

BSD Installer 2009

This page will help serve all of the needed features and todo items for integrating the BSD Installer v2.0 into the FreeBSD distribution.

pfSense has used the BSDInstaller for years and it has served us well. It is time to give back to the FreeBSD community at large so we have decided to pick up the work involved in bringing BSD Installer to FreeBSD as a viable replacement for Sysinstall.

(this page is currently a work in progress as we identify the missing bits)

What is BSD Installer

BSD Installer is a complete installer with a seperated backend and frontend technology. Communication between the various frontends (QT, Curses, WebCGI, TTY) use the libdfui protocool (name pending change to cater to all communities). BSD Installer V2 is written using C libraries and Lua to make it very easy to make changes to the installer. Libraries being used by the BSD Installer currently: LubAura, LibDFUI and LibInstaller.

Interested developers

Scott Ullrich	✉ sullrich@gmail.com	BSD Installer / pfSense developer
Ermal Luçi	✉ ermal.luci@gmail.com	pfSense / FreeBSD developer
Kris Moore	✉ kris@pcbsd.org	PC-BSD developer

Items that need to change in FreeBSD's tree currently

Make release integration	Modify make release and make rerelease to generate a liveCD containing a full installer and packages
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Needed Features missing that are present in Sysinstall

Distributions	Install additional distribution sets?
Startup	Configure startup options
TTys	Configure system TTys
Security	Security options
Mouse	Configure mouse
Network	Configure various networking services
Fixit	Invoke fixit utilities. http://www.freebsd-corp-net-guide.com/technotes/fixit.html

Needed Features missing that are present in PC-BSD's installer

ZFS Support	ZFS Support for root partitions
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Features that are desirable but are not present in sysinstall, finstall or PC-BSD's installer

Restore/Clone	Option to restore from user specified system backup, I.E. Tar Archive
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External links to sites that have plentiful information

Link to BSDInstaller v2.0 <http://cvs.bsinstaller.org/cgi-bin/cvsweb.cgi/installer/src/backend/lua/>

Link to Installer REPO (moved to Git recently) <https://rcs.pfsense.org/projects/bsinstaller>

Link to BSDInstaller Wiki where you can find Design Goals, LibDFUI information and more <http://wiki.bsinstaller.org/wikka.php?wakka=BSDInstaller>

Link to mailing list where we will be discussing Installer integration <http://lists.pcbsd.org/mailman/listinfo/installer>

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