Answers: 6.1.2.12 Lab - Manage Virtual Memory in Windows 7 and Vista

Introduction

In this lab, you will customize virtual memory settings.
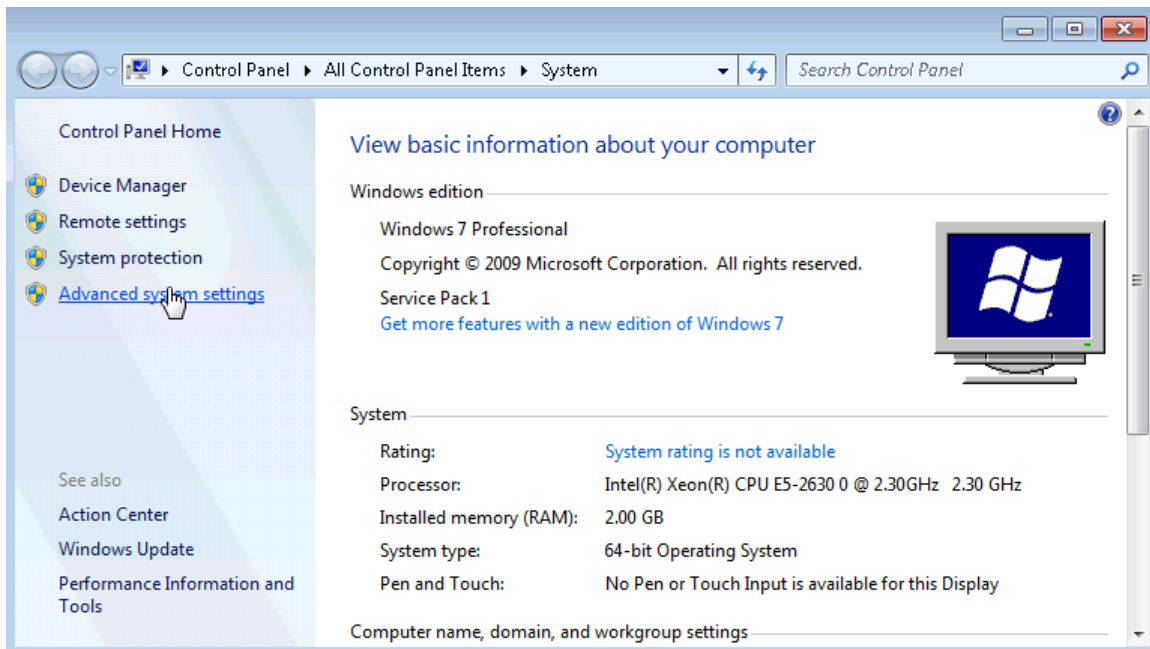
Recommended Equipment

- A computer with Windows 7 or Vista installed
- The hard drive must have two or more partitions.

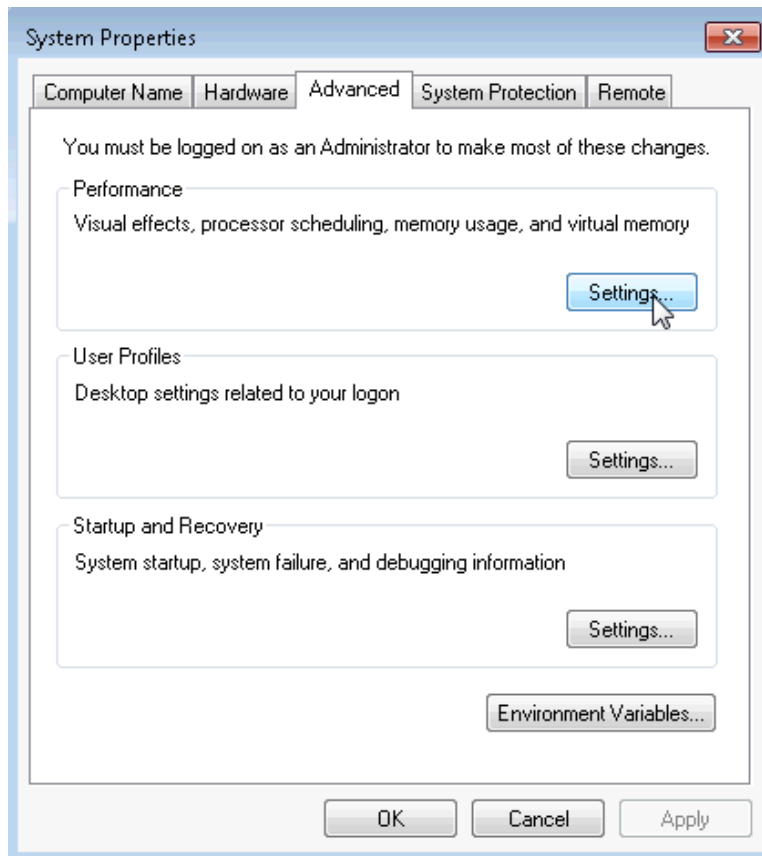**Note**: At least 2GB of free space is recommended on the second partition.

