

## I already have FreeBSD, how can I take advantage of DesktopBSD?

Very easy: There is a Port for FreeBSD to easily upgrade your system: <http://www.freshports.org/sysutils/desktopbsd-tools>

You need KDE as your desktop environment to make use of the advantages. A detailed instruction for people willing to switch may be found here: [http://desktopbsd.net/wiki/doku.php?id=doc:desktopbsd\\_tools\\_in\\_freebsd](http://desktopbsd.net/wiki/doku.php?id=doc:desktopbsd_tools_in_freebsd)

## What's coming in the next Version?

We want to improve DesktopBSD, if you are interested what's coming next then have a look at <http://svn.desktopbsd.net/trac/wiki/Tasks>

Here some excerpts:

Change to FreeBSD 6.x as base

Prepare to use QT4 for KDE4

A GUI for Samba

Power management configuration

Tool for conversion of Windows drivers for WLAN (NDIS) and website of all supported products

Improved mounter and automounter

Update tool with notification

System updates via 'freebsd-update'

Automatic detection of vulnerabilities in installed applications with 'portaudit'

Ad-hoc WLAN configuration and bridging

Improved package manager

Graphical display of files in a package

Graphical display of dependencies

Alternative boot manager

Graphical configuration of Internet access

Boot splash manager

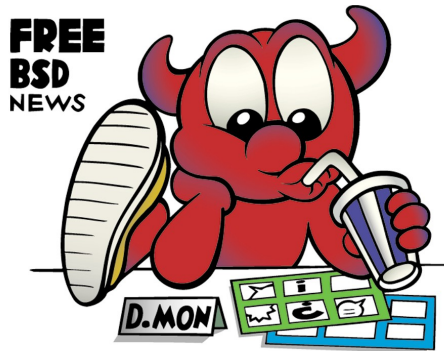
Mixed Live-/Installation-CD

More applications on the DVD-versions

Translation in more languages

Improved performance

Automatic detection of multiprocessor systems



## I like DesktopBSD, How May I Help?

If you should like DesktopBSD you have many ways to help us. Share DesktopBSD with your friends, help them out, report problems to us. Write to us if you require additional applications, features or documentation. If you want to contribute code, translate, improve the documentation then refer to [http://desktopbsd.net/wiki/doku.php?id=doc:how\\_to\\_contribute](http://desktopbsd.net/wiki/doku.php?id=doc:how_to_contribute). DesktopBSD is always thankful for any help!

## Further Information

<http://www.DesktopBSD.net/>

<http://DesktopBSD.net/forums/>

<http://www.FreeBSD.org/>

<http://www.FreeBSD.org/doc/de/books/handbook/>

<http://lists.FreeBSD.org/mailman/listinfo>

<http://www.BSDForen.de/>

We cannot possibly list all information on DesktopBSD and FreeBSD on 2 pages. If you have anything to remark, critique or improve, please send a mail to: [Daniel.Seuffert@allBSD.de](mailto:Daniel.Seuffert@allBSD.de). Many thanks!

## FreeBSD: The Power To Serve

# DesktopBSD

## FreeBSD for the desktop user

### FreeBSD - What is that?

FreeBSD is a free, professionally developed operating system available at no cost with a long tradition of stability, performance and security. FreeBSD looks back on a 30-year history of development. It began at the University of Berkeley and evolved over multiple intermediate steps to the project FreeBSD founded in 1993. FreeBSD, like DesktopBSD, is under the BSD license, which grants the user nearly every freedom. Apart from having to name the origins of the code the user may do with it whatever he or she wants. FreeBSD and DesktopBSD are gifts to humanity. We are happy when you use it!

### Why DesktopBSD? What is that?

DesktopBSD is a project that originated in Linz (Austria) in 2004, who's goal it is to simplify installation, configuration and updating FreeBSD. Any normal person without extensive computer-knowledge should be capable of to use FreeBSD with the supplied help and GUIs. In other words: It's all about usability.



## What is DesktopBSD not?

DesktopBSD is not a fork, it's not a split from FreeBSD. It's a modular extension that may or may not be used. It's an adapted installation of FreeBSD consisting of a FreeBSD release, some configuration files, the DesktopBSD tools and a selection of applications. You may install the DesktopBSD tools and the rest separately, see the last page of the flyer.

