

Re: question about autogrowth and shrinkfile

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.tools/2008-03/msg00058.html>

- *From:* Erland Sommarskog <esquel@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 29 Mar 2008 08:11:52 -0700
-

geekyguy (geeky@xxxxxxx) writes:

The first time I backed it up, a 14-gig backup was created (which took about 25 minutes), but the shrinkfile failed (with 'all logical files in use' error). I ran the backup a second time, and then shrinkfile worked. I've noticed the same thing has happened in the past with large transaction logs.

A few questions:

Did the first shrinkfile fail because there SQL hadn't updated the statistics for the tlog or something like that? If so, do I need to execute an additional command between "backup log" and "shrinkfile", or am I doing something out of sequence?

Tibor's article discusses a problem where you had to clear the end of log file, for the shrink to be possible, but as I recall that applied to SQL 7, so I don't really have an answer. But it's a matter of curiosity since you should not shrink very often.

Secondly, I'm curious as to what I should set the auto-growth to for a dB of this size. I've read that 1/8 the dB size is appropriate, but in this case that would be 750 MB for the dB?

I would set it to 1 GB as a round number, but 750 MB sounds alright by me. Of course, auto-grow is something that should never occur. That is, you should increase the space ahead in a maintenance window. Hm, you said this database was 6 GB today. I don't know what the trends are, but I would make the database 10 GB or even 15 GB, so I could forget about its size for a while.

I was able to get the log down to 20 meg with shrinkfile, but what should I set the auto-growth to for the log?

Re: question about autogrowth and shrinkfile

20 MB log for a database of 6GB? That can't be right! First of all, as with the data file, auto-grow should not really occur with the log. Actually, in a way it should happen even less with log files. After all, it's evitable that the data file grows by time, but the log should stabilise on some size.

Now, what that size would be depends on your database. The only number is we have is that the log was 14 GB at some point, but it appears that you had neglected to backup the transaction log. But say that the database had been running like that for a fortnight. That gives 1 GB log per day. Supposedly you back the log more than once a day, but then again some operations take more log than others, so if it was a fortnight, make the log 1GB. Or 1.5 GB to have some more margins. For auto-grow I would probably go with 0.5 GB.

--

Erland Sommarskog, SQL Server MVP, esquel@xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Books Online for SQL Server 2005 at

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/prodtechnol/sql/2005/downloads/books.msp>

Books Online for SQL Server 2000 at

<http://www.microsoft.com/sql/prodinfo/previousversions/books.msp>

.