Step 1: Open System Properties

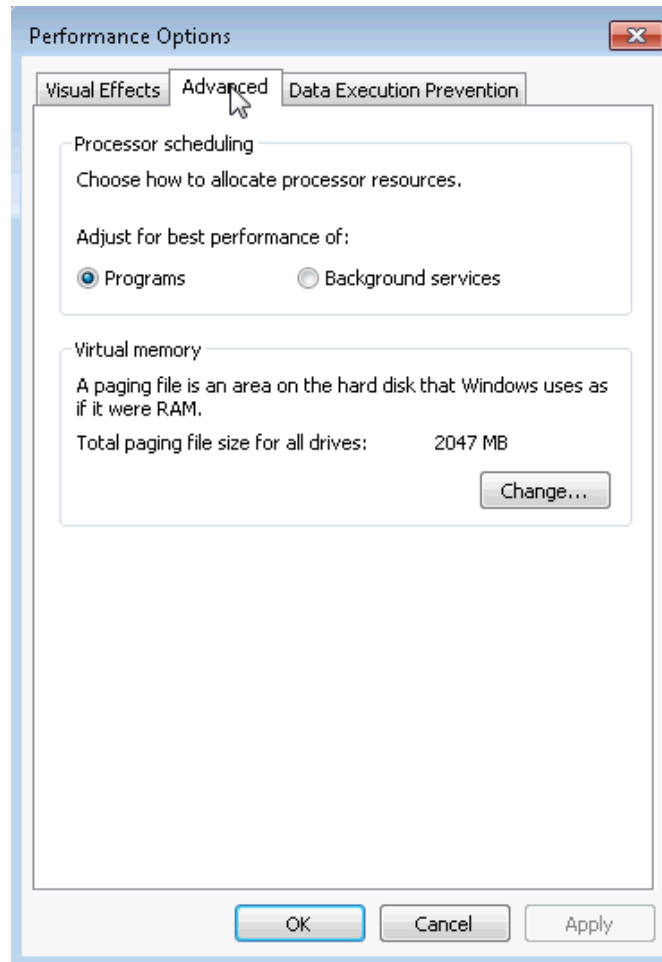a. Click **Start >** right-click **Computer > Properties > Advanced system settings**.

b. The **System Properties** window opens. Select the **Advanced** tab and click **Settings** in the Performance area.
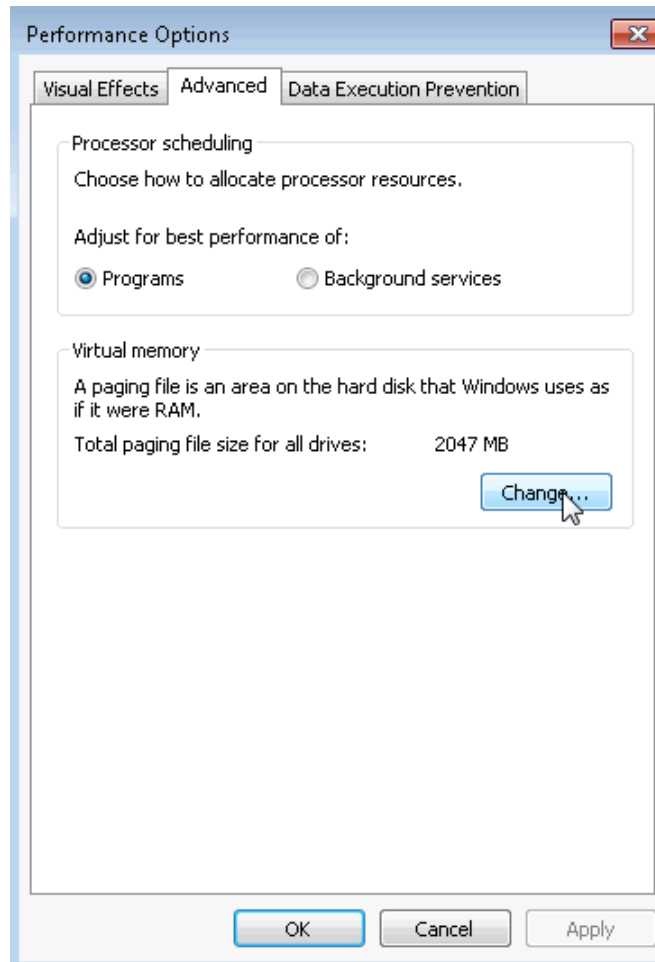
c. The **Performance Options** window opens. Click the **Advanced** tab.

