

[Metal](#) / MTLHeapDescriptor

## Class



# MTLHeapDescriptor

A configuration that customizes the behavior for a Metal memory heap.

iOS 10.0+ | iPadOS 10.0+ | Mac Catalyst 13.1+ | macOS 10.13+ | tvOS 10.0+ | visionOS 1.0+

```
class MTLHeapDescriptor
```

## Mentioned in

-  [Creating sparse heaps and sparse textures](#)
-  [Understanding the Metal 4 core API](#)

## Overview

Create an [MTLHeap](#) by configuring an [MTLHeapDescriptor](#) instance's properties and passing it to the [makeHeap\(descriptor:\)](#) method of an [MTLDevice](#).

Each new heap inherits the descriptor's configuration as you create it, which means you can modify and reuse a descriptor to create other heaps.

## Topics

### Configuring a heap

```
var type: MTLHeapType
```

The memory placement strategy for any resources you allocate from the heaps you create with this descriptor.

`var storageMode: MTLStorageMode`

The storage mode for the heaps you create with this descriptor.

`var cpuCacheMode: MTLCPUCacheMode`

The CPU cache behavior for any resources you allocate from the heaps you create with this descriptor.

`var hazardTrackingMode: MTLHazardTrackingMode`

The hazard tracking behavior for any resources you allocate from the heaps you create with this descriptor.

`var resourceOptions: MTLResourceOptions`

The combined behavior for any resources you allocate from the heaps you create with this descriptor.

`var size: Int`

The total amount of memory, in bytes, for the heaps you create with this descriptor.

`var sparsePageSize: MTLSparsePageSize`

The page size for any resources you allocate from the heaps you create with this descriptor.

## Instance Properties

`var maxCompatiblePlacementSparsePageSize: MTLSparsePageSize`

Specifies the largest sparse page size that the Metal heap supports.

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# Relationships

## Inherits From

`NSObject`

## Conforms To

`CVarArg`

`CustomDebugStringConvertible`

CustomStringConvertible  
Equatable  
Hashable  
NSCopying  
NSObjectProtocol

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## See Also

### Resource memory allocation and management

- `{}` Using argument buffers with resource heaps  
Reduce CPU overhead by using arrays inside argument buffers and combining them with resource heaps.
- `{}` Implementing a multistage image filter using heaps and events  
Use events to synchronize access to resources allocated on a heap.
- `{}` Implementing a multistage image filter using heaps and fences  
Use fences to synchronize access to resources allocated on a heap.

`protocol` MTLHeap

A memory pool from which you can suballocate resources.

`enum` MTLHeapType

The options you use to choose the heap type.

`struct` MTLSizeAndAlign

The size and alignment of a resource, in bytes.