

Lab 6.1 - Task Manager in Windows 7 and Vista

Introduction

In this lab, you will explore Task Manager and manage processes from within Task Manager.

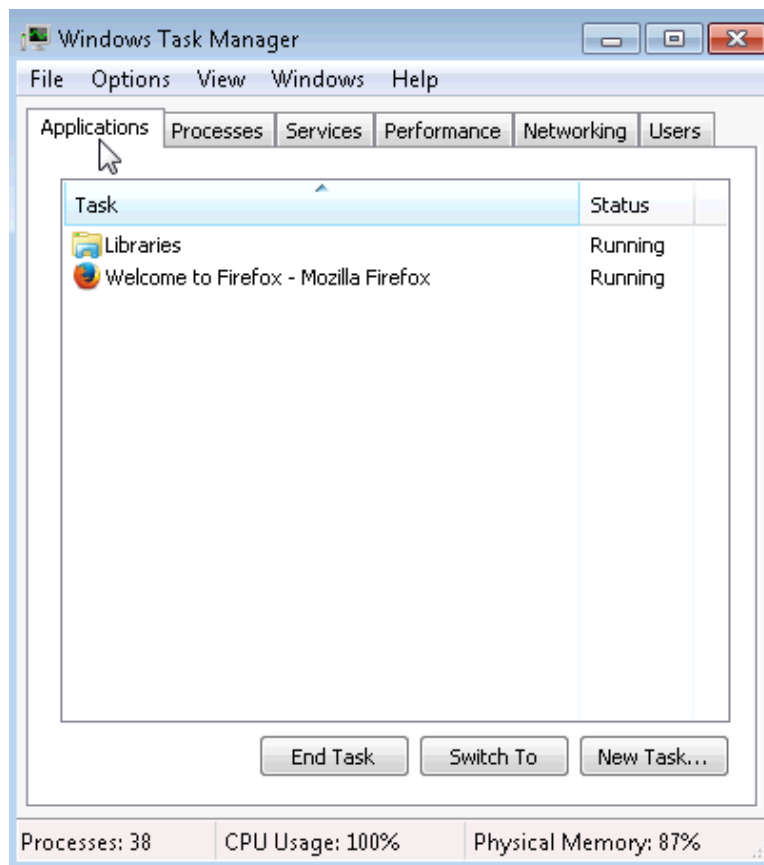
Recommended Equipment

The following equipment is required for this exercise:

- A computer running Windows 7 or Vista

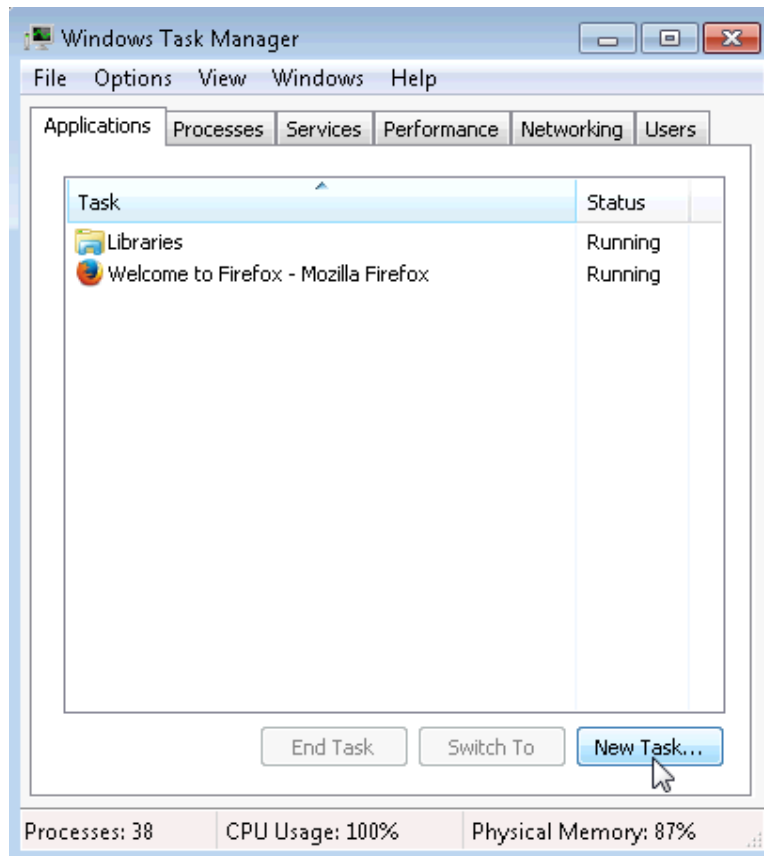
Step 1: Work in the Applications Tab of Windows Task Manager.

- Log on to Windows as an administrator.
- Open a browser and a folder.
- Click the **desktop** and press **Ctrl-Alt-Delete > Start Task Manager > Applications** tab.

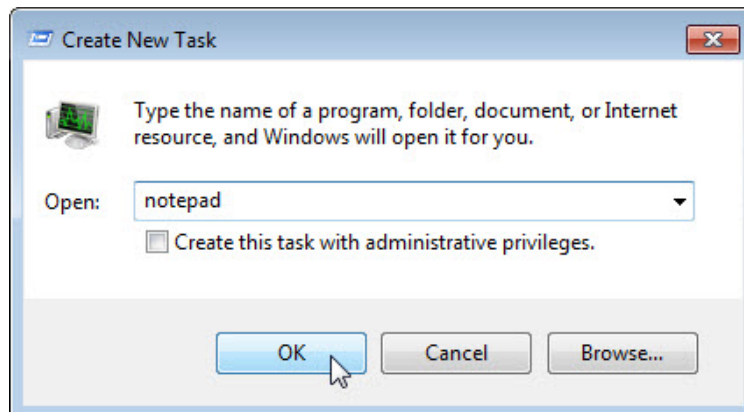


- Select the open browser and then click **Switch To**.
What happened to the browser?

- e. Bring **Windows Task Manager** to the front of the desktop. Click **New Task** to open the **Create New Task** window.

