

My Laptop is SLOW!

Recently I've had a few people complain that their "brand new" laptop is running slow. (I was one of those people complaining). Upon inspection of their computer it was found that they were running a relatively small amount of RAM memory. To check how much RAM is installed on your computer; Right-Click on MY COMPUTER and choose PROPERTIES. There at the bottom of the General page it will tell you how much RAM your computer has.

The most recent example I have seen was a person's laptop that had only 256MB of RAM, of which 64MB was allocated solely to running the video chipset of the computer, leaving a net amount of only 192MB of RAM. This is simply not enough for your computer to run efficiently. In today's world you must have 512MB of RAM or preferable MORE.

Adding RAM is simple. Turn your computer over, notice there are a few access doors that can be opened with a small Philips screwdriver. Open the right one and you will see that there are commonly 2 RAM sockets available to fit the RAM sticks into. In the example above, the person had 1 piece of 256MB RAM in the first socket, leaving the second socket empty. We simply added a 512MB stick of RAM in the second socket, thereby tripling how much RAM he had and his computer was operating much faster than before. Doing the math, he now had 256MB plus 512MB for a total RAM memory of 768MB minus the 64MB allocated to the video chipset leaving a net of 704MB to run his computer.

Another example was my own computer which shipped with 256MB. A year ago I added a second stick of 256MB and had a whopping 512MB of RAM. After a year of loading down my computer with a bunch of software and stuff, and demanding more from my computer, I found my computer was slow. But now both of the sockets were full. So...I ordered and installed 2 sticks of 1GB(1024MB) RAM for a total of 2GB (2048MB).

Yes, I had to sacrifice the two sticks of 256MB that were in there, but it was a small price to pay to speed up my laptop and avoid buying a new laptop for another year or so.