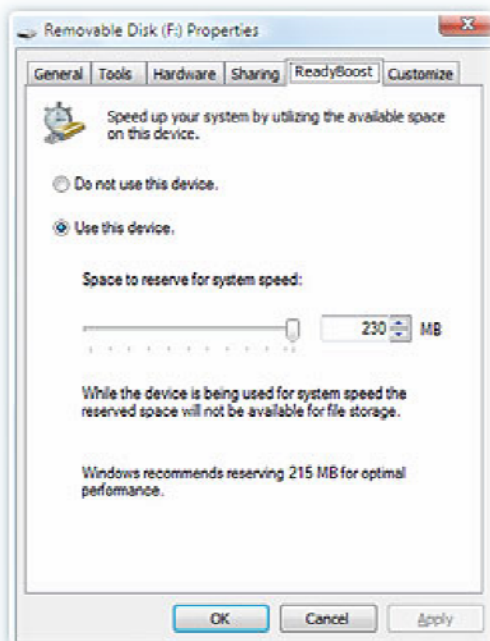


# Windows Ready Boost available in Windows Vista

Adding system memory, typically referred to as RAM, is often the best way to improve a PC's performance, since more memory means more applications are ready to run without accessing the hard drive. However, upgrading memory can be difficult and costly, and some machines have limited memory expansion capabilities, making it impossible to add RAM.

Windows Vista introduces Windows Ready Boost, a new concept in adding memory to a system. You can use non-volatile flash memory, such as that on a universal serial bus (USB) flash drive, to improve performance without having to add additional memory.



Windows ReadyBoost improves system memory and boosts performance.

The flash memory device serves as an additional memory cache, that is, memory that the computer can access much more quickly than it can access data on the hard drive. Windows Ready Boost relies on the intelligent memory management of Windows Super Fetch and can significantly improve system responsiveness.

It's easy to use Windows Ready Boost. When a removable memory device such as a USB flash drive or a secure digital (SD) memory card is first inserted into a port, Windows Vista checks to see if its performance is fast enough to work with Windows Ready Boost. If so, you are asked if you want to use this device to speed up system performance. You can choose to allocate part of a USB drive's memory to speed up performance and use the remainder to store files.