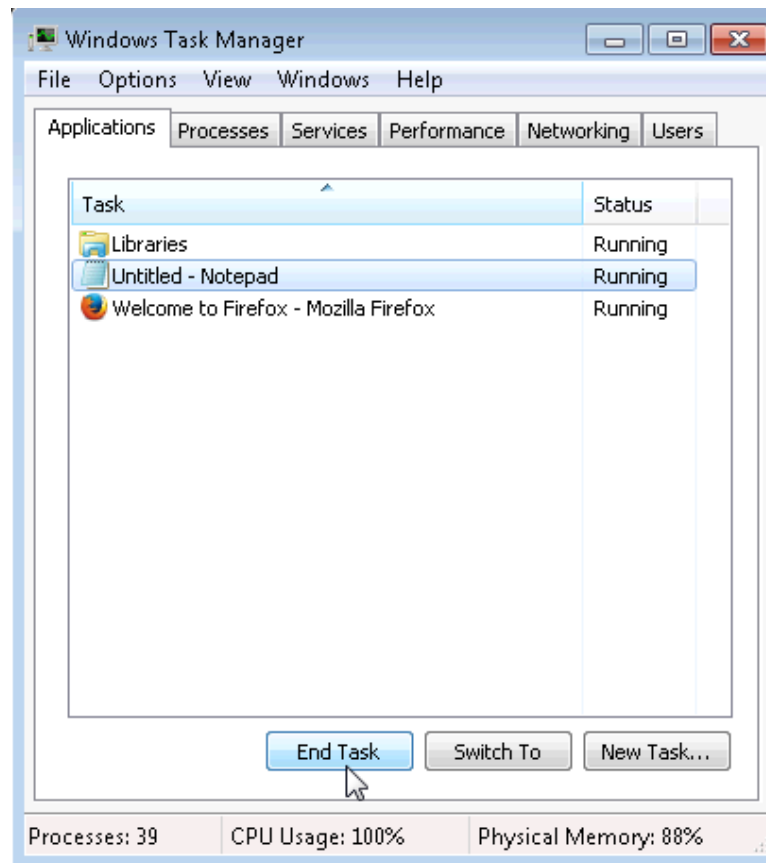


- f. In the **Open** field, type **Notepad** and click **OK**.



What happens?

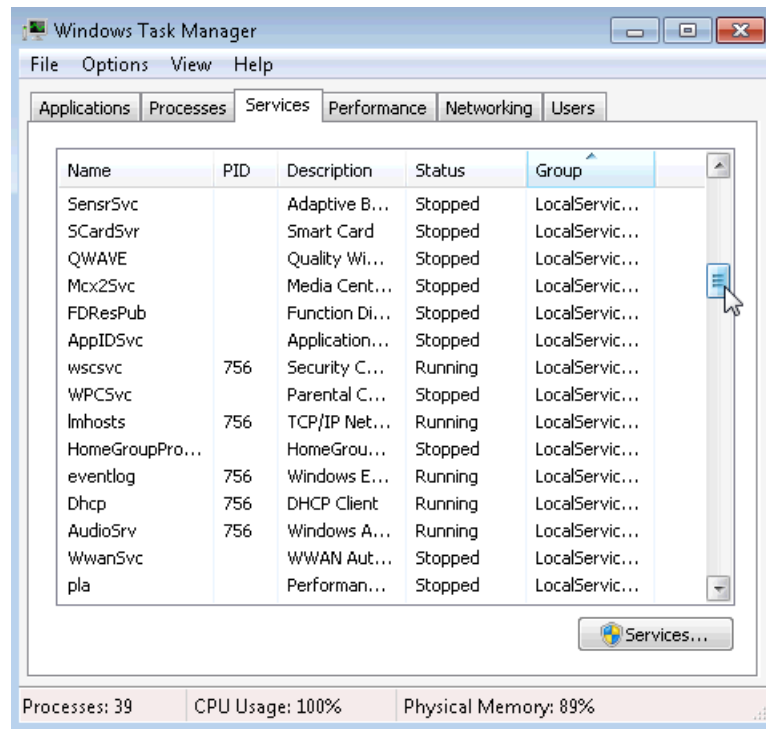
- g. Navigate back to the **Windows Task Manager**, select **Notepad**, and click **End Task**.



What happens?

Step 2: Work in the Services tab of Windows Task Manager.

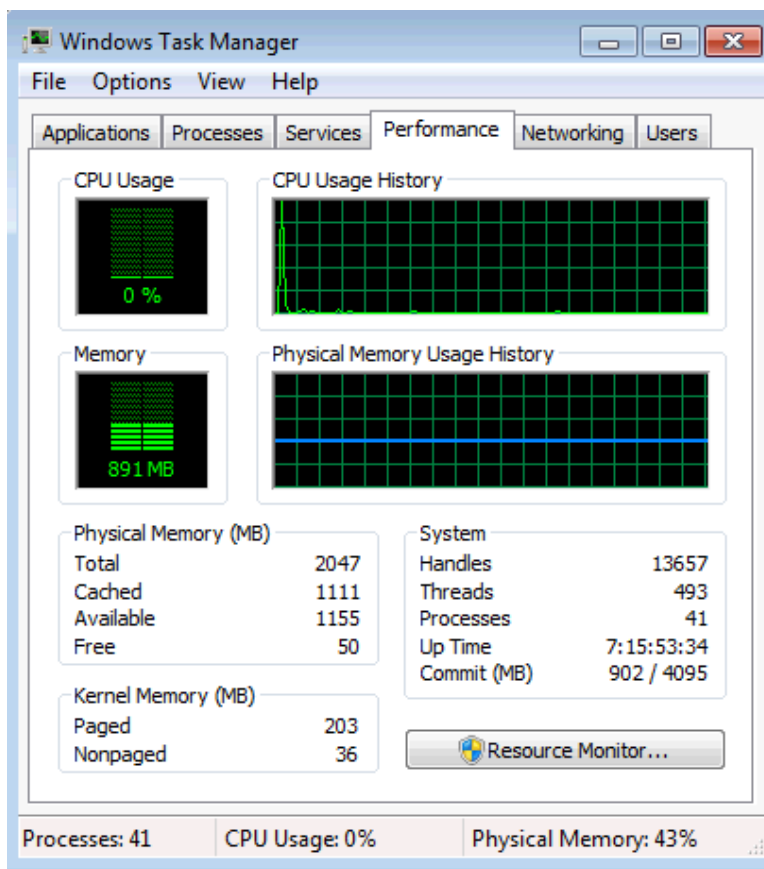
- a. Click the **Services** tab. Use the scroll bar on the right of the **Services** window to view all the services listed



What are the statuses listed?