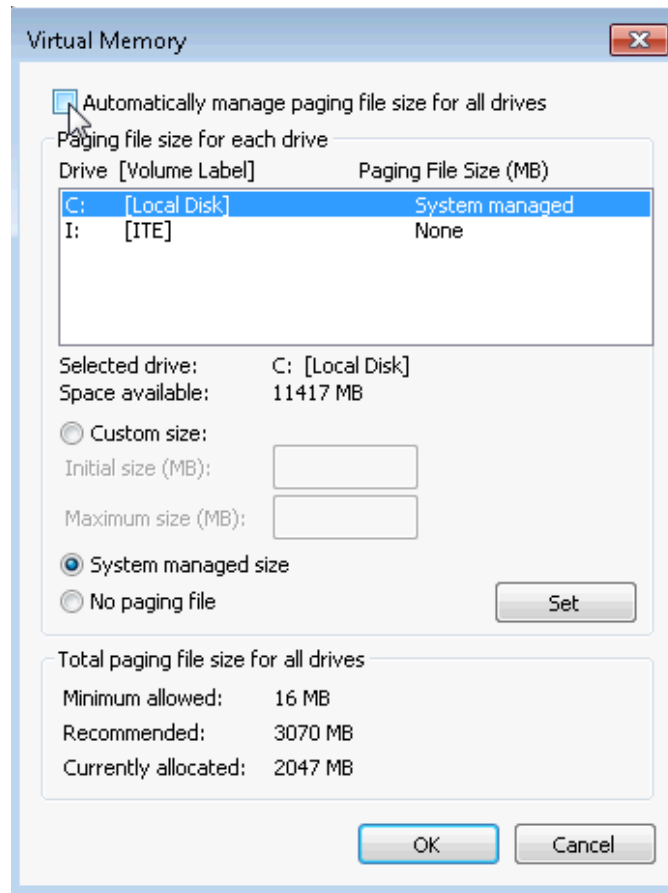What is the current size of the virtual memory (paging file)?

Step 2: Make virtual memory changes.

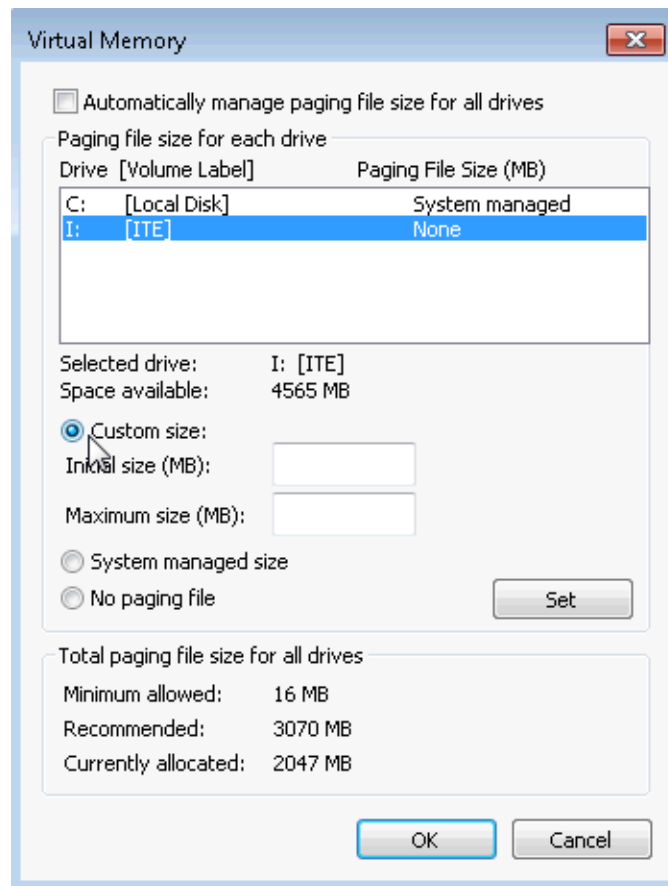a. Click **Change** in the Virtual memory area to open the **Virtual Memory** window.

