
Subject: Curious about physpages vs RSS
Posted by [devonblzx](#) on Thu, 25 Sep 2008 08:54:17 GMT
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Hello,

I have been trying to figure out the actual RAM usage of some of my containers, I know physpages somewhat represents this but the numbers seem strange.

For example, when I added up all the physpages current values from /proc/user_beancounters of all running VPS's it turns out 1400MB of usage. When I looked at the wiki, I saw about adding kmem and the buffers which took it up to 1460MB, but when I type free -m it turns out...

```
# free -m
      total    used    free   shared  buffers   cached
Mem:      7899    7539    359      0      533    4972
-/+ buffers/cache:    2034    5864
Swap:      4110         0    4109
```

(2034MB Used after +/- buffers/cache)

When I add up the RSS values in 'ps aux' of all running VPS's, it turns out 1950MB, a much closer value.

Any ideas or explanations would be great. Which number is reliable?