Step 3: Work in the Performance tab of Windows Task Manager.

- a. Click the **Performance** tab.



How many threads are running?

How many processes are running?

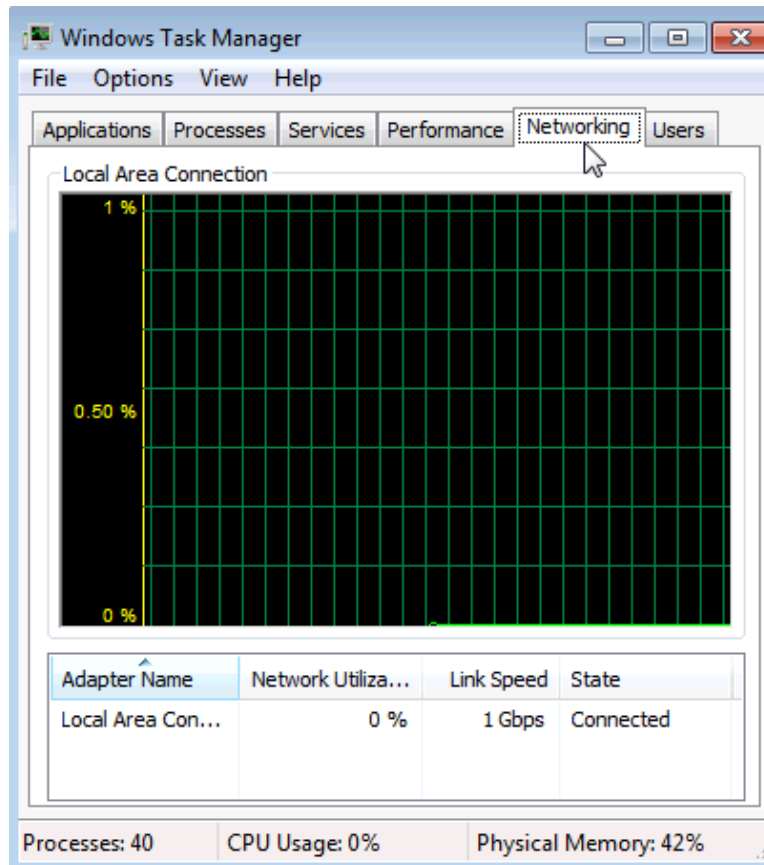
What is the total physical memory (MB)?

What is the available physical memory (MB)?

How much physical memory (MB) is being used by the system?

Step 4: Work in the Networking tab of Windows Task Manager.

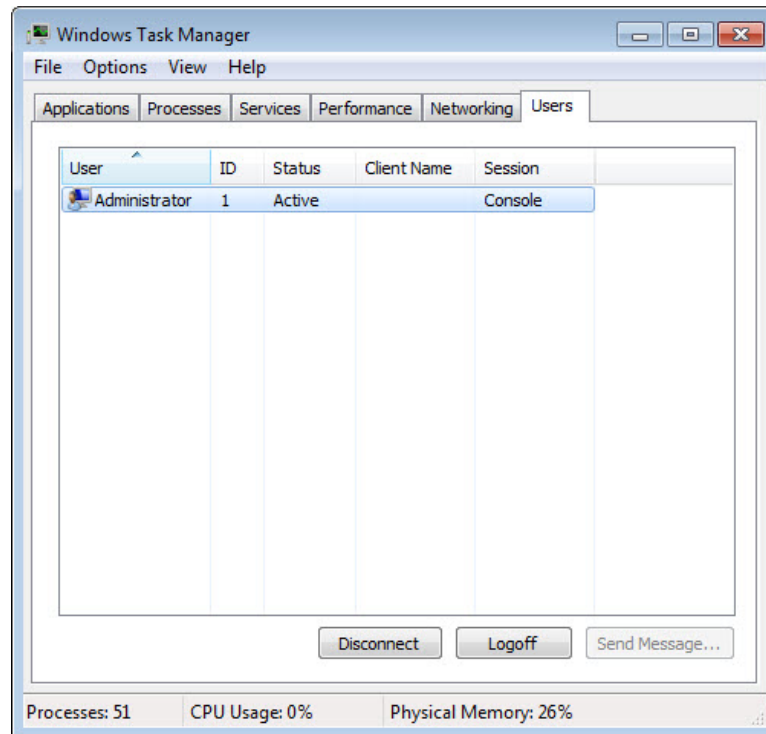
- a. Click the **Networking** tab.



What is the link speed?

Step 5: Work in the Users tab of Windows Task Manager.

- a. Click the **Users** tab.

