Tech Info Library

AppleShare 2.0 & Older Versions: Recommended Memory Use (8/95)

Revised: 8/22/95
Security: Everyone

AppleShare 2.0 & Older Versions: Recommended Memory Use (8/95)

==

Article Created: 21 June 1990
Article Reviewed/Updated: 21 August 1995

TOPIC --

Extra memory in an AppleShare file server is automatically given to RAM cache.
But because of the algorithms used by Macintosh RAM cache, some have told me
that a 2MB server is actually FASTER than a 5MB server.

Is this the case? Are there any recommendations for memory size for:

File Server Only
File Server and Print Server
File Server with Internet Router
File Server and Print Server with Internet Router

If I'm using a Macintosh II as a file server with 2MB of memory (and under the
maximum of 50 users) what's the benefit of another 3MB of memory for the file
server? I know that the RAM cache will increase (it's at 1024K already, though
with 2MB) and that will (theoretically) speed things up, but I've switched back
and forth, and don't see much of a difference.

DISCUSSION ---

AppleShare File Server runs in about 1MB of RAM. Any memory beyond this 1MB is
given to RAM cache, to cache directory structures, user data files, and so on.
Thus, in a 2MB machine, 1MB will be used for caching. As cache size increases,
more of the disk directory can be maintained in memory. This results in fewer
disk accesses and faster response. Users' data files are also maintained in
cache when there is room. This is effective with multi-user applications when
several users access the same data file.

In general, 1MB of cache memory is quite adequate. Any more memory beyond this
will not buy you much -- and can degrade performance, as you were told. This is
why you did not see the difference between a 3MB and a 5MB machine.

For a File Server only, 1MB to 2MB memory is recommended. A 1MB Macintosh server can support 25 concurrent users. A 2MB Macintosh II can support 50 concurrent users.

To run the AppleShare File Server with the Internet Router or the AppleShare Print Server, or both, the minimum memory requirement is 2MB. You should run about 4MB to achieve better performance.

For more information about memory requirement when running the Internet Router with the File Server and the AppleShare Print Server, search the Tech Info Library using keywords "Internet Router" and "memory".

Article Change History:
21 Aug 1995 - Change title to reflect the subject.

Support Information Services

Copyright 1990-95, Apple Computer, Inc.

Tech Info Library Article Number:5834