

How to Upgrade RAM on a Laptop?

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Quick answer

Upgrading your laptop's RAM is a straightforward process that can significantly speed up a sluggish device. First, confirm your laptop allows upgrades since some models like MacBooks and Microsoft Surface devices have RAM soldered to the motherboard.

Over the years, laptops tend to get slow and almost lethargic. This doesn't mean that you have to live with it until you can afford a new one. There are ways to speed up your old device to make it work better and upgrading the RAM is one of them.

RAM or Random Access Memory shares data with the SSD or hard drive. SSDs are usually very slow, and the addition of a RAM helps fire up the device because the load won't be on the SSD anymore. So, let's take a look at what you can do and how.

Can you actually upgrade RAM on your laptop?

This is actually a good question. You might think that the answer is obvious, but many models do not allow it. For example, Apple laptops have parts soldered to the motherboard. So, upgrading the RAM on a Mac can be tough. If you have an older model, you could check at the Genius bar and see if anything can be done, though. The same applies to Microsoft Surface products. In this case, the bottoms are shut, making it nigh impossible to upgrade the RAM.

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Thus, before you go any further, you should first determine whether your laptop can be upgraded. If yes, keep reading. If no, we are sorry!

Good news! Upgrading the RAM is very easy!

Did you know that you don't require any computer skills to upgrade the RAM, especially on a budget laptop? You can do it all by yourself! That's why, the moment a laptop starts being sluggish, users think about upgrading the RAM before anything else.

Before jumping to buy a new RAM, though, you should keep two things in mind: Compatibility and requirement. There are different RAMs in the market, but you should see which one your laptop already has and which one offers an upgrade path. This might take some learning if you are not too much into tech.

Once you have figured out compatibility, check how much RAM you actually need. There are laptops that run even on 2 GB RAM, but since you are looking for an upgrade, we recommend at least 4 GB. This will be enough for a long time. If you already have 4 GB, you could think of going for 2 GB or 4 GB more based on your needs.

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How to install the new RAM

After everything is clear to you, buy your new RAM and follow the instructions below:

1. Shut your laptop down completely.
2. Remove the laptop's base or bottom and access the memory bay. If you are worried about this step, check the laptop's owner's manual. There will be instructions to disassemble your laptop there.
3. Get rid of all static electricity by touching a metal object. This is a precautionary step, but we highly recommend it.
4. Put the memory module in with the help of its notch. Don't push it if it isn't fitting. You are probably trying to push it in upside down or backward. Change direction and try again.
5. After the module is fit, put the memory in. Tilt the module so that it snaps into place. You will hear a soft click as well.
6. That's about it!

Didn't we tell you it was a super easy process? You just need some precision and patience. Make sure you follow all the steps and read any instructions on your RAM's case or manual to be extremely sure. If you aren't really confident, don't risk it. Just ask a professional, and he will do it for you at a small cost. All the best!

References

1. [en.wikipedia.org - wiki / Random-access_memory - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Random-access_memory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Random-access_memory)