FreeBSD

Return to Operating Systems

FreeBSD is a free and open-source Unix-like operating system descended from the Berkeley Software Distribution (BSD), which was based on Research Unix. The first version of FreeBSD was released in 1993. In 2005, FreeBSD was the most popular open-source BSD operating system, accounting for more than three-quarters of all installed simply, permissively licensed BSD systems.

FreeBSD has similarities with Linux, with two major differences in scope and licensing: FreeBSD maintains a complete system, i.e. the project delivers a kernel, device drivers, userland utilities, and documentation, as opposed to Linux only delivering a kernel and drivers, and relying on third-parties for system software; and FreeBSD source code is generally released under a permissive BSD license, as opposed to the copyleft GPL used by Linux.

The FreeBSD project includes a security team overseeing all software shipped in the base distribution. A wide range of additional third-party applications may be installed using the pkg package management system or FreeBSD Ports, or by compiling source code.

Much of FreeBSD's codebase has become an integral part of other operating systems such as Darwin (the basis for macOS, iOS, iPadOS, watchOS, and tvOS), FreeNAS (an open-source NAS/SAN operating system), and the system software for the PlayStation 3 and PlayStation 4 game consoles.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FreeBSD

Datasheet	
Developer	The FreeBSD Project
Written in	
OS family	Unix-like
Working state	Curent
Source model	Open Source
Initial release	1 November 1993
Latest release	12.2 (27 October 2020; 30 days ago) [±], 11.4 (16 June 2020; 5 months ago) [±]
Available in	English
Platforms	ARM, IA-32, x86-64, MIPS, PowerPC, 64-bit SPARC, RISC-V
Kernel type	Monolithic Kernel
Userland	BSD
Default user interface	Unix Shell
License	FreeBSD License, FreeBSD Documentation License
Official Website	https://www.freebsd.org/

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