

The cost estimates for internally created temporary tables stored in the `MEMORY` storage engine. Increasing these values increases the cost estimate of using internal temporary tables and makes the optimizer prefer query plans with less use of them. For information about such tables, see [Section 8.4.4, “Internal Temporary Table Use in MySQL”](#).

The smaller default values for these memory parameters compared to the default values for the corresponding disk parameters (`disk temptable create cost`, `disk temptable row cost`) reflects the lesser cost of processing memory-based tables.

- `row_evaluate_cost`

The cost of evaluating record conditions. Increasing this value causes a query plan that examines many rows to become more expensive compared to a query plan that examines fewer rows. For example, a table scan becomes relatively more expensive compared to a range scan that reads fewer rows.

The `engine_cost` table contains these columns:

- `engine_name`

The name of the storage engine to which this cost estimate applies. The name is not case-sensitive. If the value is `default`, it applies to all storage engines that have no named entry of their own. If the server does not recognize the engine name when it reads this table, it writes a warning to the error log.

- `device_type`

The device type to which this cost estimate applies. The column is intended for specifying different cost estimates for different storage device types, such as hard disk drives versus solid state drives. Currently, this information is not used and 0 is the only permitted value.

- `cost_name`

Same as in the `server_cost` table.

- `cost_value`

Same as in the `server_cost` table.

- `last_update`

Same as in the `server_cost` table.

- `comment`

Same as in the `server_cost` table.

- `default_value`

The default (compiled-in) value for the cost estimate. This column is a read-only generated column that retains its value even if the associated cost estimate is changed. For rows added to the table at runtime, the value of this column is `NULL`, with the exception that if the row has the same `cost_name` value as one of the original rows, the `default_value` column has the same value as that row.

The primary key for the `engine_cost` table is a tuple comprising the (`cost_name`, `engine_name`, `device_type`) columns, so it is not possible to create multiple entries for any combination of values in those columns.

The server recognizes these `cost_name` values for the `engine_cost` table: