

Speed-up Your Computer with more RAM

A YouTube video that is a good start on this subject.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4hf7QIUJKg>

Signs of low memory – You may need more RAM:

- Poor, slow performance.
- Low memory or out of memory notifications.
- Display problems. If you try to open a menu in a program, the program might respond slowly or appear to stop responding.
- If you click a menu item, the menu could disappear, leaving a blank area on the screen.

What to do first - Tune-up the PC - Items include

- Removal of temporary files with CCleaner
- Clean Registry with CCleaner
- Defrag with Smart Defrag
- Run msconfig and stop some programs from starting
- Try to not run many programs together
i.e. OE, IE, a game and MS Word.

How much RAM do I need?

Windows XP

- Slow performance 256MB
- Minimum 500MB
- Better 1.0GB
- Best 2.0GB – 4.0GB

Windows VISTA and Windows7:

- Minimum 1.0GB
- Better 2.0GB
- Best 4.0GB
- Best 8.0GB if System type 64 bit

Do I have a 64 bit System?

-Click on Start/Control Panel/System

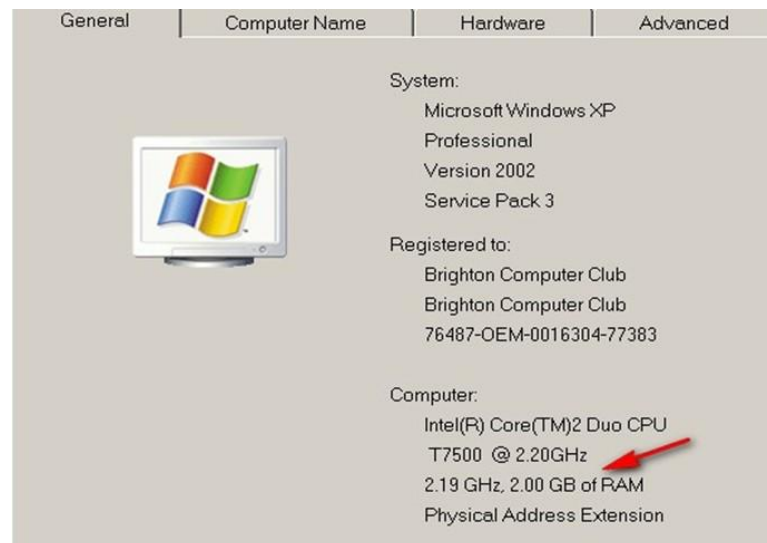
-If there is no mention of a 32 or 64 bit system, you have 32.



How much RAM do I have?

-Click Start/Control Panel/System

-This XP computer has 2GB of RAM



Can I add more RAM?

Depends on your computer

-If you have spare RAM slots

-If you have no spare slots then you have to remove RAM chips and replace with a larger ones

Can I see if I have spare RAM Slots without opening my computer?

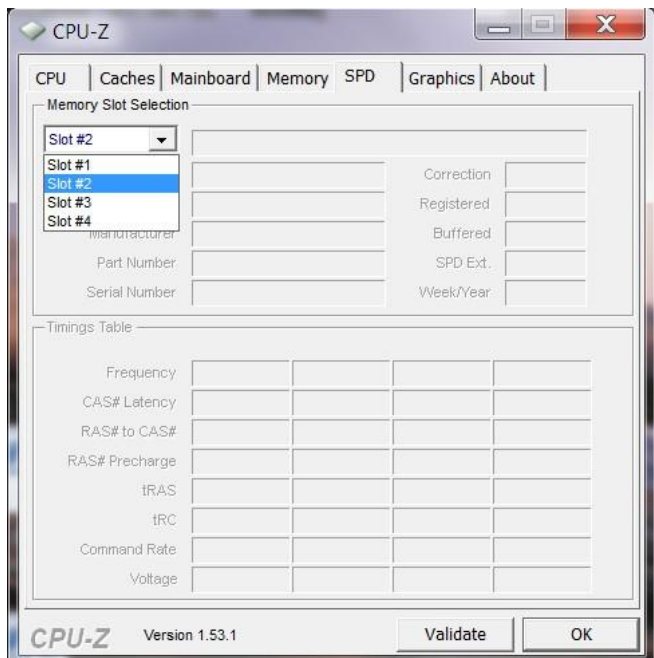
-Yes you can. Install CPU-Z from...

<http://www.cpuid.com/softwares/cpu-z.html>

Look at Memory and SPD tabs:

-In SPD tab click on Slot #1, Slot #2, Slot #3, Slot#4 etc.