b. Remove the check mark from **Automatically manage paging file size for all drives**.

What Drive [Volume Label] contains the paging file?

c. Choose the **I:** drive. Select the **Custom size:** radio button.
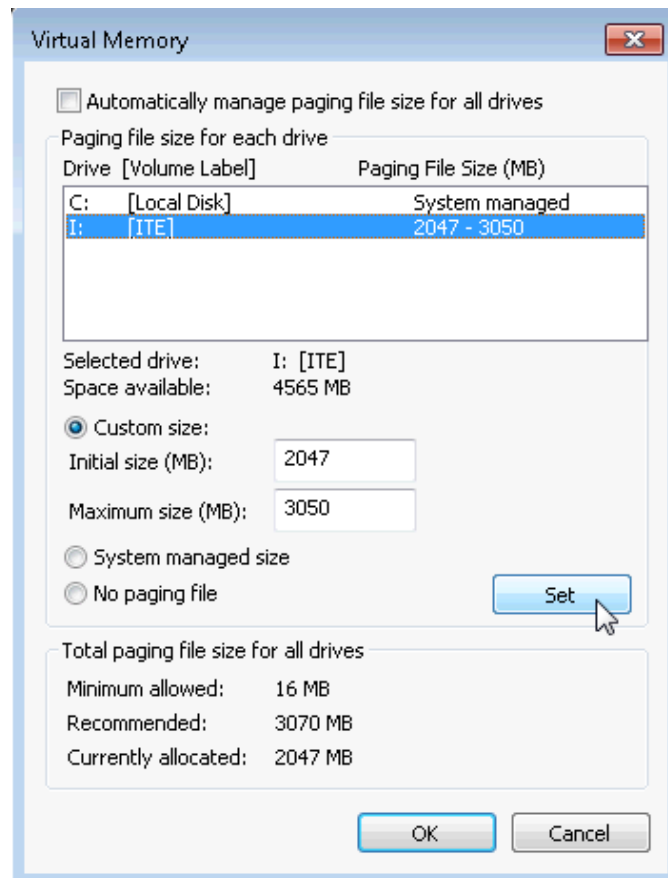

Note: Your drive letter and volume may be different than the example. Replace I**:** with the drive letter for your second partition on your PC.

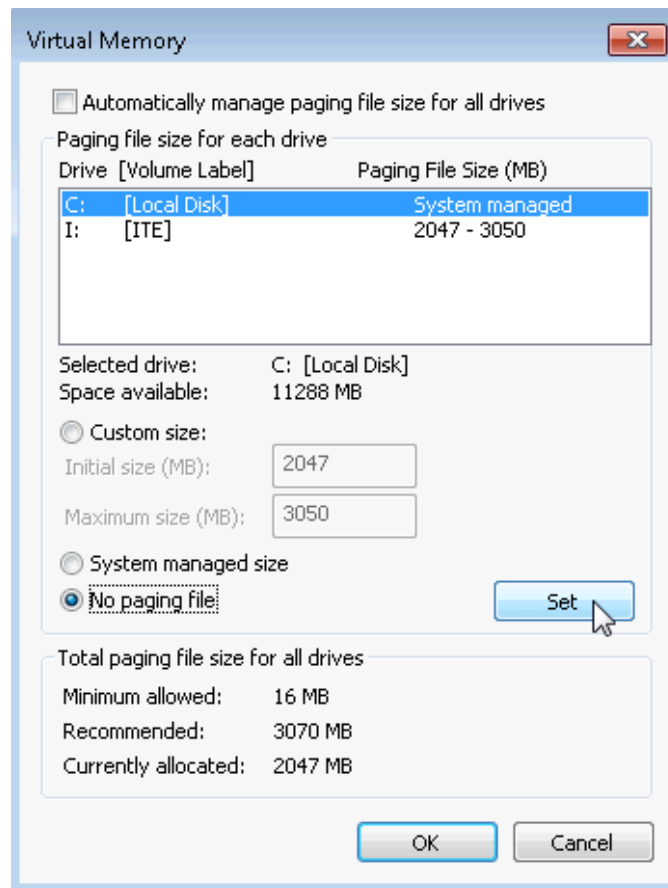What is the recommended paging file size for all drives?

