A computer can address more memory than the amount physically installed on the system. This extra memory is actually called virtual memory and it is a section of a hard disk that's set up to emulate the computer's RAM. (<http://tutorialspoint.com/operating_system/os_virtual_memory.htm>)

**virtual memory**, **virtual storage**[[b]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_memory) or **swap memory**[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_memory) is a [memory management](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memory_management_(operating_systems)) technique that provides an "idealized abstraction of the storage resources that are actually available on a given machine"[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_memory) which "creates the illusion to users of a very large (main) memory". (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_memory>)

[What is Virtual Memory and How Does It Work? (techtarget.com)](https://searchstorage.techtarget.com/definition/virtual-memory)

[What is Virtual Memory and Why Do We Need It – Utilize Windows](https://www.utilizewindows.com/what-is-virtual-memory-and-why-do-we-need-it/)