
Subject: Apache don't start Cannot allocate memory

Posted by [gaper](#) on Fri, 11 May 2007 19:26:25 GMT

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Hi guys first I apologize for my terrible English ... I have a server (HN) with two VE's, this VE's are going to run "trac", trac needs apache, mod_python and litesql, but I just can't start apache, /var/log/apache2/error.log sayd:

```
Fri May 11 13:48:09 2007] [notice] mod_python: using mutex_directory /tmp
```

```
[Fri May 11 13:48:09 2007] [notice] Apache/2.2.3 (Debian) mod_python/3.2.10 Python/2.4.4  
configured -- resuming normal operations
```

```
[Fri May 11 13:48:09 2007] [alert] (12)Cannot allocate memory: apr_thread_create : unable to  
create worker thread
```

```
[Fri May 11 13:48:09 2007] [alert] (12)Cannot allocate memory: apr_thread_create : unable to  
create worker thread
```

```
[Fri May 11 13:48:11 2007] [alert] No active workers found... Apache is exiting!
```

```
julius:~#
```

My enviroment its:

```
pis0-7-48:~# vzlist
```

VPSID	NPROC	STATUS	IP_ADDR	HOSTNAME
101	7	running	192.168.7.201	julius
102	5	running	192.168.7.202	dalton

```
pis0-7-48:~#
```

I have 512mb of ram ... I tried:

```
vzctl set 101 --vmguarpages 224M --save
```

```
vzctl set 101 --oomguarpages 224M --save
```

```
vzctl set 101 --privvmpages 100000 --save
```

But not working so I reloaded the old and default config:

```
vzctl set 101 --vmguarpages 6144:2147483647 --save
```

```
vzctl set 101 --oomguarpages 6144:2147483647 --save
```

```
vzctl set 101 --privvmpages 49152:53575 --save
```

With the default config I got this in /proc/user_beancounters:

```
pis0-7-48:~# cat /proc/user_beancounters
```

```
Version: 2.5
```

```
uid resource      held  maxheld  barrier  limit  failcnt
```

102: kmemsize	295987	953952	2752512	2936012	0
lockedpages	0	0	32	32	0
privvmpages	795	49416	49152	53575	2
shmpages	0	136	8192	8192	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
numproc	5	32	65	65	0
physpages	489	2689	0	2147483647	0
vmguarpages	0	0	6144	2147483647	0
oomguarpages	489	2689	6144	2147483647	0
numtcpsock	1	3	80	80	0
numflock	1	2	100	110	0
numpty	0	0	16	16	0
numsiginfo	0	4	256	256	0
tcpsndbuf	0	0	319488	524288	0
tcprecvbuf	0	0	319488	524288	0
othersockbuf	2232	2928	132096	336896	0
dgramrcvbuf	0	8376	132096	132096	0
numothersock	2	5	80	80	0
dcachesize	0	0	1048576	1097728	0
numfile	132	612	2048	2048	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
numiptent	10	10	128	128	0
101: kmemsize	266605	911208	2752512	2936012	0
lockedpages	0	0	32	32	0
privvmpages	795	49060	49152	53575	2
shmpages	0	136	8192	8192	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
numproc	5	32	65	65	0
physpages	488	2558	0	2147483647	0
vmguarpages	0	0	6144	2147483647	0
oomguarpages	488	2558	6144	2147483647	0
numtcpsock	1	3	80	80	0
numflock	1	2	100	110	0
numpty	0	0	16	16	0
numsiginfo	0	4	256	256	0
tcpsndbuf	0	0	319488	524288	0
tcprecvbuf	0	0	319488	524288	0
othersockbuf	2232	2928	132096	336896	0
dgramrcvbuf	0	8376	132096	132096	0
numothersock	2	5	80	80	0
dcachesize	0	0	1048576	1097728	0
numfile	132	604	2048	2048	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
dummy	0	0	0	0	0
numiptent	10	10	128	128	0

```

0: kmemsize      2075423  2455127 2147483647 2147483647    0
  lockedpages    0          0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  privvmpages    3088      8076 2147483647 2147483647    0
  shmpages       655       671 2147483647 2147483647    0
  dummy         0         0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numproc       42        58 2147483647 2147483647    0
  physpages     1508     1508 2147483647 2147483647    0
  vmguarpages   0         0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  oomguarpages  1508     1508 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numtcpsock    2         2 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numflock      1         6 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numpty        1         1 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numsiginfo    0         3 2147483647 2147483647    0
  tcpsndbuf     17856    0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  tcprcvbuf     32768    0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  othersockbuf  13392    18080 2147483647 2147483647    0
  dgramrcvbuf   0        8376 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numothersock  21       25 2147483647 2147483647    0
  dcachesize    0         0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numfile       783     948 2147483647 2147483647    0
  dummy         0         0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  dummy         0         0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  dummy         0         0 2147483647 2147483647    0
  numiptent     10       10 2147483647 2147483647    0

```

pisso-7-48:~#

I will estimate your help. Tnks.

att: gaper

p.d: live net !!!

Subject: Re: Apache don't start Cannot allocate memory
 Posted by [swindmill](#) on Sat, 12 May 2007 04:17:58 GMT
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The default Debian Apache2 install uses the worker MPM which seems to eat up memory at initialization.

I edited my /etc/apache2/apache2.conf to look like this:

...

```

<IfModule mpm_worker_module>
  #Default is 2

```

```
StartServers      1
#Default is 150
MaxClients       80
#Default is 25
MinSpareThreads  5
MaxSpareThreads  75
#Default is 25
ThreadsPerChild  5
MaxRequestsPerChild 0
</IfModule>
```

...

And apache2 starts up properly on a VE and uses MUCH less memory.

You can also install libapache2-mod-php5 and Debian will switch Apache2 to use the prefork MPM which needs less memory.

```
apt-get install lib-apache2-mod-php5
```

You can check which MPM apache2 is set to use by running `/usr/sbin/apache2 -l`

You'll see either prefork.c or worker.c? (I'm not currently using worker) in the output.
