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FreeBSD find out RAM size including total amount of free and used memory size

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Q. How do I find out RAM size / memory size in FreeBSD? How do I display amount of free and used memory in the system?

A. To displays the total amount of free and used physical and swap memory in the system, as well as the buffers used by the kernel you need to install special script Most user use sysctl command to get all data. There is a perl script that automates everything and display back result on screen.

This script query the system through the generic sysctl interface. The sysctl utility retrieves kernel state and allows processes with appropriate privilege to set kernel state. You must have perl installed on FreeBSD.

FreeBSD command about RAM size and information

Download perl script which is written by Ralf S. Engelschall:

```
# fetch http://www.cyberciti.biz/files/scripts/freebsd-memory.pl.txt
# mv freebsd-memory.pl.txt /usr/local/bin/free
# chmod +x /usr/local/bin/free
```

Make sure perl is installed. Now to display or list total system memory usage type

```
$ free
```

Output:

```
SYSTEM MEMORY INFORMATION:
mem_wire:      25341952 (    24MB) [  9%] Wired: disabled for paging out
mem_active:   +   47529984 (    45MB) [ 18%] Active: recently referenced
mem_inactive: +   15605760 (    14MB) [  6%] Inactive: recently not referenced
mem_cache:    +     16384 (      0MB) [  0%] Cached: almost avail. for allocation
mem_free:     +   165556224 (   157MB) [ 65%] Free: fully available for allocation
mem_gap_vm:   +     389120 (      0MB) [  0%] Memory gap: UNKNOWN
-----
mem_all:      =   254439424 (   242MB) [100%] Total real memory managed
mem_gap_sys:  +     4988928 (      4MB)      Memory gap: Kernel?!
-----
mem_phys:     =   259428352 (   247MB)      Total real memory available
mem_gap_hw:   +     9007104 (      8MB)      Memory gap: Segment Mappings?!
-----
mem_hw:       =   268435456 (   256MB)      Total real memory installed

SYSTEM MEMORY SUMMARY:
mem_used:      87257088 (    83MB) [ 32%] Logically used memory
mem_avail:    +   181178368 (   172MB) [ 67%] Logically available memory
-----
mem_total:    =   268435456 (   256MB) [100%] Logically total memory
```

Linux like free command for FreeBSD

Freecolor is a free replacement that displays free memory graphically as a bargraph. It supports the same options as free. Install freecolor, enter:

```
# cd /usr/ports/sysutils/freecolor
# make install clean
```

To see memory details, enter:

```
$ freecolor -m -o
```

Sample output:

	total	used	free	shared	buffers	cached
Mem:	4082	825	3256	0	0	117
Swap:	2048	0	2047			

```
$ freecolor -t -m -o
```

Sample output:

	total	used	free	shared	buffers	cached
Mem:	4082	825	3256	0	0	117
Swap:	2048	0	2047			
Total:	6130	= (826 (used)	+	5421 (free))

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