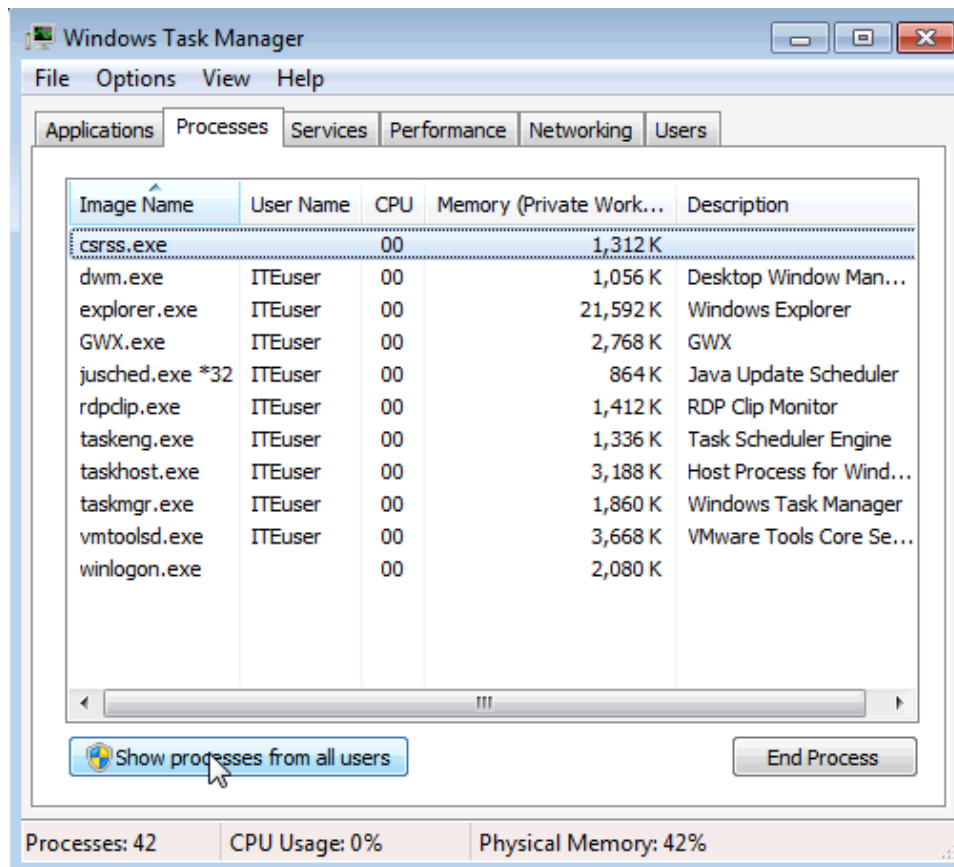


List all users and their status.

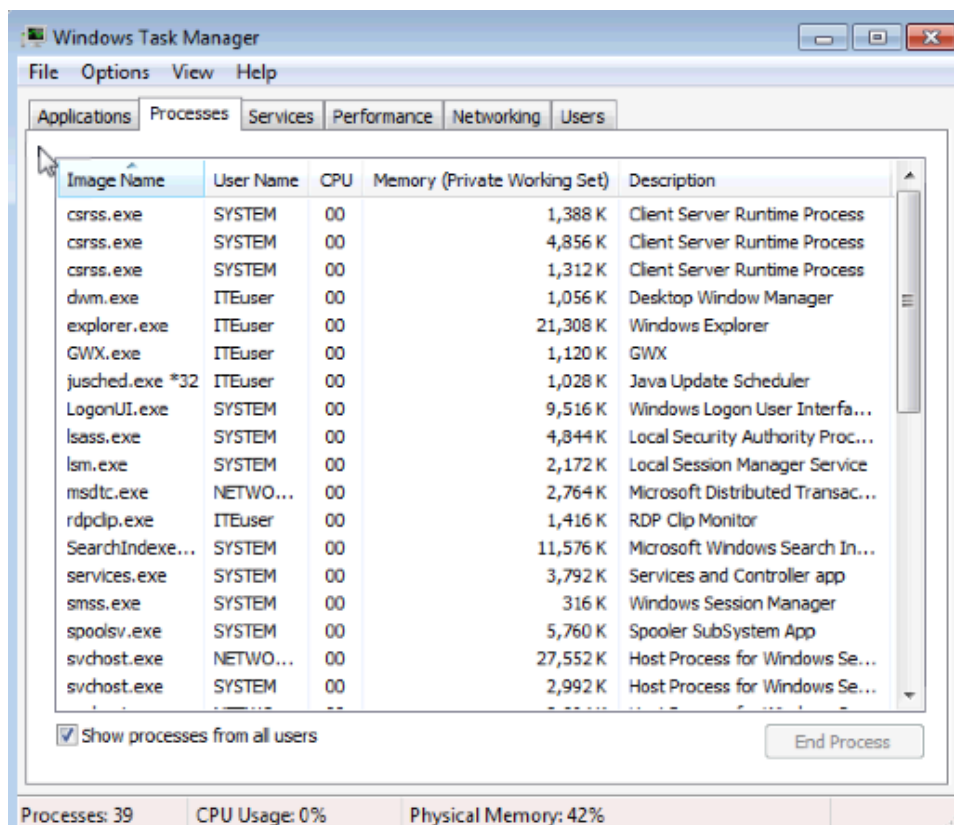
What actions can you perform on the user from this window?

Step 6: Work in the Processes tab of Windows Task Manager.

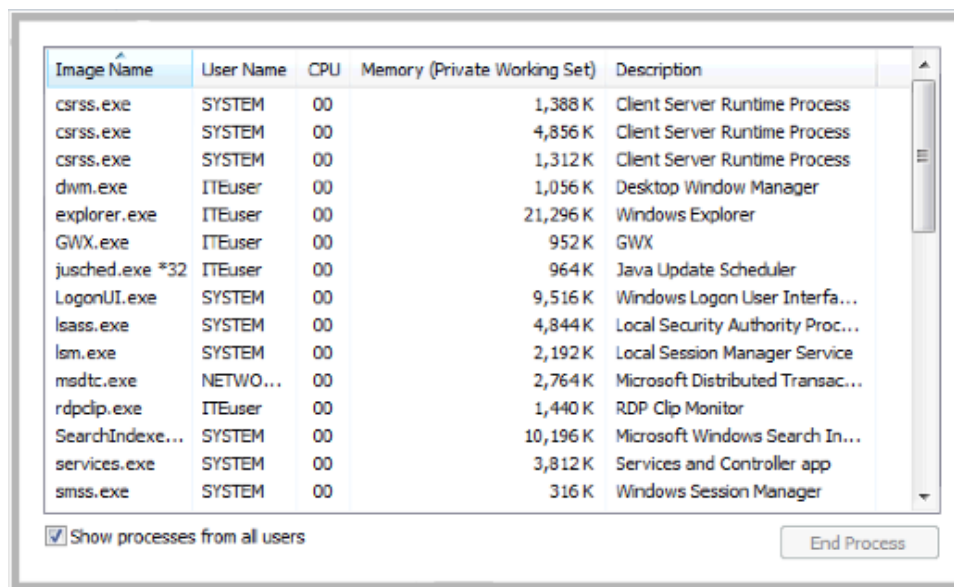
- a. Click the **Processes** tab.



