



**Note:** This API call is for DOS and Win16 personality only. Use [Family API](#) for portability.

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# Int 21H, AH=58H, AL=00H

## Version

2.11 and higher

## Brief

GET MEMORY ALLOCATION STRATEGY

## Family API

## Input

```
AH = 58h
AL = 00h
```

## Return

```
CF clear if successful
AX = current strategy (see #01679)
```

```
CF set on error
AX = error code (01h) (see #01680)
```

## Notes

the Set subfunction accepts any value in BL for DOS 3.x and 4.x; 2 or greater means last fit

the Get subfunction returns the last value set

setting an allocation strategy involving high memory does not automatically link in the UMB memory

chain; this must be done explicitly with AX=5803h in order to actually allocate high memory

a program which changes the allocation strategy should restore it before terminating

Toshiba MS-DOS v2.11 supports subfunctions 00h and 01h, as does the TI Professional MS-DOS v2.13

DR DOS 3.41 reportedly reverses subfunctions 00h and 01h

Values for DOS memory allocation strategy:

00h	low memory first fit
01h	low memory best fit
02h	low memory last fit
—DOS 5+ —	
40h	high memory first fit
41h	high memory best fit
42h	high memory last fit
80h	first fit, try high then low memory
81h	best fit, try high then low memory
82h	last fit, try high then low memory

AH=48h,AH=49h,AH=4Ah,INT 2F/AX=4310h“XMS”,INT 67/AH=3Fh

## Note

Text based on [Ralf Brown Interrupt List Release 61](#)

DOS API	
Process manager	INT 20H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 00H, 25H, 26H, 31H, 34H, 35H, 4BH, 4CH, 4DH, 50H, 51H, 52H, 55H, 62H, INT 22H, INT 27H, INT 28H
File manager	INT 25H, INT 26H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 0DH, 0EH, 0FH, 10H, 11H, 12H, 13H, 14H, 15H, 16H, 17H, 19H, 1AH, 1BH, 1CH, 21H, 22H, 23H, 24H, 27H, 28H, 29H, 2EH, 2FH, 32H, 3305H, 36H, 39H, 3AH, 3BH, 3CH, 3DH, 3EH, 3FH, 40H, 41H, 42H, 4300H, 4301H, 45H, 45H, 46H, 4EH, 4FH, 54H, 56H, 5700H, 5701H, 5AH, 5BH, 5c00H, 5c01H, 60H, 67H, 68H, 6900H, 6901H, 6AH, 6CH
Character Device I/O	INT 29H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 01H, 02H, 03H, 04H, 05H, 06H, 07H, 08H, 09H, 0AH, 0BH, 0AH, 0CH, 5D07H, 5D08H, 5D09H, 5D0AH
Signals	INT 23H, INT 24H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 3300H, 3301H, 3302H
Memory manager	<b>INT 21H</b> : 48H, 49H, 4AH, 5800H, 5801H, 5802H, 5803H
Date and Time	<b>INT 21H</b> : 2AH, 2BH, 2CH, 2DH
Misc	<b>INT 21H</b> : 30H, 3306H, 3700H, 3701H, 3702H, 3703H, 59H
NLS	<b>INT 21H</b> : 3303H, 3304H, 3800H, 3801H, 6300H, 6301H, 6301H, 6500H, 6501H, 6502H, 6503H, 6504H, 6505H, 6506H, 6507H, 6520H, 6521H, 6522H, 6523H, 65A0H, 65A1H, 65A2H, 6601H, 6602H
Devices	<b>INT 21H</b> : 4400H, 4401H, 4402H, 4403H, 4404H, 4405H, 4406H, 4407H, 4408H, 4409H, 440AH, 440BH, 440CH, 440DH, 440EH, 440FH, 4410H, 4411H, 53H
Network	<b>INT 21H</b> : 5E00H, 5E01H, 5E02H, 5E03H, 5E04H, 5E05H, 5F00H, 5F01H, 5F02H, 5F03H, 5F04H, 5F05H, 5F07H, 5F08H

