

IMPROVE PERFORMANCE: DISABLE THE SWAP FILE

Windows designates a portion of hard-disk space as virtual memory (also called the "swapfile" or "pagefile") to supplement RAM. Windows assigns some virtual-memory space to all processes, and the virtual memory itself gets used even if some RAM is still available. Accessing a hard disk is always slower than using RAM, so if your system has lots of memory (at least 1 GB of RAM), you may improve performance slightly by telling Windows not to use the pagefile (on the hard drive) for some of its own code until it has used up available RAM. How much memory is lots? That depends on the number and types of applications you typically run on your system--but don't make this adjustment unless your PC has at least 1GB of RAM. (Don't know how much RAM you have? Right-click on **Computer** and then click on **Properties**. From the General tab, you will find the answer.)

If your PC has at least 1GB of RAM, you may be able to speed up your PC by disabling the swap file in your virtual memory settings.

To open your virtual memory settings:

1. Open File Explorer (Windows key + E).
2. Right-click on **This PC**.
3. Click *Properties*, then *Advanced System Settings*.
4. Under "Performance", choose the *Settings* button.
5. Click the *Advanced* tab.
6. Select the *Change* button.
7. Deselect *Automatically manage paging file size for all drives*.
8. Finally, click *No paging file*.
9. Click on OK until all the dialogue boxes have closed.
10. You will have to reboot your computer for the change to be made.