- b. Check the checkbox **Show processes from all users**.

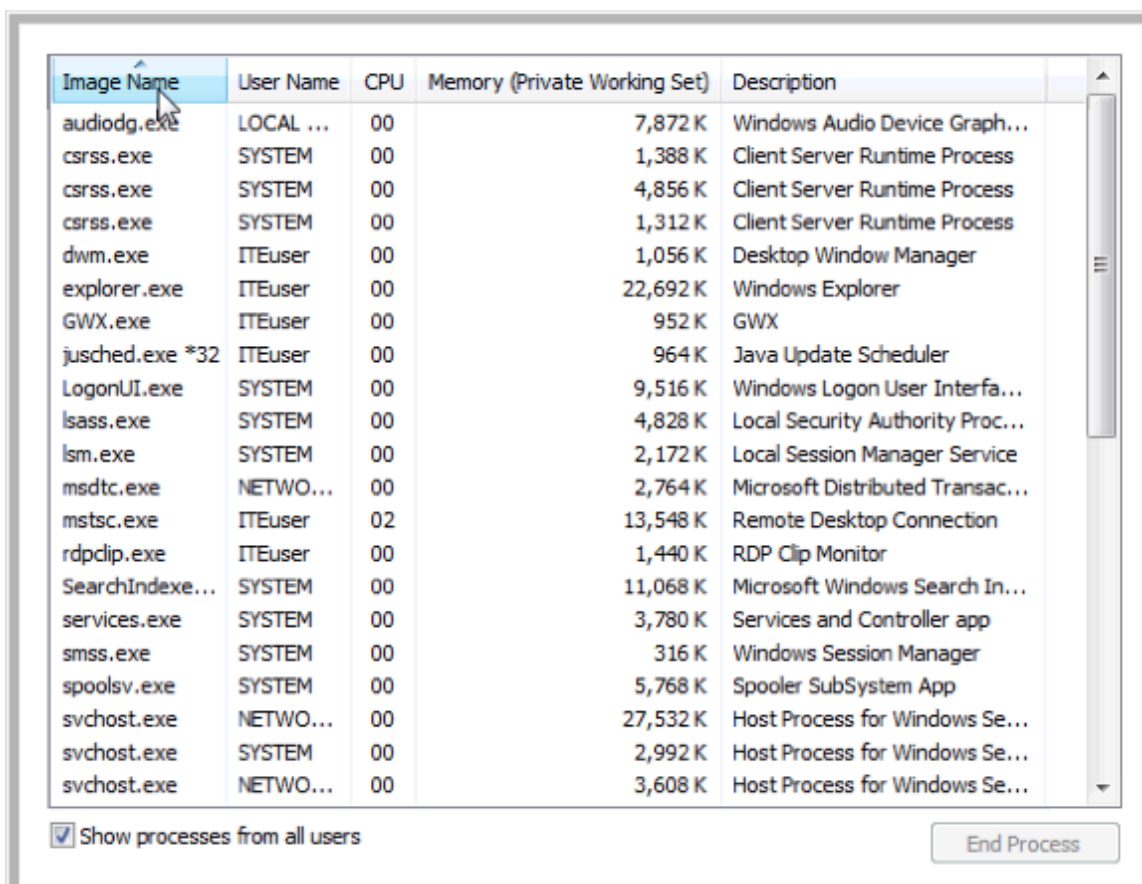


- c. Double-click the white border around the Processes tab. This changes the view of Windows Task Manager to compact mode.



Note: The **User Account Control** window may open in Vista asking for permission to continue. Click **Continue**.

- d. Click the heading **Image Name**. Click **Image Name** again.



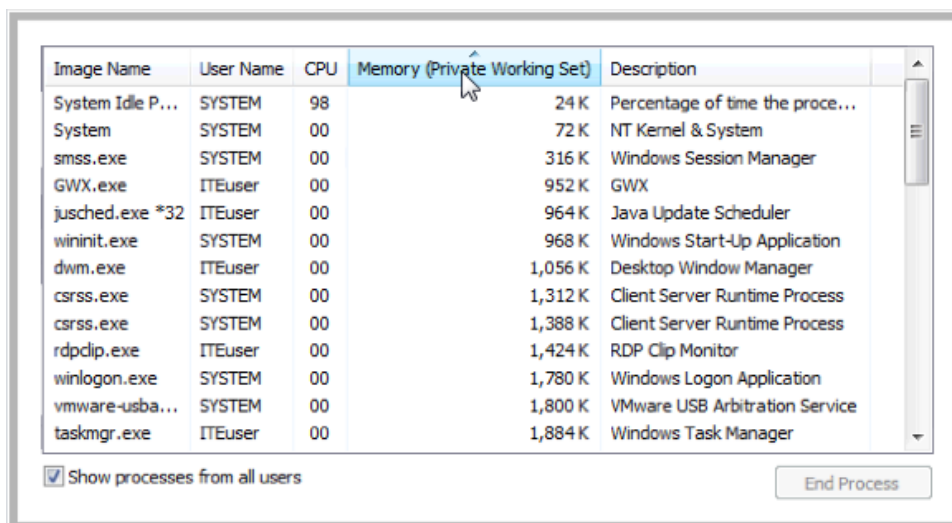
The screenshot shows the Windows Task Manager window with the 'Image Name' column selected. The table lists various running processes with their respective user names, CPU usage, memory usage, and descriptions.