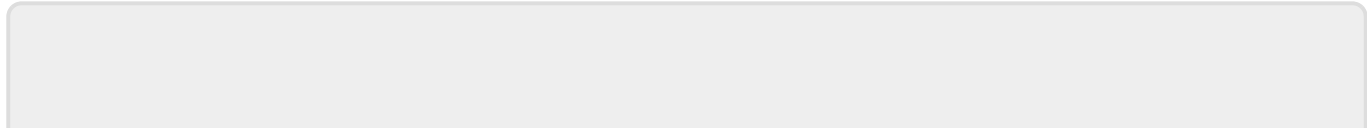
<b>osFree Macro Library</b>	
Video I/O	<a href="#">@SetMode</a> <a href="#">@SetCurSz</a> <a href="#">@SetCurPos</a> <a href="#">@GetCur</a> <a href="#">@SetPage</a> <a href="#">@ScrollUp</a> <a href="#">@ScrollDn</a> <a href="#">@Scroll</a> <a href="#">@GetChAtr</a> <a href="#">@PutChAtr</a> <a href="#">@PutCh</a> <a href="#">@SetPalet</a> <a href="#">@SetColor</a> <a href="#">@SetDot</a> <a href="#">@GetDot</a> <a href="#">@WrtTTY</a> <a href="#">@VideoState</a> <a href="#">@GetMode</a> <a href="#">@GetDisplay</a> <a href="#">@GetVideoState</a> <a href="#">@GetEGAInfo</a> <a href="#">@Cls</a>
Hardware info	<a href="#">@Equipment</a> <a href="#">@MemSize</a>
Serial I/O	<a href="#">@AuxInit</a> <a href="#">@AuxSendChar</a> <a href="#">@AuxRecieveChar</a> <a href="#">@AuxStatus</a>
Tape I/O	<a href="#">@TapeOn</a> <a href="#">@TapeOff</a> <a href="#">@TapeRead</a> <a href="#">@TapeWrite</a>
Keyboard I/O	<a href="#">@KbdStatus</a> <a href="#">@CharIn</a> <a href="#">@CharPeek</a>
Printer I/O	<a href="#">@PrnPrint</a> <a href="#">@PrnInit</a> <a href="#">@PrnStatus</a>
Disk I/O	<a href="#">@DskReset</a> <a href="#">@DskStatus</a> <a href="#">@DskRead</a> <a href="#">@DskWrite</a> <a href="#">@DskVerify</a> <a href="#">@DskFormat</a>
Date and Time	<a href="#">@SetTime</a> <a href="#">@GetTime</a>
Mouse	<a href="#">@MouInit</a> <a href="#">@MouShowPointer</a> <a href="#">@MouStatus</a> <a href="#">@MouSetPos</a> <a href="#">@MouSetMickey</a> <a href="#">@MouRegion</a>
Memory manager	<a href="#">@ModBlok</a> <a href="#">SET_BLOCK</a>

