

Requirements of memory management system

memory management keeps track of the status of each memory location, whether it is allocated or free. It allocates the memory dynamically to the programs at their request and free. ~~It allocates the memory by~~ it for reuse when it is no longer needed. Memory management meant to satisfy some requirements that we should keep in mind.

These requirements of memory management are :

Relocation: The available memory is generally shared among a number of processes in a multiprogramming system so it is not possible to know in advance which other programs will be resident in main memory at the time of execution of this program. Swapping the active processes in and out of the main memory enables the operating system to have a larger pool of ready-to-execute process.



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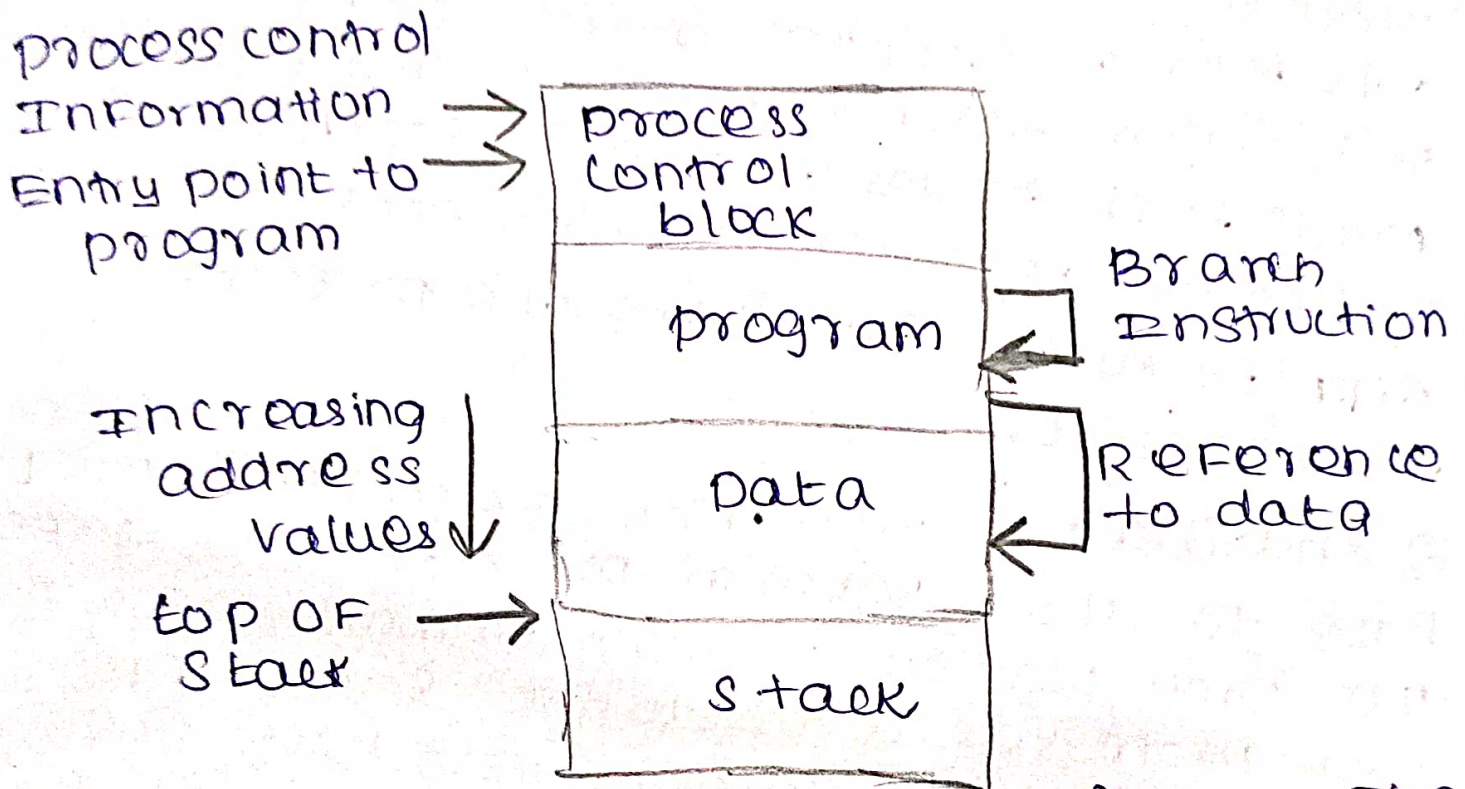
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The figure depicts a process image. The process image is occupying a continuous region of main memory. The operating system will need to know many things including the location of process control information the execution stack and the code entry. Within a program there are memory reference in various instructions and these are called logical address.

2) protection: There is always a danger when we have multiple programs at the same time as one program may write to the address space of another program. So every process must be protected against unwanted interference when other process tries to write in a process whether accidental or incidental. Between relocation and protection requirement a trade-off occurs as the satisfaction of relocation requirement increases the difficulty of satisfying the protection requirement.

3) sharing: A protection mechanism must have to allow several processes to access the same portion of main memory. Allowing each processes access to the same copy of the program rather than have their own separate copy has an advantage.

4) Logical organization: main memory is organized as linear or it can be a one-dimensional address space which consists of a sequence of bytes or words. Most of the programs can be organized into modules, some of those are unmodifiable and some of those are to contain data that can be modified. To effectively deal with a user program, the operating system.



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5) Physical organization: The structure of computer memory has two levels referred to as main memory and secondary memory. Main memory is relatively very fast and costly as compared to the secondary memory. Main memory is volatile. Thus secondary memory is provided for storage of data on a long-term basis while the main memory holds currently used programs. The major system concern between main memory and secondary memory is the flow of information and it is impractical for programmers to understand this for two reasons.