Image Name	User Name	CPU	Memory (Private Working Set)	Description
audiodg.exe	LOCAL ...	00	7,872 K	Windows Audio Device Graph...
csrss.exe	SYSTEM	00	1,388 K	Client Server Runtime Process
csrss.exe	SYSTEM	00	4,856 K	Client Server Runtime Process
csrss.exe	SYSTEM	00	1,312 K	Client Server Runtime Process
dwm.exe	ITEuser	00	1,056 K	Desktop Window Manager
explorer.exe	ITEuser	00	22,692 K	Windows Explorer
GWX.exe	ITEuser	00	952 K	GWX
jusched.exe *32	ITEuser	00	964 K	Java Update Scheduler
LogonUI.exe	SYSTEM	00	9,516 K	Windows Logon User Interfa...
lsass.exe	SYSTEM	00	4,828 K	Local Security Authority Proc...
lsm.exe	SYSTEM	00	2,172 K	Local Session Manager Service
msdtc.exe	NETWO...	00	2,764 K	Microsoft Distributed Transac...
mstsc.exe	ITEuser	02	13,548 K	Remote Desktop Connection
rdpclip.exe	ITEuser	00	1,440 K	RDP Clip Monitor
SearchIndexe...	SYSTEM	00	11,068 K	Microsoft Windows Search In...
services.exe	SYSTEM	00	3,780 K	Services and Controller app
smss.exe	SYSTEM	00	316 K	Windows Session Manager
spoolsv.exe	SYSTEM	00	5,768 K	Spooler SubSystem App
svchost.exe	NETWO...	00	27,532 K	Host Process for Windows Se...
svchost.exe	SYSTEM	00	2,992 K	Host Process for Windows Se...
svchost.exe	NETWO...	00	3,608 K	Host Process for Windows Se...

☒ Show processes from all users End Process

What effect does this have on the columns?

- e. Click **Memory (Private Working Set)**.



The screenshot shows the Windows Task Manager window with the 'Memory (Private Working Set)' column selected. The table lists various running processes with their respective user names, CPU usage, memory usage, and descriptions.

Image Name	User Name	CPU	Memory (Private Working Set)	Description
System Idle P...	SYSTEM	98	24 K	Percentage of time the proce...
System	SYSTEM	00	72 K	NT Kernel & System
smss.exe	SYSTEM	00	316 K	Windows Session Manager
GWX.exe	ITEuser	00	952 K	GWX
jusched.exe *32	ITEuser	00	964 K	Java Update Scheduler
wininit.exe	SYSTEM	00	968 K	Windows Start-Up Application
dwm.exe	ITEuser	00	1,056 K	Desktop Window Manager
csrss.exe	SYSTEM	00	1,312 K	Client Server Runtime Process
csrss.exe	SYSTEM	00	1,388 K	Client Server Runtime Process
rdpclip.exe	ITEuser	00	1,424 K	RDP Clip Monitor
winlogon.exe	SYSTEM	00	1,780 K	Windows Logon Application
vmware-usba...	SYSTEM	00	1,800 K	VMware USB Arbitration Service
taskmgr.exe	ITEuser	00	1,884 K	Windows Task Manager

☒ Show processes from all users End Process

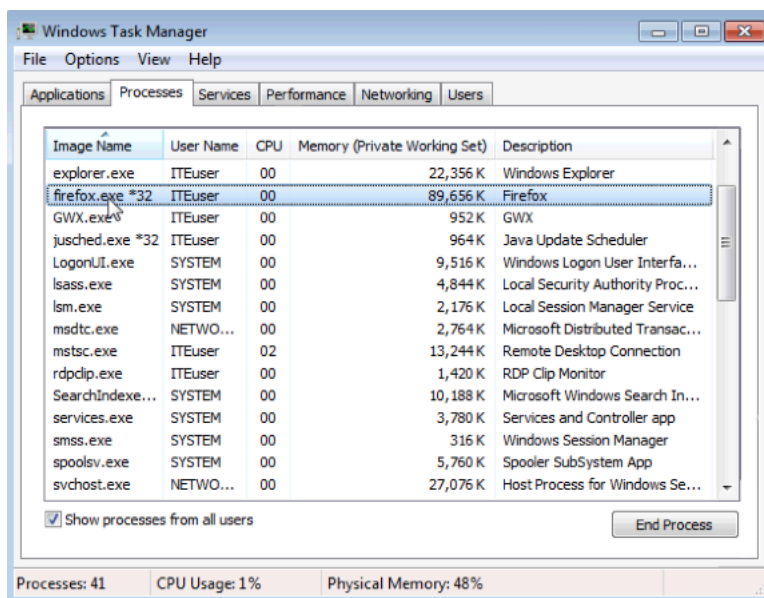
What affect does this have on the columns?

f. Double-click the outside border again to return to tabs mode.

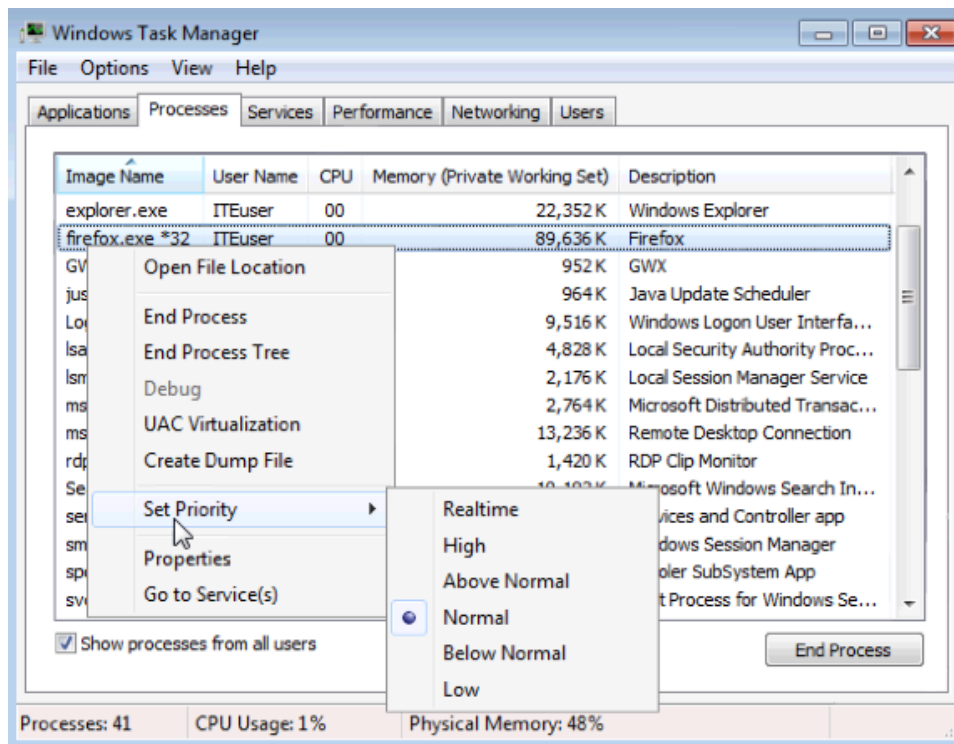
g. Open a browser.

