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Update FreeBSD Using Proxy Server (csup / portsnap proxy update)

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Question: How do I upgrade my FreeBSD server and ports tree using our proxy server, which requires username and password based authentication?

Answer: You have various choice under FreeBSD.

Use [http_proxy shell variable](#)

Linux / UNIX has environment variable called http_proxy. It allows you to connect text based session / application via the proxy server (bash compatible shell export syntax):



```
export http_proxy='http://user:password@server.ip.address:port/'
export http_proxy='http://vivek:myPassword@10.10.20.5:3128/'
```

Now, you can run [portsnap ports update](#) ^[3] utility or [csup command](#) ^[4] easily:

```
# portsnap fetch update
# csup /path/to/supfile
```

ptunnel tunnels

If above method failed use ptunnel to set tunnels. It is a TCP connection through to a remote server using an HTTP or SOCKS5 proxy. It is useful if you are behind a proxy and want to use a program that doesn't have native proxy support.

Install ptunnel tunnel proxy software

First, get access via proxy, enter:

```
# export http_proxy='http://user:password@10.10.1.55:3128/'
```

Type the following command to install :

```
# cd /usr/ports/net/ptunnel
# make install clean
```

How do I use ptunnel?

Type the command as follows:

```
# ptunnel --password-prompt -t http -H 10.10.1.53 -P 3128 -D 5999 cvsup1.FreeBSD.org 5999
```

It will prompt for proxy username and password. If you do not wish, prompt try as follows:

```
# ptunnel -u 'username' -p 'myPassword' -t http -H 10.10.1.53 -P 3128 -D 5999 cvsup1.FreeBSD.org 5999
```

Once connected, open supfile:

```
# vi /path/to/supfile
```

And set default host to *default host=127.0.0.1:

```
*default host=localhost
```

OR

```
*default host=127.0.0.1
```

Save and close the file. After starting prtunnel like this, you could then point supfile to 127.0.0.1, and prtunnel will attempt to connect you to cvsup1.FreeBSD.org via the HTTP proxy server on a system named "10.10.1.53" with given username and password. Now run csup, enter:

```
# csup /path/to/supfile
```

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[2] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/bash-shell/>

[3] portsnap ports update: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/howto-keep-freebsd-system-up-to-date.html>

[4] csup command: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/freebsd-cvsup-update-system-applications/>