

# How do I increase the amount of memory available to Maven when it runs the test cases?

Sometimes Maven will fail when running the test cases with this error.

```
java.lang.OutOfMemory
```

This means that Maven has run out of available system memory.

To increase the memory available to Maven, the environment variable `MAVEN_OPTS` should be set to the value `-Xmx1024m -XX:MaxPermSize=128m`, or more depending on the amount of memory you have available on your machine.

This is the command for increasing the memory using the bash shell. Add this to your `~/.bash_profile` to have it available in all your sessions.

```
export MAVEN_OPTS="-Xmx1024m -XX:MaxPermSize=128m"
```

This is the equivalent command in csh. Add this to your `~/.cshrc` file to have this setting available in all your sessions.

```
setenv MAVEN_OPTS "-Xmx1024m -XX:MaxPermSize=128m"
```

Finally, if you are using Windows, then this command can be used from the command prompt.

```
set MAVEN_OPTS="-Xmx1024m -XX:MaxPermSize=128m"
```

To make this variable permanent on Windows, use the **Control Panel -> System** dialog. Select the **Advanced** tab and click **Environment Variables**. Under the **System Variables** table, click **New**. Type `MAVEN_OPTS` for the **Variable name** and `-Xmx1024m -XX:MaxPermSize=128m` for the **Variable value**.