FreeBSD®

What is FreeBSD?

FreeBSD is an advanced operating system for x86 compatible (including Pentium® and Athlon™), amd64 compatible (including Opteron™, Athlon™64, and EM64T), UltraSPARC®, IA-64 (Intel® Itanium® Processor Family), PC-98 and ARM architectures.
FreeBSD is derived from BSD, the version of UNIX® developed at the University of California, Berkeley.

Cutting edge features

FreeBSD offers advanced networking, performance, security and compatibility features which are still missing in other operating systems, even some of the best commercial ones.

Powerful Internet solutions

FreeBSD includes what many consider the reference implementation for TCP/IP software, the 4.4BSD TCP/IP protocol stack, thereby making it ideal for network applications and the Internet. FreeBSD makes an ideal Internet or Intranet server. It provides robust network services under the heaviest loads and uses memory efficiently to maintain good response times for thousands of simultaneous user processes.

Run a huge number of applications!

FreeBSD comes with over 14000 third party software packages ready to be installed including: Apache, Samba, MySQL®, OpenOffice.org, KDE, GNOME, MPlayer, etc.

FreeBSD provides the ports system which fetches sources from the Internet or from a CD-ROM and compiles binaries, including building and installing any dependencies. All these operations are done in a transparent way for the user.

Most of GNU/Linux binaries run under FreeBSD, for example: Acrobat Reader®, Oracle®, SAP/R3®, Mathematica®, Quake3, etc., without any noticeable speed degradation.

FreeBSD is easy to install

FreeBSD can be installed from a variety of media including CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, floppy disk, magnetic tape, an MS-DOS® partition, or if you have a network connection, you can install it directly using anonymous FTP or NFS.

FreeBSD is free

FreeBSD is available free of charge and comes with full source code. The majority of the source code of the FreeBSD system is available under the standard BSD license. In contrast to the GPL license used by the Linux kernel, the BSD license allows distribution of derived work without accompanying source code. This lets companies use the FreeBSD code as the base of a proprietary product, often leading to parts of what they do being released back to the community.

Can handle nearly any task

FreeBSD is well-suited for a great number of desktop, server, embedded or appliance applications. Today, FreeBSD is not just a server operating system but aims itself also at end users, particularly newcomers from Windows® and GNU/Linux.

Contacts

- Web site: `http://www.FreeBSD.org/`
- FreeBSD Handbook: `http://www.FreeBSD.org/doc/handbook/`

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