

| | Contiguous | Chained | Indexed | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Preallocation? | Necessary | Possible | Possible | |
| Fixed or Variable Size Portions? | Variable | Fixed blocks | Fixed blocks | Variable |
| Portion Size | Large | Small | Small | Medium |
| Allocation Frequency | Once | Low to high | High | Low |
| Time to Allocate | Medium | Long | Short | Medium |
| File Allocation Table Size | One entry | One entry | Large | Medium |