d. Enter a number smaller than the recommended file size in the **Initial size (MB):** field. Enter a number that is larger than the Initial size but smaller than the recommended file size in the **Maximum size (MB):** field. Click **Set**.
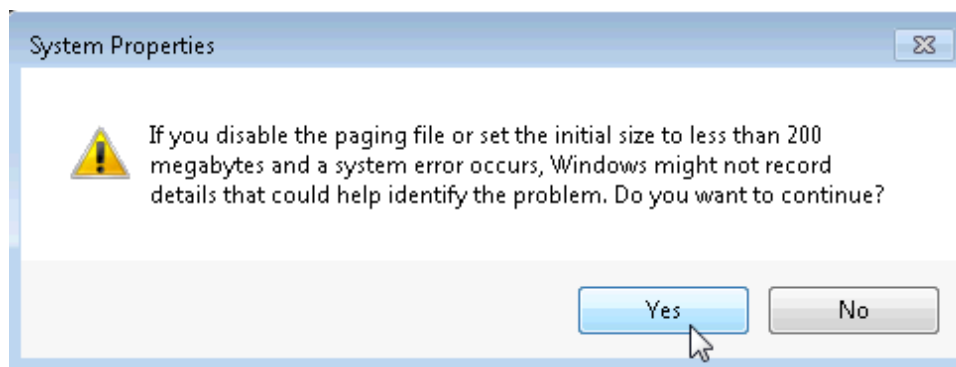
e. Select the **C:** drive. Select the **No paging file** radio button, and click **Set**.

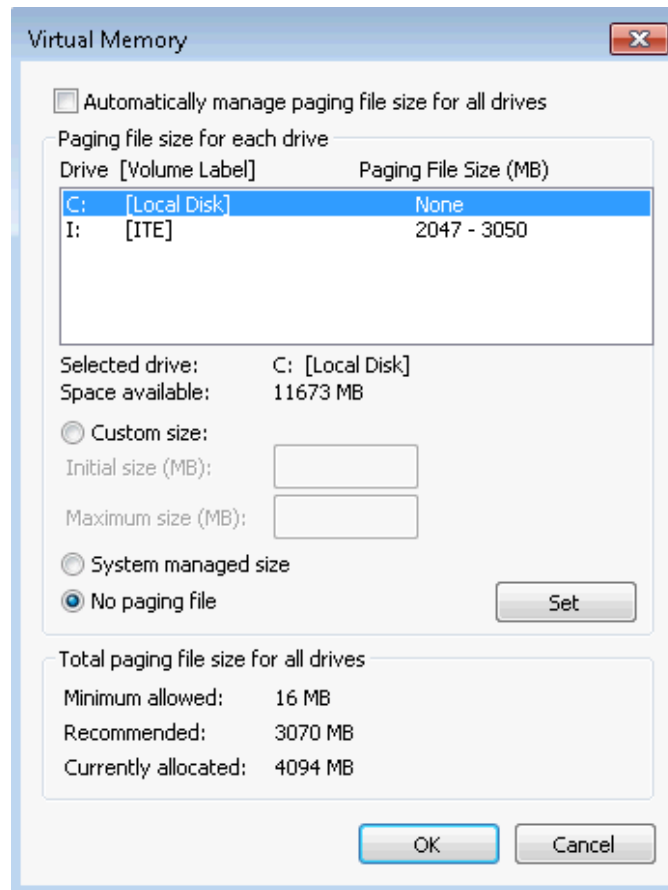f. The System Properties warning message displays. Click **Yes**.

g. Click **OK** on the **Virtual Memory** window to accept the new virtual memory settings.

h. Click **OK** on the **Performance Options** window to close it.

i. Click **OK** on the **System Properties** window to close it.

