

Use ReadyBoost to Increase RAM Supply

Random Access Memory has been with us since the PC's invention. Sometimes it even causes problems that go unnoticed until things come crashing down.

Internal memory has come a long way, though. You can free up memory and extend your RAM, both virtually and physically.

Run ReadyBoost

Microsoft's ReadyBoost feature takes advantage of the fact that flash storage (thumb drives) is about as quick as RAM. While the minimum requirements were a bit intimidating at release (with Vista), modern USB drives can meet those specifications with ease.

You can enable ReadyBoost by right-clicking your USB drive at Windows Explorer (Windows +E), opening **Properties**, and then navigating to the **ReadyBoost tab**. You'll see several radio buttons that let you enable or disable the feature as well as a slider that lets you dictate how much of the drive's capacity is devoted to the feature. The ceiling is four gigabytes, if you use FAT32 formatting on the drive, but formatting with NTFS ups the ceiling to 32GB.

If your computer is "fast enough" and requires no additional RAM, Ready Boost will not be available on the flash drive.