. Learn all the strategies to consider when working within this process.

H1: How to Increase PHP Memory Limits

Why is PHP Memory Limit important to your website development journey? PHP is one of the famous backend technology that is used by many tech giants for supporting their applications. PHP gives many advanced features for making web pages dynamic and integrating some features which you can not simply give using javascript, HTML, and CSS.

Whenever you set up a new PHP project, some memory is allocated automatically. Mostly this memory is suitable for general applications. But there are some cases, for example when you are loading some heavy images when your website is using high graphics then you get some errors like -

`“Fatal error: Allowed memory size of xxxxxx bytes exhausted” and “filename.jpg exceeds the maximum upload size for this site.”`

The best way to solve this error is to contact the hosting provider and increase the memory limit of the application. But there are ways in which you can increase the memory limit of the whole website or a particular script without any expert help like using php.ini file, .htaccess file, etc. In this blog, we will discuss the various strategies for increasing memory limit and the benefits of increasing the memory limit of your PHP application.

Guide for this blog:

H2: What is the PHP memory limit?

PHP memory limit is per script memory allotted to the PHP script. It is the same as the storage limit a particular task can occupy. This memory limit in PHP scripts is useful in

some cases. For example, there can be cases when some poorly written code tries to eat up all the memory in the stack.

Most WordPress websites have a memory limit of 32M, but you may require more memory in many cases. For example, if you are doing heavy operations like recurring calls to the database and heavy image processing. In such cases, you need to increase the memory limit of your script.

H2: Strategies to Consider

In this part of the blog, we will share various ways to increase the memory limits of your PHP scripts/apps. While these are not the only ways for increasing the memory limits of your PHP script, these are the ideal steps that most developers use for memory limit issues.

Also, changing the memory limit of an app can create some problems sometimes, so you should always back up the data of your system.

Before trying to increase memory, you should always talk to the server providers of your website. They can help you increase the memory limit using their best practices.

H3: Strategy 1: Edit the PHP.ini File

The php.ini file is executed every time a PHP application runs, and it's used for controlling the various settings of PHP script like maximum upload size, memory limit, timeout limit, etc.

To increase the memory limit, you can change the following variables. But beware, these variables are case sensitive, and you need to restart the server after doing changes for them to be reflected.

```
memory_limit = 256M
upload_max_filesize = 12M
post_max_size = 13M
file_uploads = On
max_execution_time = 180
```

The max execution time refers to the timeout of the PHP script, and it means the maximum time for which the screen can be run.

H3: Strategy 2: Edit The HTAccess File

The .htaccess file is a secret file hence its name start with a dot. If you are using the shared hosting or, for some reason, you cannot access the php.ini file, you need to edit the .htaccess file to increase the memory limit.

There are various use cases of this .htaccess file. You need to add the following lines to this file to increase the memory limit.

```
php_value memory_limit 256M
php_value upload_max_filesize 12M
php_value post_max_size 13M
```

H3: Strategy 3: Edit your wp-config.php File (If Working in WordPress)

Wp-config.php is one of the most critical files in WordPress sites. It is the configuration file of the WordPress sites.

For the memory limit, you can find a variable named WP_MEMORY_LIMIT in the config. Generally, the value of this is 32M. But you can increase the limit by altering this variable. For example, you can do something like that.

```
define('WP_MEMORY_LIMIT', '64M');
```

You can increase the memory to whatever limit you want and just save and close the config file to roll out the changes.

H3: Strategy 4: Increase via CPanel

cPanel contains most of the information that is needed to run the website. If you cannot increase the memory limit using any one of the above methods, you need to increase it via the cPanel admin dashboard. So if you have access to cPanel, then to change the memory limit, follow the given steps:

- Login to your cPanel admin dashboard. Then select the PHP version of your website.
- Now go to options for this PHP version and find the memory limit column there.
- There you can change easily change the memory limit of your PHP script, and your changes will be automatically saved.

H3: Strategy 5: Increase via ini_set() Function

The ini_set() function is used to set the value of a particular attribute in the script's context only. It is considered the safest of all the above ways because it only sets the value for the script particularly and restricts the poorly written scripts from consuming all the memory on the server.

To use this function to increase the memory limit, you can simply do.

```
ini_set('memory_limit', '512MB');
```

The above function will set the memory limit at 512 MB. Also, the ini_set() function is used only to set the value of a variable temporarily; once you close the script and restart it, it will take original values from the php.ini file.

H2: Key Takeaways

There are many common errors like this memory limit one. In this blog, we have discussed the different strategies for increasing the memory limit in your script. The point to be noted here is that you should always raise the memory limit of your PHP script only as a last resort because this is a crucial task and can impact your site in many ways.

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