Step 3:   Navigate back to the Virtual Memory window to verify changes.

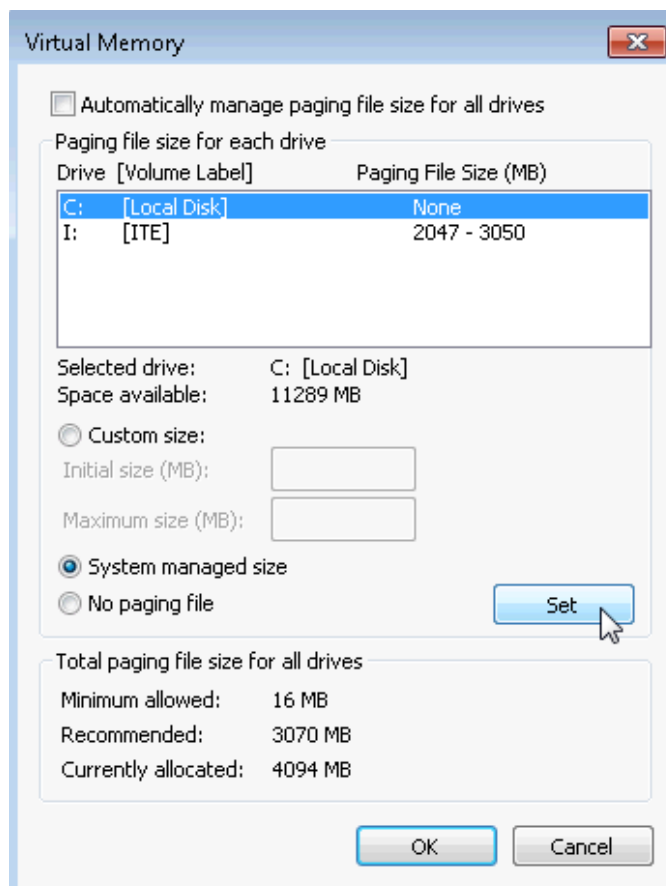a. The **System Properties** window opens. Select the **Advanced** tab and click **Settings** in the Performance area.

b. The **Performance Options** window opens. Select the **Advanced** tab, and click **Change**.

c. The **Virtual Memory** window opens displaying the new paging file information. Verify that your changes have been made.
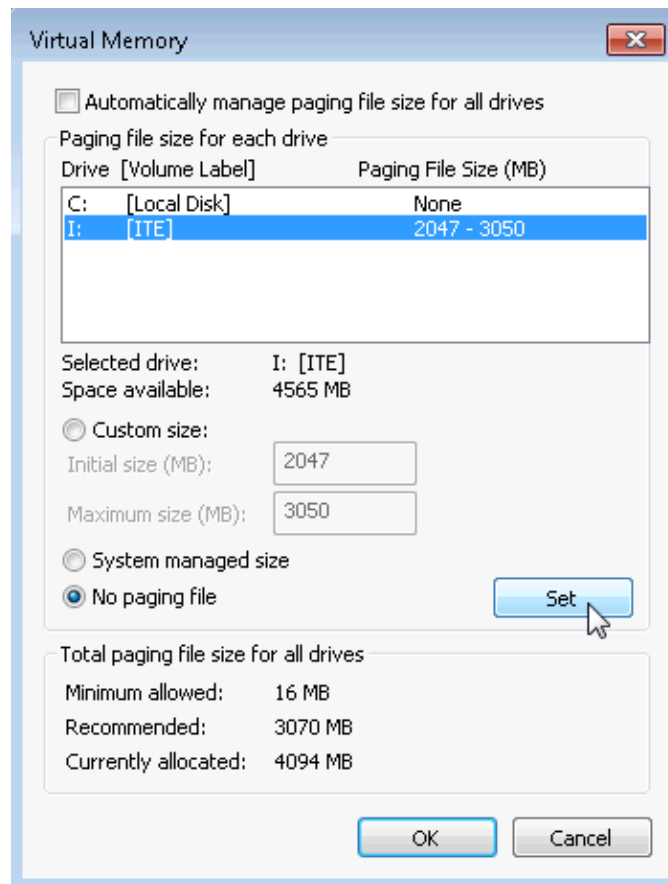

What Drive [Volume Label] contains the paging file?

