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Subject: Re: memory consumed suddenly increases inspite of no activity taking place..

Posted by [rickb](#) on Wed, 29 Nov 2006 16:57:48 GMT

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For your question about used ram, disregard all lines from 'free -m' except:

```
-/+ buffers/cache:      219      723
```

The linux kernel will move data from ram to swap or vice versa and also buffer file reads to try and optimize the overall system. This explains why the values can change despite very little userspace activity. The line above tells you how much ram you have left for allocation by software in your HN and your VEs. This is your main concern. Its good to have extra memory laying around for disk buffers but its not required for your software to function.

When I look at your three free outputs, I only see a few changed values and by only a few megs of ram. This really is nothing to be concerned about.

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