

FreeBSD Installation

Latest: Installing [FreeBSD-14.2-RELEASE-amd64](#) (202501070736 Use dd to write the image to a USB drive)

Base System

A fresh install - full hard disk available.

- boot installer
- select lib32 (kernel and base always selected)
- added main user account to `{wheel,operator}` group
 - for desktop use, all users need to be in *video* or *wheel*
 - so normal users should be in *video* group
 - normal users should also be in *operator* group (some DE need this)
- enable sshd, enable ntpdate(on-boot), disable sendmail

Desktop (GUI)

Information from this [book](#).

Lightweight path... using pkg to install

- going jwm

```
# pkg install -y xorg jwm xlockmore xfontsel
```

- a more newbie-friendly option could be

```
# pkg install -y xorg mate libreoffice firefox
```

- needed if group not assigned during user creation

```
# pw groupmod video -m user || pw groupmod wheel -m user
```

- basic X should work (as user)

```
$ echo "exec jwm" >.xinitc  
$ startx
```

- get proper graphics driver (list from handbook)
 - e.g. intel/drm-kmod/i915kms, amd/drm-kmod/amdgpu@radeonkms
 - e.g. nvidia/nvidia-driver/nvidia@nvidia-modeset
 - e.g. vesa/xf86-video-vesa/vesa, scfb/xf86-video-scfb/scfb
- check graphics hardware

```
# pciconf -lv | grep -B4 VGA
```

- e.g. if it is intel, get drm-kmod

```
# pkg install drm-kmod
```

- test loading the module

```
# kldload i915kms
```

- if no issues, set to load on boot

```
# sysrc kld_list+=i915kms
```

- **note 20250107** on 14.2-RELEASE, this has problems
 - install older one, works ok

```
# pkg install drm-515-kmod
```

- this will remove drm-kmod, but it works fine
- some may also need these

```
# pkg install libva-intel-driver mesa-libs mesa-dri
```

dumped...

```
** try this!  
https://wiki.freebsd.org/unitrunker/JWM
```

- enable switching virtual consoles during X session

```
# echo "kern.vty=vt" >> /boot/loader.conf
```

Applications

- development

```
# pkg install -y git geany
```

- console multitasking

```
# pkg install -y screen
```

- office & browser

```
# pkg install -y libreoffice firefox
```

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