

## Re: Grub.conf and maximum memory

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/linux.redhat/2004-07/0033.html>

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On 7/2/2004 3:42 PM, I believe that ohaya wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I currently have 128MB in my Linux machine, and I just got another 256MB  
> stick. I ran a memory test on the new stick, and it appears to have  
> problems above 128MB (it's low-density, and the PC recognizes the full  
> 256MB with just this new stick, so I know it's the correct memory type).  
>  
> While I'm waiting to get a replacement, I was wondering if I could tell  
> Linux to only use 256MB (128MB from old stick + 128MB from new stick)?  
>  
> I've done some searching, and it seems like I can do this by adding  
> "mem=256" to the "kernel" line in /boot/grub/grub.conf.  
>  
> What I'm wondering is: If I do that, and if it causes a problem and  
> prevents the machine from booting, how can I boot into Linux to re-edit  
> grub.conf to get rid of the 'mem=256'?  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Jim

Don't change you're grub.conf file until you've tested it. grub allows you to temporarily change the settings from whichever kernel/O/S you boot.

During boot, when prompted to select what kernel to boot, press 'e' to edit the selection, then add the "mem=256" to the "kernel" line, then press 'b' to boot (or something like that, I'm not sure of the exact letters to use to temporarily change grub, there should be something on screen that will help you...). That way you can make sure the change works before committing it to your grub.conf file.

'man grub' might be of some help...

HTH,  
Tim