

1. To determine which processor you used and how much memory you have:

Click on start, then “RIGHT-Click” on My Computer, then click on Properties. Now, It has been a while since I used Windows XP, so I cannot remember exactly where the information you need is on this page; but it is on there. On Windows Vista, it is under the second heading (SYSTEM).

2. To determine the size of your hard drive:

Click on start, then click on My Computer. “RIGHT-Click” on your (C:), then click Properties. Now, these numbers will probably be listed in “bytes” first, but over to the right... the numbers will be listed in “MB” or “GB”. (Example: Used 54GB, Free 80GB, Total 134GB)

Upgrading your computer’s memory (RAM) is one of the least expensive ways you can speed up your computer. You can buy “RAM” chips for around \$20.00 - \$40.00. Now, if you have never worked on the inside of a computer before, I would not recommend doing it yourself. However, you can check yourself to see if it is even necessary... that may save you an expensive service call that will only tell you “Hey, you need more RAM”

First, we need to pull up your task manager. You do this by holding down your “CTRL”, “ALT” & “DEL” keys all at the same time and a console will appear. (Windows Vista users will need to click “ Start Task Manager” at the bottom.)

You will see a series of tabs near the top of the console: Applications, Processes, Services, etc... Click on the “performance” tab.

Under “Physical Memory” (should be on the left-hand side) you will see three sections: Total, Cached and Available (Free in Windows Vista). If your Available or Free number hovers around zero and your computer acts sluggish, then it’s a good bet you need to upgrade your memory (RAM).

If this is the case and you are not comfortable with working on the inside of a computer, then give me a call or send me an e-mail. My contact info is on the main “Computer Help” page.