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How big is your procedure cache?

Part of SQL Server running queries is that once a query is analyzed, parsed and compiled, that compiled plan is kept in memory so that it can be quickly re-used in the future. If you are using proper parameterized queries, most of your queries will get kept around and re-used saving lots of CPU and memory on SQL Server. If you don't use parameterized queries, you may be filling up your SQL Server memory with cached plans that may never get used again. So take a look at how much memory is being taken up by your SQL Plans.

-- How big is the procedure cache

```
SELECT cast(SUM(pages_kb) / ( 1024 * 1024) AS INT) GB_used FROM sys.dm_os
_memory_clerks WHERE name = 'SQL PLans'
```

One thing to keep in mind with the procedure cache is that it is not the size that matters, but what you can do with it.

If the amount of memory being used in plans is greater that you expected, or greater than you like, you can use the SQL Server health reports to track down some of the culprits.