Note: Firefox is used in this lab. However, any browser will work. Just substitute your browser name whenever you see the word **Firefox**.

h. Return to the **Windows Task Manager**. Click **Image Name** so the list is in alphabetical order, then locate and select **firefox.exe**.

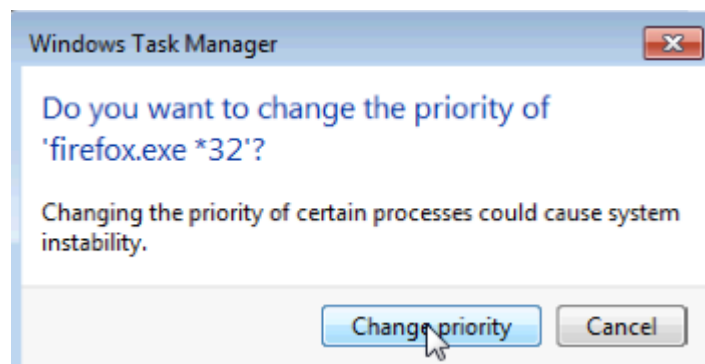


- i. Right-click **firefox.exe** > **Set Priority**.



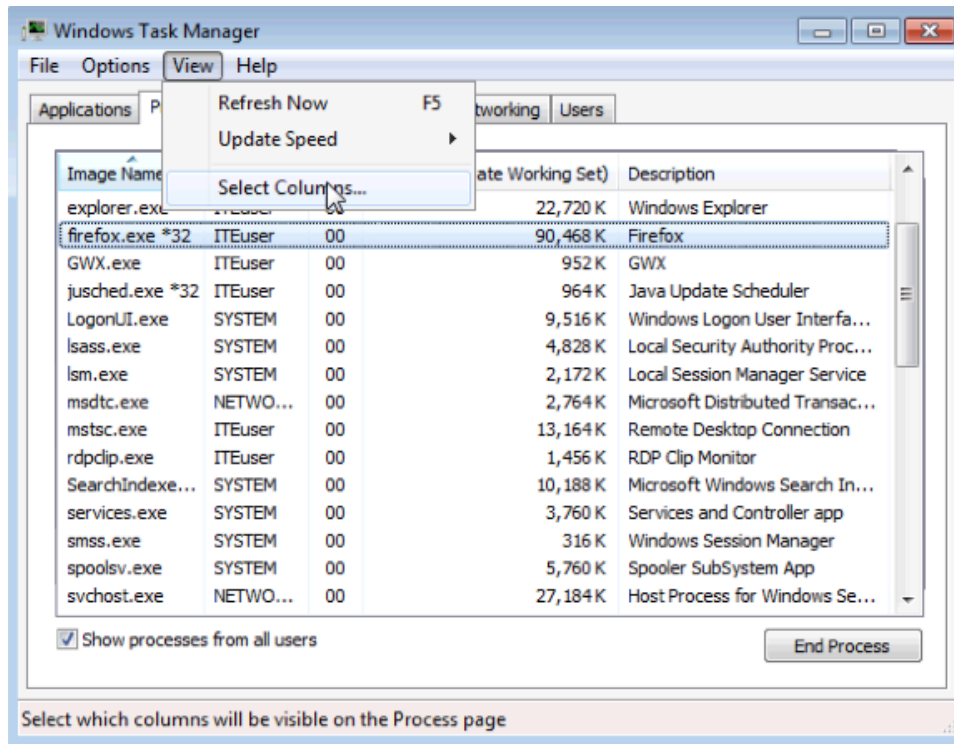
What is the default priority for the browser?

- j. Set the priority to **Above Normal**. Then click **Change priority** in the Windows Task Manager warning message.

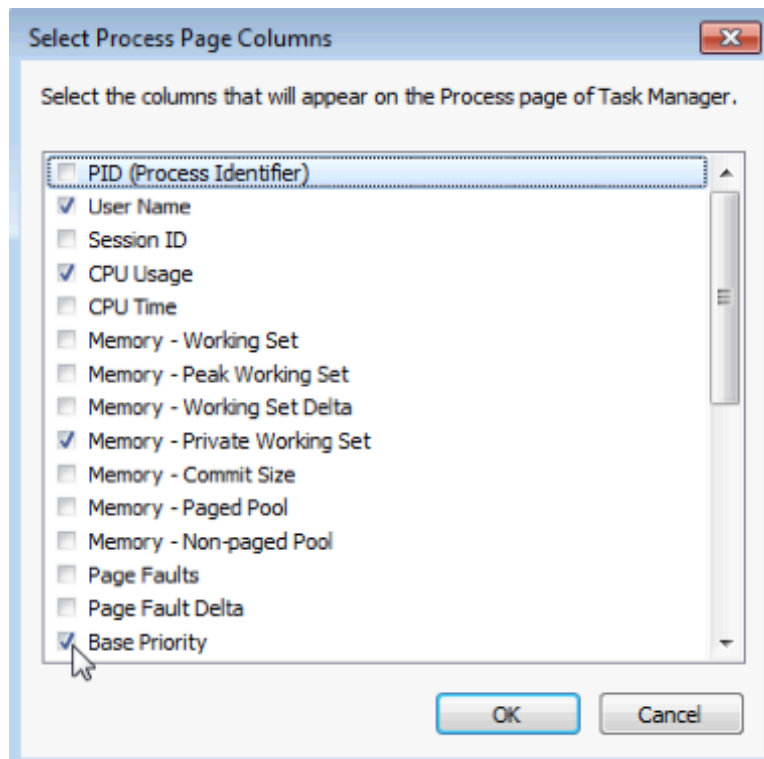


Step 7: Change the fields that are displayed in the Windows Task Manager.

