

Re: upgrading memory

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2007-08/msg00500.html>

- *From:* mooky <mooky9669@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 12 Aug 2007 12:14:09 -0700
-

On Aug 12, 2:11 pm, mooky <mooky9...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Aug 12, 1:49 pm, "Unknown" <unkn...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Absolutely correct. This is known as virtual memory. Even if you are NOT running an application, but it is in memory, and you wish to run some other program, what is in memory has to be written on the disk (saved) and the new program loaded. This is a very good reason to keep Startup as small as possible. I.E. Don't load it till you need it.

"Ken Blake, MVP" <kbl...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in [message:news:v9kub319jldqnoqgbdeh00ti8g384jvcbp@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:v9kub319jldqnoqgbdeh00ti8g384jvcbp@xxxxxxxxxx)

On Sun, 12 Aug 2007 11:51:32 -0600, Bruce Chambers <bchamb...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

mooky wrote:

thee maximum it can support is a gig. I do run a lot of apps at a time on occasion and wasn't sure if I would notice a lot of difference.

Additional RAM might help some, but how just much it'll help mostly depends upon the specific applications you

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use, and how they use/release memory. I'm afraid there's no hard and fast answer.

I already went to crucial's site as I mentioned before.

I know, but I wasn't sure if you checked for maximum capacity, as well as the type of RAM needed, so I wanted to clear up this point, before you spent money on something you couldn't use.

also, what do you mean by huge "bottle-neck"...

Sorry. It's a term (alluding to a bottle's narrowed opening) used to identify a constriction in a process that slows everything down, no matter how fast the rest of the process might be. Let me try an imperfect analogy:

Think of a multi-lane expressway that suddenly comes to a toll station with only one booth manned and/or operating. No matter how fast the traffic was flowing before it got there, and no matter how fast the traffic might once again flow once past, that single toll booth is creating a "bottle-neck," bringing the traffic to a near-stop as it processes one vehicle at a time.

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Your P-III CPU may act in a similar fashion as your increased RAM provides it with more data traffic at any given time; it can only process the data so faster, regardless of how much more data is coming its way.

Mooky, I'm going to disagree with Bruce here. If additional RAM does anything for you, it will be because it reduces or eliminates paging to the hard drive. Reading and writing to the hard drive are physical mechanical events, and always much slower than the electronic manipulation of data that occurs in the CPU or in RAM. For that reason, reducing of paging will almost always provide a speed increase, and usually a substantial one. It's the hard drive that's the bottleneck here, not the CPU, which, even if old and slow, is still many times faster than the drive.

—
Ken Blake, Microsoft MVP Windows – Shell/User
Please Reply to the Newsgroup

thanks for the info...I thought that it might reduce the paging size and provide a speed increase. the Memory is about the only upgrade to my PC I can do...I had to upgrade the hard drive a few months ago to replace my old croaking one...even with all the stuff I have on my drive I still have 102 gigs free...and I also put in a new dvd burner as well...also, I said I'd have a stick of 512 for backup which did mean a replacemet...that was only if the slot is bad and I just store the 2nd stick until needed. Thanks again...helped me out alot.

1 other thing I forgot...should I still keep windows to adjust the paging file for me or should I set it to certain amounts...my guess would be to let Windows manage it, but just wondered.