

Virtualisation

How do I configure KVM to suspend/restore virtual machines when the host is rebooted?

To suspend a VM on host shutdown you will need to configure the following file

```
vi /etc/sysconfig/libvirt-guests
```

Set the following options (which are located throughout the configuration file).

```
ON_BOOT=start  
START_DELAY=5  
ON_SHUTDOWN=suspend
```

You might not want to use START_DELAY=5, but I would rather the virtual machines start up with a little staggering rather than concurrently.

The libvirt-guests service also needs to be enabled and started.

```
systemctl start libvirt-guests  
systemctl enable libvirt-guests
```

You will now be able to reboot the host machine to install updates etc. and the virtual machines will be suspended and restored rather than shutdown interrupting their jobs.

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