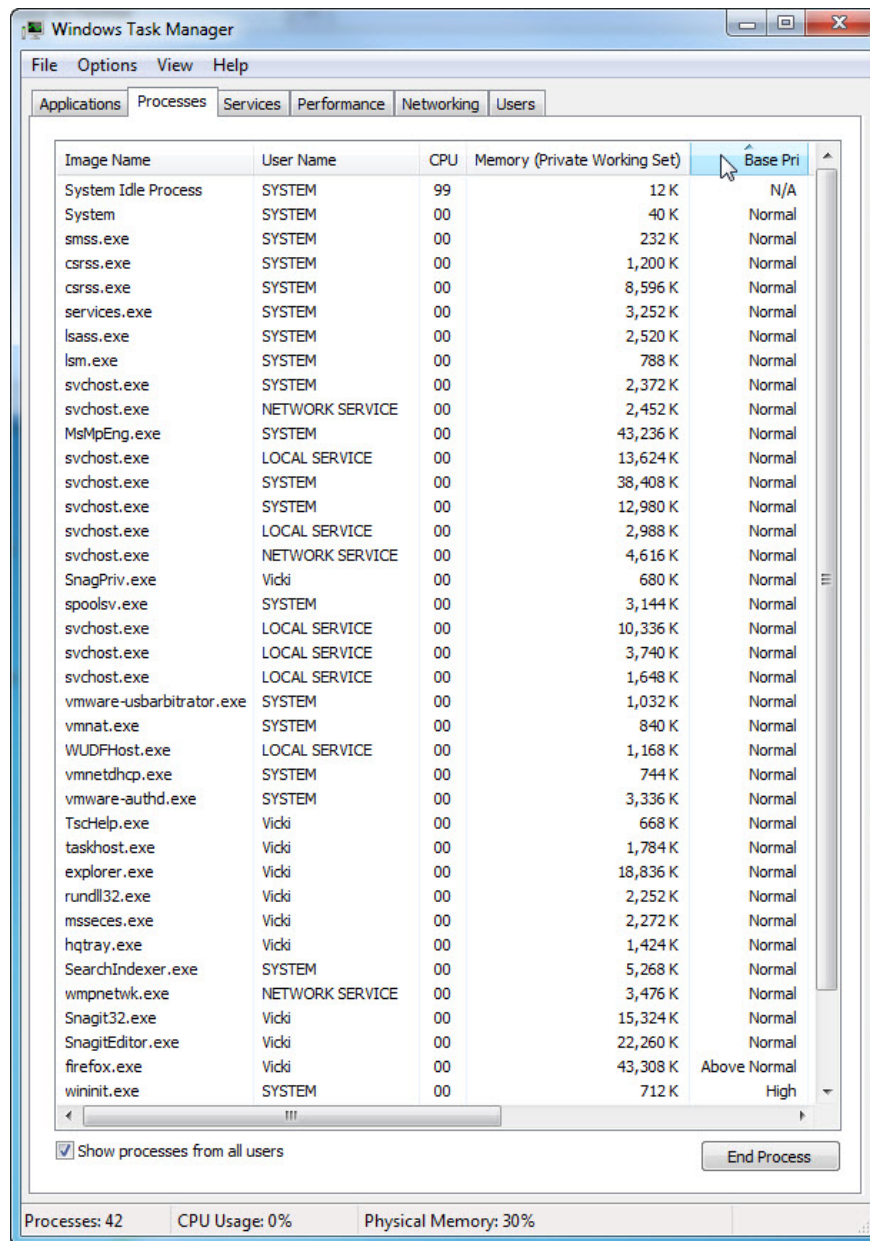
- a. Click **View > Select Columns**.



- b. The **Select Process Page Columns** window opens. Check **Base Priority** and click **OK**.



- c. Expand the width of the **Windows Task Manager** so the **Base Priority** column is visible.

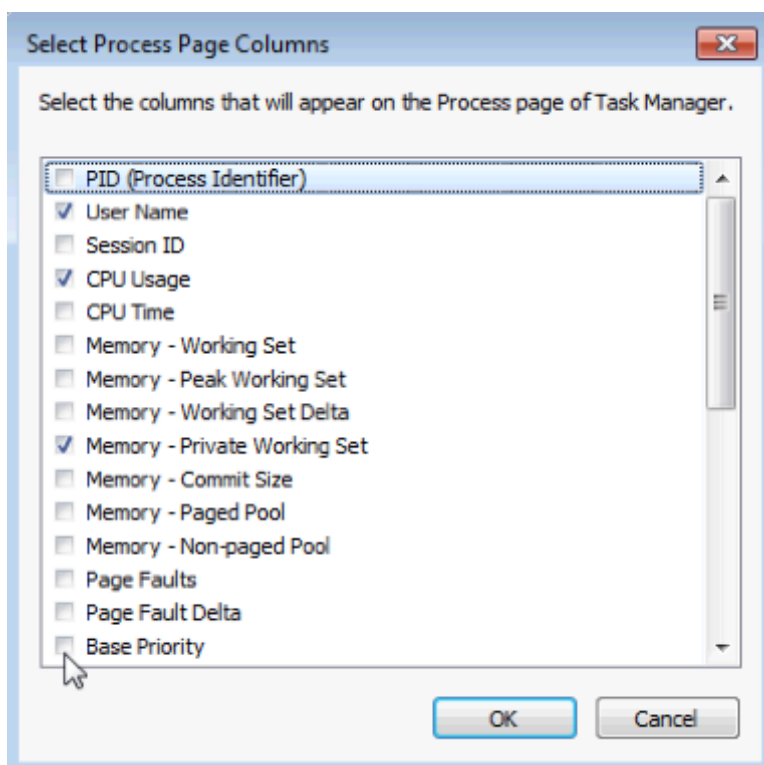


List the name of the image that has a base priority of Above Normal?

Which image name has a base priority of N/A?

- d. Reset Firefox.exe base priority to normal. To do this, right-click **firefox.exe** > **Set Priority** > **Normal** > **Change priority**.

- e. Click **View > Select Columns**. Uncheck **Base Priority** and click **OK**.



- f. Close **Firefox**.
Is Firefox listed as a process?

- g. Close all open windows.

Reflection

Why is it important for an administrator to understand how to work within the Windows Task Manager?