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<b>Family API</b>		
DOS	Process Manager	<a href="#">DosBeep</a> <a href="#">DosExit</a> <a href="#">DosSleep</a> <a href="#">DosExecPgm</a>
	File Manager	<a href="#">DosChDir</a> <a href="#">DosChgFilePtr</a> <a href="#">DosClose</a> <a href="#">DosDelete</a> <a href="#">DosDupHandle</a> <a href="#">DosMkDir</a> <a href="#">DosMove</a> <a href="#">DosQCurDir</a> <a href="#">DosQCurDisk</a> <a href="#">DosSetFileMode</a> <a href="#">DosOpen</a> <a href="#">DosQFileInfo</a> <a href="#">DosRead</a> <a href="#">DosQFileMode</a> <a href="#">DosQFSInfo</a> <a href="#">DosQVerify</a> <a href="#">DosRmdir</a> <a href="#">DosSelectDisk</a> <a href="#">DosFindClose</a> <a href="#">DosFindFirst</a> <a href="#">DosFindNext</a> <a href="#">DosSetFileInfo</a> <a href="#">DosSetVerify</a> <a href="#">DosWrite</a> <a href="#">DosFileLocks</a> <a href="#">DosSetFHandState</a> <a href="#">DosNewSize</a> <a href="#">DosBufReset</a> <a href="#">DosQFHandState</a> <a href="#">DosSetFSinfo</a>
	Memory Manager	<a href="#">DosFreeSeg</a> <a href="#">DosSubAlloc</a> <a href="#">DosSubFree</a> <a href="#">DosSubSet</a> <a href="#">DosAllocHuge</a> <a href="#">DosAllocSeg</a> <a href="#">DosReallocHuge</a> <a href="#">DosReallocSeg</a> <a href="#">DosGetHugeShift</a> <a href="#">DosCreateCSAlias</a>
	NLS	<a href="#">DosCaseMap</a> <a href="#">DosGetCtryInfo</a> <a href="#">DosGetDBCSEv</a> <a href="#">DosSetCtryCode</a> <a href="#">DosGetCollate</a> <a href="#">DosGetMessage</a> <a href="#">DosInsMessage</a> <a href="#">DosPutMessage</a>
	Date and Time	<a href="#">DosSetDateTime</a> <a href="#">DosGetDateTime</a>
	Devices	<a href="#">DosDevConfig</a> <a href="#">DosDevIOCtl</a> <a href="#">DosDevIOCtl2</a>
	Signals	<a href="#">DosHoldSignal</a> <a href="#">DosSetSigHandler</a>
	Misc	<a href="#">BadDynLink</a> <a href="#">DosGetEnv</a> <a href="#">DosGetMachineMode</a> <a href="#">DosGetVersion</a> <a href="#">DosError</a> <a href="#">DosErrClass</a> <a href="#">DosSetVec</a>
KBD	<a href="#">KbdCharIn</a> <a href="#">KbdFlushBuffer</a> <a href="#">KbdGetStatus</a> <a href="#">KbdSetStatus</a> <a href="#">KbdStringIn</a> <a href="#">KbdPeek</a>	
VIO	<a href="#">VioGetBuf</a> <a href="#">VioGetConfig</a> <a href="#">VioGetCurPos</a> <a href="#">VioGetCurType</a> <a href="#">VioGetPhysBuf</a> <a href="#">VioReadCellStr</a> <a href="#">VioReadCharStr</a> <a href="#">VioScrollUp</a> <a href="#">VioScrollDn</a> <a href="#">VioScrollLf</a> <a href="#">VioScrollRt</a> <a href="#">VioScrUnLock</a> <a href="#">VioSetCurPos</a> <a href="#">VioSetCurType</a> <a href="#">VioSetMode</a> <a href="#">VioGetMode</a> <a href="#">VioShowBuf</a> <a href="#">VioWrtCellStr</a> <a href="#">VioWrtCharStr</a> <a href="#">VioWrtCharStrAtt</a> <a href="#">VioWrtNAttr</a> <a href="#">VioWrtNCell</a> <a href="#">VioWrtNChar</a> <a href="#">VioWrtTTY</a> <a href="#">VioScrLock</a> <a href="#">VioPopUp</a>	
Tools	<a href="#">BIND</a>	
Modules	<a href="#">DOSCALLS.DLL</a> <a href="#">VIOCALLS.DLL</a> <a href="#">KBDCALLS.DLL</a> <a href="#">MSG.DLL</a>	
Libraries	<a href="#">API.LIB</a> <a href="#">OS2386.LIB</a> <a href="#">FAPI.LIB</a> <a href="#">DOSCALLS.LIB</a> <a href="#">SUBCALLS.LIB</a>	

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