

Understanding Task Manager

Task Manager enables you to monitor and control your computer and what's running on it.

Click one of the following buttons for more information:

- [Programs that are running](#)
- [Processes that are running](#)
- [Your computer's performance](#)

Programs that are running

The **Applications** tab shows the status of the programs (also known as tasks) that are currently running on your computer.

From this window, you can end, switch to, or start a program.

Processes that are running

The **Processes** tab shows information about the processes that are currently running on your computer.

From this window, you can end a process. To view other information about a process, click **View**, and then click **Select Columns**.

Your computer's performance

The **Performance** tab displays a dynamic overview of your computer's performance including:

- Graphs for CPU and memory usage
- The number of items running (including handles, threads, and processes)
- Information about physical, kernel, and commit memory

For more information about the **Performance** tab, see the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Guide*, which is part of the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Kit*.

The number of system objects, such as files and registry keys.


The number of execution threads.

The physical memory installed on your computer.

Memory used by the operating system. Non-paged kernel memory is available only to the operating system. Paged memory can be used by other programs when necessary.

Memory allocated to programs and/or the system. Because of virtual memory, Commit Peak memory may exceed the maximum physical memory.


To end a program with Task Manager

- 1 Click here  to display Task Manager properties, and then click the **Applications** tab.
- 2 Click the task that you want to end.
- 3 Click **End Task**.

Note

- Any data you have not saved will be lost.


To end a process with Task Manager

- 1 Click here  to display **Task Manager Properties**, and then click the **Processes** tab.
- 2 Click the process that you want to end.
- 3 Click **End Process**.

Note

- For more information, see the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Guide*, which is part of the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Kit*.


To change display options in Task Manager

- 1 Click here  to start Task Manager.
- 2 Select either the **Applications**, **Processes**, or **Performance** tab.
- 3 On the **View** menu, click the view option you want.

Notes

- On the **Applications** tab, you can choose to view details or icons.
- On the **Processes** tab, you can select the columns you want to display.
- On the **Performance** tab, you can change the **CPU History** graph and show kernel times.
- For more information, see the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Guide*, which is part of the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Kit*.


To change update speed

- 1 Click here  to start Task Manager.
- 2 On the **View** menu, point to **Update Speed**, and then click the speed at which you want Task Manager to update its display.

Note

- For more information, see the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Guide*, which is part of the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Kit*.

To switch to another program

- 1 Click here  to start Task Manager, and then click the **Applications** tab.
- 2 Click the program you want to switch to, and then click **Switch To**.

To monitor your computer's performance with Task Manager

▶ [Click here](#)



to display Task Manager properties, and then click the **Performance** tab.

Note

- For more information, see the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Guide*, which is part of the *Windows NT 4.0 Workstation Resource Kit*.

Click **Help topics** for a list of Help topics.

