

# PROXMOX VM CONFIGURATION FIXES FOR WINDOWS 11 PERFORMANCE

## Purpose:

These steps correct Proxmox VM configuration issues that cause Windows 11 VMs to experience UI lag, typing delays, slow Task Manager, and sluggish filtering/searching in applications such as Jobcard.

These changes are safe for:

- Windows 11 VMs
- TPM 2.0
- Secure Boot
- ZFS storage
- Production workloads

They remove hidden sources of micro-latency inside the VM.

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## STEP 1 — Remove the vCPUs override

Symptoms caused:

- CPU scheduling jitter
- UI stalls
- Typing/filter lag
- Slow Task Manager
- No visible CPU spike

Fix:

1. Open the VM config file: `/etc/pve/qemu-server/.conf`
2. Remove any line that looks like: `vcpus: 8`
3. Ensure the VM uses: `sockets: 1 cores: 8` (or whatever the intended topology is)
4. Save the file and reboot when convenient.

This restores clean CPU topology and stable scheduling.

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## STEP 2 — Disable discard=on (TRIM) on ZFS-backed disks

Symptoms caused:

- Micro-latency during UI operations
- Slow filtering/searching
- Random stutters
- No visible disk or CPU spike

Fix:

1. In the VM config file, locate disk lines such as: `scsi0: ...,cache=writeback,discard=on,iothread=1` `scsi1: ...,cache=writeback,discard=on,iothread=1`
2. Remove "discard=on" so they become: `scsi0: ...,cache=writeback,iothread=1` `scsi1: ...,cache=writeback,iothread=1`
3. Save the file.
4. Reboot the VM to apply the pending changes.

Reason: ZFS handles space efficiently without TRIM. TRIM on ZFS introduces metadata latency that Windows 11 exposes as UI lag.

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## STEP 3 — Recommended disk settings for Windows 11 on ZFS

Use: `cache=writeback iothread=1`

Avoid: `discard=on`

Optional: `ssd=1` (harmless, but not required)

These settings provide the smoothest I/O behaviour for Windows 11.

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## STEP 4 — Confirm changes after reboot

After rebooting the VM, verify:

1. No "vcpus:" line exists in the config.
2. Disk lines do NOT contain "discard=on".
3. VM boots normally.
4. Console login is responsive.
5. Task Manager opens instantly.
6. Jobcard filtering and typing are smooth.

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## EXPECTED RESULTS AFTER APPLYING THESE FIXES

- Stable CPU scheduling
- No UI stutters
- No typing/filter lag
- Fast Task Manager
- Smooth console login
- Improved responsiveness in Jobcard
- VM performance matches physical hardware

**END OF DOCUMENT**