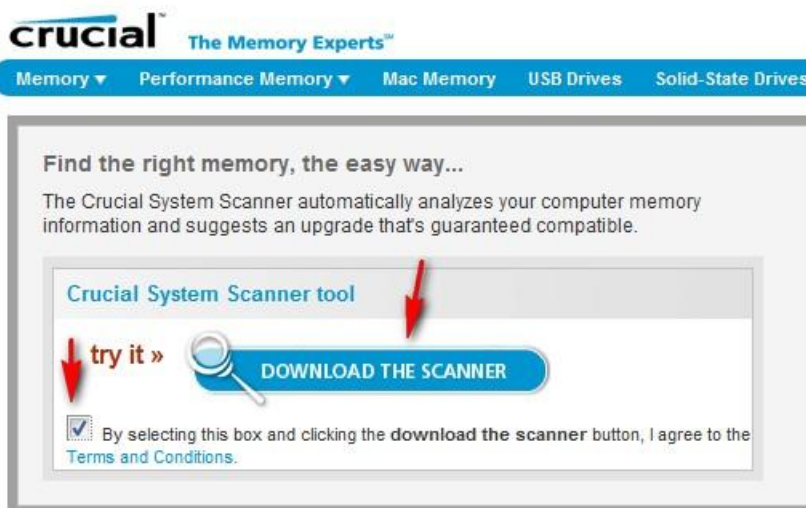
-If you have Slots with no info, e.g. Slot#3 and Slot#4, you have spares



Next run a Memory Scanner program:

-Download, Save and Run from

<http://www.crucial.com/systemscanner/>



- The program scans your computer for RAM suggestions
- As with the CPU-Z it shows that there are 2 free slots.

The following upgrades are compatible with Desktop/PC computers using the nForce430 (4 DIMM Slots) chipset.

<p>Currently installed memory:</p>  <p>Each memory slot can hold DDR2 PC2-6400, DDR2 PC2-5300 with a maximum of 2GB per slot.*</p> <p>*Not to exceed manufacturer supported memory.</p>	<p>Maximum Memory Capacity: 8192MB Currently Installed Memory: 2GB Available Memory Slots: 2 Total Memory Slots: 4 Dual Channel Support: Yes CPU Manufacturer: AuthenticAMD CPU Family: AMD Athlon(tm) 64 X2 Dual Core Processor 4400+ Model 11, Stepping 1 CPU Speed: 2300 MHz</p> <p>Although the memory can be installed one module at a time, the best performance comes from using matched pairs of modules.</p> <p>Q: Will my system recognize the maximum upgrade?</p> <p>A: Possibly</p> <p>How much memory your Windows OS will recognize depends on which version of Windows you are running. 32-bit versions of Windows will see (and utilize) only 3GB or 3.5GB. To utilize more memory, install a 64-bit version of your OS. More information about OS memory maximums can be found at http://www.crucial.com/kb/answer.aspx?qid=4251.</p> <p>Q: What memory goes into my computer, and can I mix speeds?</p>
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What should I do if I want more RAM?

Here are some suggestions that depend on your experience level.

Advanced:

- Run CPU-Z, or run a Memory Scanner to determine if you have a free RAM slot
- Determine type of RAM chip
- Buy another one and install yourself

Cautious:

- Run CPU-Z, or run a Memory Scanner, determine type of RAM chip
- Remove one chip from your PC
- Take to a computer shop, purchase another one, and install yourself.

Scared:

- Run CPU-Z, or run a Memory Scanner to determine if you have a free RAM slot
- Take your PC to a computer shop and inquire if they can add some RAM.
- Tom Rosebush can do this for you.

Question:

A member asked what slots the RAM chips should be in as there was memory trouble. If there are four slots and you only use two, does it matter which two you use?

Answer:

Try removing the cards and put them back in. Normally you use the first two slots, but you could use the third and fourth.

Question:

Member asked about stopping some programs. What's Running? is a program that shows you what is running but how do we know which ones you can turn off without causing problems?

Answer:

You should not turn off your virus checker. There is a program that you can run to see if you can safely stop a program from starting, it is called RevoUninstaller. You click on "Tools", then on "Autorun Manager". You will see the programs that are automatically started. If you want to know if you should stop it, click on the program to highlight it, and then right click on it. Now click on "Search Google for...". You now see some links where you can see what the program does, and you can decide. If your computer has more than a few programs listed, you could turn them all off, except your virus checker, and try it. The programs are not uninstalled, they just are stopped from automatically running in the background.

Charlie LeBer