

Unable to shut down the machine after installing the KVM switcher

Article Overview

The host machine may fail to shut down because active KVM virtual machines or the libvirt daemon are preventing a clean shutdown; resolving this requires gracefully shutting down VMs or using forceful commands if necessary.

Common Causes

When a KVM switcher is installed, the host may hang during shutdown because:

- Active virtual machines (VMs) are still running and not receiving shutdown signals from the host .
- The libvirt daemon (libvirtd) is stopping slowly or hanging, delaying the host shutdown .
- Misconfigurations in VM shutdown scripts or systemd units prevent proper propagation of shutdown commands to VMs .

Recommended Solutions

1. Gracefully Shut Down VMs Before Host Shutdown

- Use `virsh shutdown` to send a proper ACPI shutdown signal to each VM .
- For multiple VMs, you can script the shutdown:

```
virsh list --state-running --name | xargs -n1 virsh shutdown...
```

Article Content

Mar 03, 2026

Two minutes boot and impossible Shutdown which always ends with: kvm ...

How do I know the list of linux compatible drivers installed (to try to replace them)?
Important data that righty put this

Dec 17, 2025

kvm virtualization

When using virt-install, you can specifiy the events by adding
--events=on_reboot=restart,on_poweroff=restart,on_crash=restart to

Mar 05, 2026

Windows VM's do not shut down properly when running as KVM

Resolution Need to change Windows power setting for "display" to "never" sleep. To
change the power configuration: Control Panel ->

May 12, 2026

Start, Shutdown, Reboot, or Remove KVM

The virsh destroy command doesn't delete or remove the KVM configuration or its
disk images. It only forces the running KVM

Mar 13, 2026

Troubleshooting Common KVM Issues Across Distributions

Kernel-based Virtual Machine (KVM) is a widely used virtualization solution in the
Linux ecosystem, offering a robust

Mar 20, 2026

Libvirt Cannot Stop Reboot Force Shutdown or Destroy Guest

I am running libvirt (KVM?) on Ubuntu and I have two guests (both ubuntu server)
that I cannot access or control. That is, if I view

Jun 09, 2026

Virsh Commands Cheatsheet for KVM Management

You need a working KVM hypervisor with libvirt installed and the libvirtd service
running. If you have not set this up

Feb 11, 2026

Anyone have KVM/libvirt/QEMU graceful shutdown of VM on host

After adding "resume=/dev/md0" to the "/etc/default/grub" GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT, and "resume" after

Dec 03, 2025

KVM switch puts laptop to sleep

Could the KVM switch not "like" the computer and the laptop thinks it's supposed to shut off after a few minutes or

Nov 25, 2025

UBUNTU shutdown prevent : kvm exiting hardware virtualization

I do have this problem after automatic software update. The laptop doesn't shutdown normally and I should shut it

Jan 02, 2026

KVM Switches General Troubleshooting | StarTech

Use the video cable, KVM switch, video source, and video destination in another setup to see if the problem is with the components

Apr 03, 2026

Unable to shutdown

When I see this message, indicating that there are no running guests, my machine actually does shut down. I found this thread

Jun 12, 2026

20.8. Shutting off, Shutting down, Rebooting, and Forcing a Shutdown

You can control the behavior of how the guest virtual machine reboots by modifying the on_shutdown parameter in the guest virtual

Jan 26, 2026

How to forcefully shutdown a guest VM using virsh command on Linux

Explains how to force a guest KVM VM to stop or shutdown using virsh command line option from host server on

Jul 15, 2026

Cannot shutdown the host when QEMU/KVM is installed

It's possible it is not receiving the shutdown command if you issue it from libvirt/qemu. Then try to shut down your

Oct 09, 2025

Why Isn't My KVM Switch Working? Let's Troubleshoot!

Before giving away the money, you may wonder if this KVM switch would work as you like

Apr 11, 2026

UBUNTU shutdown prevent : kvm exiting hardware virtualization

This isn't normal. I thought the problem was with docker but after uninstalling it it didn't pose a problem. I have no

Jun 30, 2026

KVM libvirt virt-manager virtual machine crashes reliably during OS ...

This is the message i get when trying to shut down the virtual machine that just stopped responding during install of

Dec 30, 2025

Start, Shutdown, Reboot, or Remove KVM

The following information describes how to shut down an active KVM instance on a local or remote host using the virsh shutdown

Nov 08, 2025

KVM User's Guide

It only forces the running KVM instance to shut down, similarly to pulling the power cord on a physical machine. However, in unique

Nov 26, 2025

Why can't I shutdown running kvm instance?

I am not using SELinux, so in /etc/libvirt/qemu nf I changed security_driver to none. Afterwards I destroyed the machine (libvirt

Jan 04, 2026

It is normal for proxmox to be unable to send shutdown/reboot signal to vms, I always had to strait stop my VM

Jun 30, 2026

VM from qemu/kvm doesn't shutdown properly / Kernel

It seems as though dnsmasq doesn't stop after the shutdown. I don't claim to know much about dnsmasq or if there's

Feb 15, 2026

KVM Switch Causes Remote Reboots To Stall

My server is connected to a monitor via a KVM switch, which in this case is enabled for another machine at the time of

Aug 16, 2025

How to I gracefully shutdown my kvm virtual machines when ...

At the moment I am using these scripts to gracefully shutdown my kvm virtual machines, and it works! But only as

Jul 15, 2026

Can KVM suspend or shutdown guests automatically on host shutdown?

Instead it's better to shut down guests by hand before doing a reboot. For a while I had a script that replaced shutdown and reboot.

Jul 25, 2025

hi after a fresh 7.1-8 installation my proxmox isnt't able to reboot or shutdown. it hangs on: kvm exiting hardware

Contact Us

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