

# Storage Requirements for Call Recording / Voice Mail Messages

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By default, Asterisk records each call\* and/or voice mail message in two different files:

1. a file with GSM encoded voice - 96 KB/min (this file is usually sent by e-mail to the user)
2. a file with 16 bit PCM encoded voice - 940 KB/min (this file is played when the user checks the voice mail inbox)

Therefore, the total required space for one minute of voice mail is about 1 MB. This translates in theory to:

**500 GB = 500,000 minutes**

For practical purposes, when you take into account several GB required by the system itself and a bit of margin, **you can record approximately 8,250 hours in 500 GB.**

Alternately, it is possible to change the Asterisk default settings and record only one of the files, thereby increasing your storage capacity tenfold. In this case you need to ensure that a suitable application, which supports the GSM codec, is available to play the files.

\* When call recording is specified in the PBX configuration.