Step 4:   Reset the virtual memory back to the original settings.

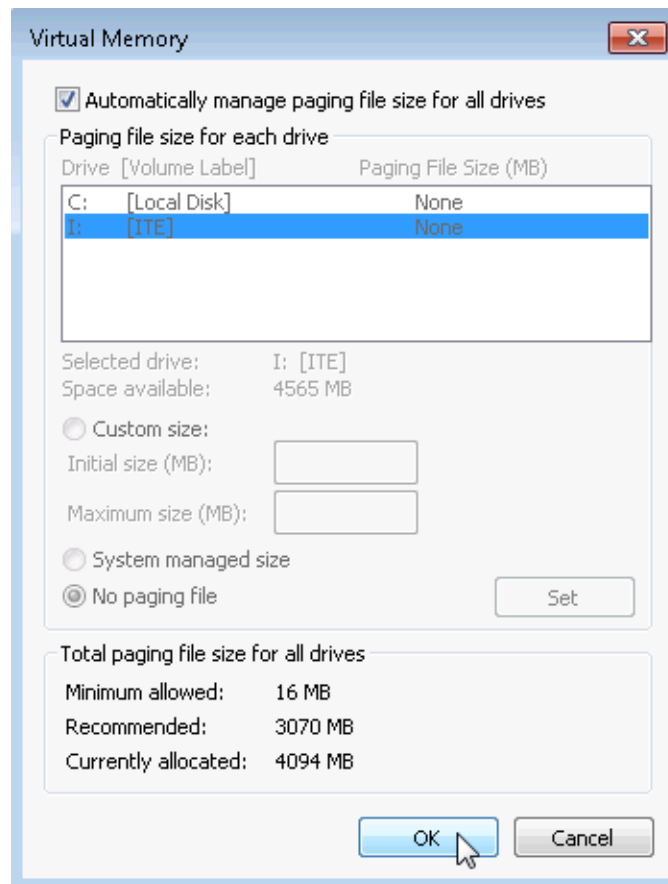a.   Select drive **C: [Local Disk] > System managed size > Set**.
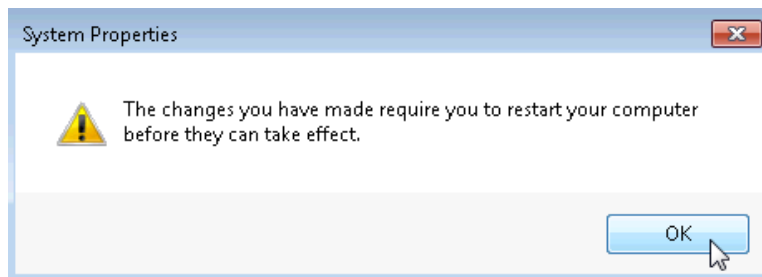
b.   Select **I: > No paging file > Set**.

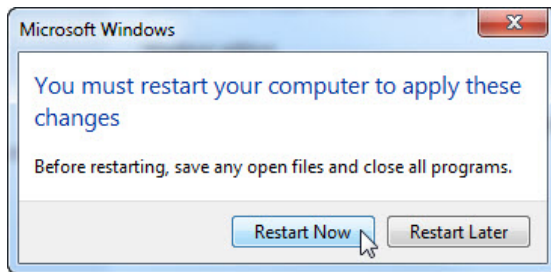c. Check **Automatically manage paging file size for all drives**, and click **OK**.

d. The **System Properties** window opens informing you that a restart is required before changes will take effect. Click **OK**.

e. Click **OK** to close the **Performance Options** window. Click **OK** to close the **System Properties** window.

  f. The warning message displays: **You must restart your computer to apply these changes**. Click
    Restart Now.

Reflection

 Why would you ever change the default virtual memory page file settings in Windows?