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Author	Thread
<p> audio assasin Moderator  Registered: Dec 2002 Location: bonny scotland Posts: 1394 </p>	<div style="text-align: right;">  new thread  post reply </div> <p>  some info about setting the swap file: </p> <p>hi</p> <p>i know we've been through this..but here is some info about setting the swap file:</p> <p>There are two possible advantages of a permanent Swap-File:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A reserved contiguous, un-fragmented section of the HD. (2) Eliminates disk activity from W9x re-sizing the Swap-File. <p>Be wary of some myths about the Swap-File passed on by well meaning folks nearly every time this subject comes up. I am surprised at how many seemingly knowledgeable people are perpetuating one or both of these myths in some of the popular PC Magazines, W9x help books and many websites.</p> <p>Swap-File myth #1: Create a permanent swapfile 2 1/2-3 times the amount of physical memory.</p> <p>Fact: Virtual memory (Swap-File) is a substitute for physical memory. Common sense tells you the more physical memory you have, the less virtual memory you need. Conversely (all other things being equal) the less physical memory you have the more virtual memory you will need. There is no reasonable "rule of thumb" formula for setting the size of a permanent Swap-File.</p> <p>Swap-File myth #2: Set the 'min' and 'max' size the same for the Swap-File.</p> <p>This one can cause you grief, it is bad advice!!! Some seem to think of the Swap-File like an insect trap, if you don't have a lid on it, all of those Ks and Ms of bytes and bits will fly out all over the HD. Not so!!! It may help to think of your Swap-File as a water glass sitting on the table (The level within this container will rise and fall as demands change and it is emptied whenever you shut W9x off), the only time it will overflow is if you try to put more into it than it can hold, (your 'min' size setting) and that is the reason you 'never' want to place a 'max' size for your Swap-File, you want it to overflow if it needs to. (This is an analogy, it will not overflow, the Swap-File will increase in size if need be, possibly using non contiguous HD space until it shrinks to your 'Min' size setting again.)</p> <p>W9x will 'never' exceed your 'min' size unless it needs to, if it can't (because of a 'max' size setting) it will revolt, usually with a "Out of Memory!! Shut down one or more programs to continue" warning. It is doubtful you will associate this warning with the 'max' setting you placed on your Swap-File months ago when your usage habits were less demanding.</p> <p>How to determine the optimum size for YOUR 'Permanent Swap-File'?</p> <p>You can install System Monitor from the Windows 98 CD click on sysmon.exe and click on sysmon.exe start the System Monitor program. Then, click Edit, Add Item, Select Memory Manager, then Swapfile size and finally click OK.</p> <p>Let System Monitor run in the background for a few hours or all day while you do your work, open multiple programs, browse the net, etc. Then at the end of day check to see the peak value of your swapfile. You can check</p>

the peak by clicking on the graph of the swapfile and looking at the bottom of the System Monitor which will show your peak value.

Here's the trickier part, the peak value is reported in kilobytes and we need to convert to megabyte. Take your peak value and divide by 1,024,000, and you'll have the peak value of your swapfile in megabytes. This will be the setting for your min value.

Where to put your 'Permanent Swap-File'?

I suggest placing it on your fastest HD, on the Partition with the most free space. If you have a motherboard that supports dual channel PCI-EIDE controllers, you may gain an advantage by placing the swap file on a second drive on the second channel as the your board may allow "Peer Concurrency" that allows for simultaneous access to two IDE drives on different channels.

Preparation for 'Permanent Swap-File' installation. Use the method that works best for you. The point is to have no Swap-File, or an empty Swap-File when you Defragment the drive you want your 'Permanent Swap-File' on.

(1) Open Control Panel/System Properties/Performance/Virtual Memory, click "Let me specify my own Virtual Memory settings". From the 'Hard Disk' selection window select any Drive Letter other than the one you want your 'Permanent Swap-File' on. Click "OK" then "YES" to the scary warning. Reboot your system to W9x. From START/FIND type in Win386.swp, search the drive you will want your 'Permanent Swap-File' on. If 'Win386.swp' is present, delete it.

(2) If you have >16M of memory this method will probably work for you. Be sure the 'min' setting for virtual memory is 'zero'. Make sure you do not have any programs that run at start-up, check with CTRL+ALT+DEL to be sure ('Systay' and 'Explorer' are usually all you need) reboot as many times as necessary to be sure Win386.swp is an empty file.

Reboot your system to W9x, from START/RUN type DEFRAG, select and defragment the drive you want your 'Permanent Swap-File' on.

Open Control Panel/System Properties/Performance/Virtual Memory, click "Let me specify my own Virtual Memory settings". From the 'Hard Disk' selection window select the Drive Letter you want your 'Permanent Swap-File' on. In the 'Minimum' window type in the size you have determined for your system (make NO changes in the 'Maximum' window). Click "OK" then "YES" to the scary warning, reboot your system.

If you check your 'Virtual Memory' settings you will notice that "Let Windows manage my virtual memory settings" is checked, this is normal. You will see that your 'Hard disk' selection and 'Minimum' settings show what you entered, 'Maximum' will show free space on HD or 'No Maximum' and all is grayed out, this is normal.

This next tip is for Windows98/98SE only:

To disable the "PageFile_Call_Async_Manager" feature that allows the Memory Manager to asynchronously write out swap file buffers during VFAT idle times. This reverts swap file usage back to Windows 95 style, and forces the use of the computer's physical memory (faster) first, before the use of the slower hard disk virtual memory (swap file) and reduces hard drive thrashing.

You'll need to edit your system.ini file by selecting Start, Run and type in system.ini. Once open scroll down to the section entitled [386Enh]. Create an open line below the title [386Enh] and type the following:

```
ConservativeSwapfileUsage=1
```

Now save the file and reboot your system.


hope it helps..

in conjunction with your nice big swap file try runing this program it is great
Cacheman

Tweakall is a particular favourite of mine

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Thanks for sharing your insights on this subject, obviously you have thought on this at great length. 😊

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Steve_A

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Another great post from Audio Assassin!

I was just wondering if you have any suggestions for Win2K or WinXP...

Thanks!

Steve Ahola

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RedSkywalker

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I'm with Steve on this one AA! great post but do you have any thoughts on this for xp?

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swap file for xp

well it is. it is also better to set this right after installing your OS before anything else. This allows the files to be near the start of the disc and will be in one contiguous block. As opposed to being fragmented, a really good plus. To set this fixed you must first set the min and max values to the same value. A good setting is 1.5 to 2 times your RAM. They say if you have 512MB RAM or more you could consider disabling your VIRTUAL MEMORY completely. But I'm not sure about this. If I were you, I would just be on the safe side and set both the min and max values to 512MB. maybe 600MB to give yourself a little headroom.

and if you can get rid of windows sounds. Now if you can't live without them leave them enabled - but they can interfere with your audio performance by causing your audio app to lose sync.

TEAM MALL

"Do not forget the lessons of the past as it holds the answer of the future"

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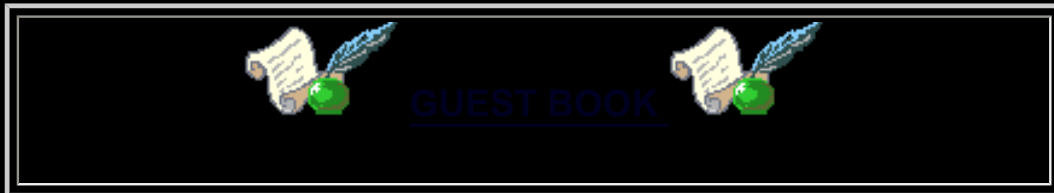
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