



The VMM controls a **balloon** module running in the guest, and directs it to allocate guest pages and pin them in physical memory. These balloon pages can be reclaimed by the VMM. Inflating the balloon can simulate increased memory pressure in the guest, forcing it to use its own memory management routines and possibly page data out to its virtual disk.

If *ballooning* does not help the host reduce memory pressure, it can use **hypervisor swapping** and transfer some guest memory from physical memory to a **swap** file.