
Subject: Re: allocating memory

Posted by [rtowler](#) on Thu, 18 Oct 2007 16:24:07 GMT

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On Oct 18, 3:41 pm, Jean H wrote:

> Now, with windows, you can only have up to 2Gb of memory for any
> process... even if your computer has 42 Gb available!. There is a way to
> allocate up to 3 Gb, but this solution might make your system instable
> (I use it quite often here, and I never had any issue).
> You have to do 2 things: in your windows startup file (boot.ini), add
> the option /3gb ... I suggest you not to modify the curent entry, but
> to add a new one so if your system doesn't like it, it is easy to use
> the normal configuration. Your entry should look somewhat like this:
> multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(2)\WINDOWS="Microsoft Windows XP
> Professional 3G" /noexecute=optin /fastdetect /3GB

It is also worth noting that you can use the /USERVA switch to tune the amount of RAM that is available to "large address aware" applications. That extra GB comes at the expense of RAM available for the kernel and some applications can run into issues when the kernel is squeezed. I specifically had issues with the LANDesk remote management tools on a machine with 4GB and I had issues with enumerating files on network shares on a machine with 3GB of RAM. Giving back a 100 MB or so by setting /USERVA=2900 solved the issues in both cases.

By default I run my machine with the /3GB /USERVA=2900 switches and have had no stability or compatibility issues to speak of.

-Rick