You simply want to use FreeBSD? A secure, stable, fast and well designed operating system without great hassle? Then maybe DesktopBSD is just for you. You're a 'version-junkie', you always want the latest version, you live for the cutting-edge? Then DesktopBSD is not for you. DesktopBSD will always be based on a relatively new stable release of FreeBSD or a well-tested Snapshot (Version 1.0 is based on FreeBSD RELENG\_5 of 05.02.2006, by the way).

One of the most widespread myths of BSD is the one that it's difficult to manage, that only trained administrators can use it, that it's elitist etc. No: BSD is just *different* to Windows or Linux, no big deal. In most cases users find it *much* more logical and therefore easier. This is where the consistency and clear concept make a big difference. FreeBSD is not difficult, it's different.

DesktopBSD is here to prove that FreeBSD can be easy even for novices. You think no BSD can be made userfriendly? Why do Apple users say that, when they are running large parts of FreeBSD on their systems? You think only Apple can develop a nice user interface. Look at KDE and make your own judgement.



## What kind of distribution is that?

None at all, FreeBSD is not Linux. Since the kernel and userland are developed together with BSD there are no 'distributions' in the Linux sense of the word. If you're asking yourself what the differences between BSD and Linux are, please see <http://www.allbsd.de/src/Flyer/FreeBSD/PDF/flyer-en-bsd-linux.pdf>

## Why KDE and not Gnome?

KDE is a desktop environment that is easy to use with many possibilities. It's also easy for users switching from Windows.

Of course there is an innumerable amount of windows managers, including Gnome, Fluxbox, Blackbox, XFCE, Ion, LarsWM etc. These may be better than KDE in some regards. But we decided to only use KDE to deliver better support with this focus. If you want to, however, you may still use more than 100 window managers in the FreeBSD Ports Collection.

## On Which Platforms does DesktopBSD run?

Intel-compatible PCs with i386 or amd64, respectively EM64T-compatible processors. FreeBSD has always concentrated on this platform since it's the most widespread. If you have a different one, you need to look for a better alternative. Your machine should have a minimum of 256 MB RAM and 6 GB of harddisk space.

## How does DesktopBSD look?

Have a look at the screenshots. They'll show you how simple and easy the installation is: <http://www.desktopbsd.net/index.php?id=42>

## Which Applications Are Available?

You can use any of the currently 14'000 applications available in Ports (<http://www.freshports.org>) and install them with the graphical package manager. Should you prefer to use Ports or packages or a different graphical interface: no problem, you can use them all simultaneously.

## Is DesktopBSD Secure?

DesktopBSD is based on FreeBSD, an operating system that has been known for its security for decades. For

additional information please refer to <http://www.allbsd.de/src/Flyer/FreeBSD/PDF/flyer-en-fbsd-security.pdf>.

## Which Languages Are Available?

DesktopBSD is currently available in 17 languages, see <http://desktopbsd.net/wiki/doku.php?id=tr:languagesupported>. We're always looking forward to additional translators, if you also want to help, please read this: <http://desktopbsd.net/wiki/doku.php?tr:translation>.

## I Want To Try DesktopBSD, How?

Please visit following website: <http://www.desktopbsd.net/index.php?id=73>

There you can download the version you want as ISO or Torrent from multiple mirrors. You can choose between following versions:

1. PC (x86) – DVD: Size 1281 MB, a multitude of programs in addition to the operating system, you need a DVD burner.
2. PC (x86) – CD: Size 686 MB, DesktopBSD in German and English, you need a CD burner
3. PC (x86) – Language Packages CD: Additional languages to English and German, 162 MB
4. 64-bit PC (AMD64) – DVD: 1287 MB, operating system with a additional software, you need a DVD burner

Please be aware that the next release of DesktopBSD will be a hybrid Live- and Installation-CD.

## Where Do I Find Help And Information?

Please visit our project's website <http://www.desktopbsd.net>, the excellent FreeBSD handbook <http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en/books/handbook> and the DesktopBSD forum (<http://desktopbsd.net/forums/>).

