

# Re: RAM drive for XP possible?

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2006-09/msg00297.html>

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- *From:* "\*\*\*\*\* charles" <[someone@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:someone@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 06 Sep 2006 00:14:10 GMT
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"Pop`" <[nodoby@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:nodoby@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
<news:O71XMoQ0GHA.4956@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Hi,

1. You can find some poser users over at cnews.com newsgroup, corel.paintshoppro\_graphics group in particular. They seem to be

pretty

knowledgeable folks but I'm not a poser user, so don't really know. It's a moderated group, and does have some, shall we say, egotistical people there; just in case you come across them<g>. Most of the

moderation

is by bot, so it might take half an hour or so for your post to show up, seldom any longer than that.

2. The PageFile actually IS a RAM drive of sorts and perhaps what you

need

is a little management of the Page File (swap file in older windows systems). You might read up on the Page File usage; I suspect it's what

you

need since Poser is a Windows program; I think, and possibly more RAM

along

with it.

3. It IS possible to make a RAM drive in XP without shelling out bucks,

in

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other words, free, but you might have to download a couple of programs to

do

so. If you really want to make your own RAM drive, let me know and I'll

go

see how it was done.

I thought I was going to just tell you how, but I now notice

ramdrive.sys

isn't part of XP, so I'll need to research how it was done in the apps I have.

If you have an old copy of DOS laying around, it's highly likely XP

will

run the ramdrive.sys, making it easy on you. I've used many DOS6.22 files in XP and had no problem with them. So far. I know, famous last words!

4. You might also ask the ram drive question over in alt.msdos.batch.nt. That's mostly for batch files, but you'll find some very helpful and very knowledgeable people there who will likely have a zillion ways to create

the

ram file with XP<g>.

5. If you're increasing RAM in your machine, especially to 4 Gig, I'd

wait

and see if that plus the new page file size to go with it doesn't solve

your

issues. The normal rule of thumb for a page file is 1 1/2 times the

amount

of RAM you have, but with 4 Gig, there's a different set of rules. If you can't research those or don't already have the info, try Google, or come back here and ask. I think people right here probably have the

approximate

max recommended size although it's a little, uhh, "adjustable" depending

on

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the usage. Supply as much detail as you can if you come back for that.  
It'll be needed.  
IMO initially I'd think starting with letting Windows determine the

page

file size would be the way to go; monitor that and see what it's doing.  
There are both pros and cons to using large page files.

Hope I haven't talked down to you; couldn't tell what your expertise might  
be from your post.

HTH  
Pop`

The tech guys at e-frontier were a little encouraging. It seems the rendering engine (Firefly) is not very fast in and of itself. I asked them about both an external eSATA raid array and a ram drive. It seems that the best bang for the buck is the ram drive idea. It will take several days just for the shipping of the ram and I haven't yet ordered it. What I would like to do is put 4G in the motherboard and then set the upper 2G as a ram drive. Then put the swap file and the images in the ram drive. Problem is the swap file size tends to be 1.5 times as big as ram. That would make the swap file 3G and it wouldn't fit on the ram drive. Then I am stuck putting the swap file on the C: drive, in this case an ata-100 40G Western Digital, not too fast. Maybe I can manually adjust the swap file down to a small enough size to fit on the ram drive along with the pictures being manipulated. We'll see. Anything on the ram drive process would be appreciated. I have been googling the problem too.

With over 30 years experience and a Ph.D. in Computers  
Don't worry about talking down to me, or over my head.  
I appreciate any and all help.

ah, those old DOS days...

later,  
charles.....

\*\*\*\*\* charles wrote:

Hi all,

I have a motherboard that supports up to 4G of ram.

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I would like to segment half of that to a ram drive.  
Can XP do this on its' own or is there any software  
out there that can do this is either free/cheap?

thanks,  
charles.....