



Using DRS Affinity Rules

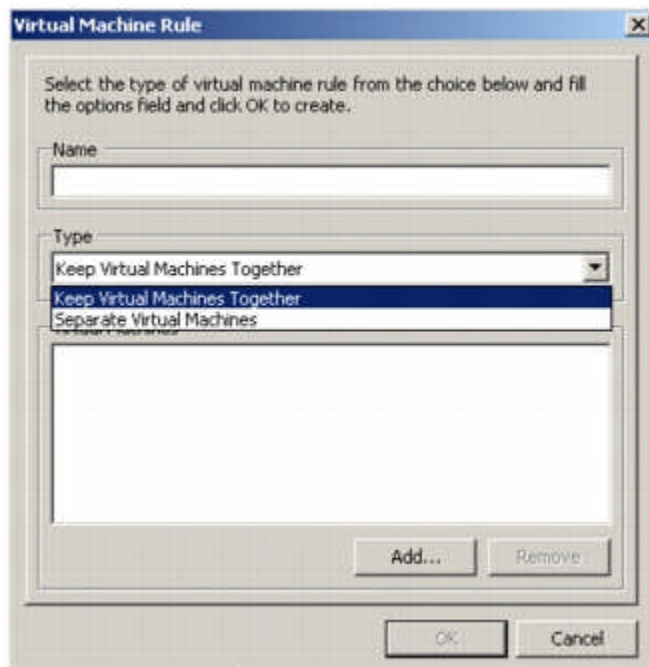
After you have created a DRS cluster, you can edit its properties to create rules that specify affinity. DRS never violates user-specified rules, however, if you have two rules that are in conflict, you cannot enable both. For example, if one rule keeps two virtual machines together and another rule keeps the same two virtual machines apart, you cannot enable both rules. You can use these rules to determine that:

- DRS should try to keep certain virtual machines together on the same host (for example, for performance reasons).
- DRS should try to make sure that certain virtual machines are not together (for example, for high availability). You might want to guarantee certain virtual machines are always on different physical hosts. When there's a problem with one host, you do not lose both virtual machines.

Note DRS affinity rules are completely different from an individual host's CPU affinity rules. CPU affinity rules are discussed in [Using CPU Affinity to Assign Virtual Machines to Specific Processors](#).

To create a DRS rule

- 1 Select the cluster and choose **Edit Settings** from the right-click menu.
- 2 In the Cluster Settings dialog box, choose **Rules**.



- 3 In the Virtual Machine Rule dialog box, name the rule so you can find and edit it.
- 4 Choose one of the options from the pop-up menu:
 - **Keep Virtual Machines Together**
One virtual machine cannot be part of more than one such rule.