



**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 (Table 01679)

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

## See also

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](#)

<b>DOS API</b>	
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

<b>DOS API</b>	
Network	<a href="#">INT 21H: 5E00H, 5E01H, 5E02H, 5E03H, 5E04H, 5E05H, 5F00H, 5F01H, 5F02H, 5F03H, 5F04H, 5F05H, 5F07H, 5F08H</a>

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Hardware info	<a href="#">@Equipment @MemSize</a>
Serial I/O	<a href="#">@AuxInit @AuxSendChar @AuxRecieveChar @AuxStatus</a>
Tape I/O	<a href="#">@TapeOn @TapeOff @TapeRead @TapeWrite</a>
Keyboard I/O	<a href="#">@KbdStatus @CharIn @CharPeek</a>
Printer I/O	<a href="#">@PrnPrint @PrnInit @PrnStatus</a>
Disk I/O	<a href="#">@DskReset @DskStatus @DskRead @DskWrite @DskVerify @DskFormat</a>
Date and Time	<a href="#">@SetTime @GetTime</a>
Mouse	<a href="#">@MouInit @MouShowPointer @MouStatus @MouSetPos @MouSetMickey @MouRegion</a>
Memory manager	<a href="#">@ModBlok SET_BLOCK</a>

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**Family API**

DOS	Process Manager	<a href="#">DosBeep DosExit DosSleep DosExecPgm</a>
	File Manager	<a href="#">DosChDir DosChgFilePtr DosClose DosDelete DosDupHandle DosMkDir DosMove DosQCurDir DosQCurDisk DosSetFileMode DosOpen DosQFileInfo DosRead DosQFileMode DosQFSInfo DosQVerify DosRmdir DosSelectDisk DosFindClose DosFindFirst DosFindNext DosSetFileInfo DosSetVerify DosWrite DosFileLocks DosSetFHandState DosNewSize DosBufReset DosQFHandState DosSetFSinfo DosShutdown</a>
	Memory Manager	<a href="#">DosFreeSeg DosSubAlloc DosSubFree DosSubSet DosAllocHuge DosAllocSeg DosReallocHuge DosReallocSeg DosGetHugeShift DosCreateCSAlias</a>
	NLS	<a href="#">DosCaseMap DosGetCtryInfo DosGetDBCSEv DosSetCtryCode DosGetCollate DosGetMessage DosInsMessage DosPutMessage</a>
	Date and Time	<a href="#">DosSetDateTime DosGetDateTime</a>
	Devices	<a href="#">DosDevConfig DosDevIOct1 DosDevIOct2</a>
	Signals	<a href="#">DosHoldSignal DosSetSigHandler</a>
	Misc	<a href="#">BadDynLink DosGetEnv DosGetMachineMode DosGetVersion DosError DosErrClass DosSetVec</a>
KBD		<a href="#">KbdCharIn KbdFlushBuffer KbdGetStatus KbdSetStatus KbdStringIn KbdPeek</a>
VIO		<a href="#">VioGetBuf VioGetConfig VioGetCurPos VioGetCurType VioGetPhysBuf VioReadCellStr VioReadCharStr VioScrollUp VioScrollDn VioScrollLf VioScrollRt VioScrUnLock VioSetCurPos VioSetCurType VioSetMode VioGetMode VioShowBuf VioWrtCellStr VioWrtCharStr VioWrtCharStrAtt VioWrtNAttr VioWrtNCell VioWrtNChar VioWrtTTY VioScrLock VioPopUp</a>
Tools		<a href="#">BIND</a>
Modules		<a href="#">DOSCALLS.DLL VIOCALLS.DLL KBDCALLS.DLL MSG.DLL</a>
Libraries		<a href="#">API.LIB OS2386.LIB FAPI.LIB DOSCALLS.LIB SUBCALLS.LIB</a>

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