VSPHERE: INSTALL, CONFIGURE, MANAGE

This five-day course features intensive hands-on training that focuses on installing, configuring, and managing VMware vSphere 7, which includes VMware ESXi 7 and VMware vCenter Server 7. It is one of our most popular courses.

VMWARE VSPHERE: OPTIMIZE AND SCALE

This five-day course teaches you advanced skills for configuring and maintaining a highly available and scalable virtual infrastructure and is also a very popular course. It combines lectures and hands-on labs where you will put what you learn to use.

VMWARE VSPHERE: FAST TRACK

This five-day intensive course takes you from introductory to advanced VMware vSphere 7 management skills and builds on the installation and configuration content from one of Global Knowledge's best-selling courses.

VMWARE VSPHERE: TROUBLESHOOTING

This five-day hands-on training course provides you with the advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities to achieve competence in troubleshooting the VMware vSphere 7.x environment.

VMWARE VSPHERE: OPTIMIZE AND SCALE PLUS TROUBLESHOOTING FAST TRACK

This five-day accelerated training course is a blend of the VMware vSphere: Optimize and Scale and VMware vSphere: Troubleshooting courses.

VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION EXAM: TIPS & TRICKS

It takes some preparation to pass the Professional VMware vSphere 7.x Exam. VMware also recommends that you have at least six months of experience with vSphere 7.x. Here are some tips that will help you prepare for and take the exam.

CHOOSE A GOOD COURSE

While you must take a VMware-approved course to sit for the exam, it is best to choose a course that has a proven track record, like VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage, or one of the other vSphere 7.x courses offered at Global Knowledge.

PRACTICE

If you don't think you have enough experience on the job, you can build your own vSphere home lab to practice on. VMware's EVALExperience gives you access to 365-day evaluation licenses for a selection of VMware solutions for personal use in a non-production environment.

VMware also offers free Hands-on Labs. They are limited to a few hours of usage at a time, but they can help you practice your skills and get familiar with vSphere features.

TAKING THE EXAM

Eating before you take any exam is a good practice. Hunger can seriously affect your concentration.

Be prepared to take the exam quickly. You have 130 minutes to answer 70 questions. This gives you less than two minutes per question. For some questions, this will be more than enough time. Other questions will take longer.

If you are taking too long to answer a question, it is better to mark the question and come back to it after you have answered the ones you can answer quickly.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU PASS?

Your exam results should be viewable in your VMware Certification Manager account within 24-48 hours after you have taken the exam. You can get there by logging into your VMware myLearn account and choosing Certification Manager.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T PASS THE EXAM?

If you don't pass the exam on the first try, you can take it again seven calendar days later. But you will have to pay another exam fee.

HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTUALIZATION CERTIFICATION

VMware recently removed the requirement to renew your VCP certification every two years and instead has left that decision up to each individual. They did this to match the needs of the candidate. Many enterprises maintain older versions of vSphere and their employees don't yet need experience with newer versions.

However, keeping your skills and certifications is still important because there are always rapid changes in technology and VMware products, so it is worth your time to update your certification whenever VMware updates vSphere.

NEXT STEPS AFTER YOU OBTAIN YOUR VMWARE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL - DATA CENTER VIRTU-ALIZATION CERTIFICATION

Passing the exam and getting your VCP-DCV certification is a rewarding experience. What is even more rewarding is letting the world know so you can start reaping the bene-fits. Tell your employer, so that they know you are ready to take on more responsibilities. Make sure you add the certification to your resume. Also, **add it to your LinkedIn profile** and make sure to add your certificate number which LinkedIn calls a "License Number."

And don't stop with your VCP-DCV.

This certification is the first level in VMware's Data Center Virtualization track. The next step is to start preparing for the **VMware Certified Advanced Professional - Data Center Virtualization Deploy certification**, which proves you have the advanced skills needed to deploy and optimize VMware vSphere infrastructures.

Next, the **VMware Certified Advanced Professional - Data Center Virtualization Design certification** proves you have advanced knowledge of end-user computing environments and components and can recommend and design VMware solutions to meet specific goals and requirements.

SUMMARY

VMware vSphere is a server virtualization platform that many enterprises trust to power their computing environment. It also has a larger market share than many other similar products, which makes finding skilled IT professionals with a working knowledge of vSphere important to many organizations.

VMware Certified Professional - Data Center Virtualization certification preparation courses are a systematic way to learn vSphere. These are approved by VMware and will teach you what you need to know to **get your VCP-DCV certification**. And that certifica-tion is key to your future working with vSphere.