

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents 1

Install strace 2

Mount /proc file system 2

How do I use Strace tool? 2

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [FreeBSD](#)

FreeBSD Install Strace – A Process Tracer And Debugging Tool

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <vivek@nixcraft.com>



Q. How do I install Strace utility under FreeBSD operating system so that I can trace and debug my applications and report 3rd party software bugs?

A. Strace is a process tracer, i.e. a debugging tool that prints out a trace of all the system calls made and signals received by a process itself or a process and its descendants.

Strace is similar to the native BSD truss utility, but its output style is more convenient in most cases.

For strace to work, procfs has to be mounted. FreeBSD does not mount it by default.



WARNING! These examples only work for i386 32 bit FreeBSD computer (strace is not ported to amd64 arch [64 bit]).

Install strace

First update FreeBSD ports collection and install strace from /usr/ports/devel/strace:

```
# portsnap fetch update
# cd /usr/ports/devel/strace
# make install clean
```

Mount /proc file system

You need to mount [/proc](#) ^[2] filesystem to use trace command under FreeBSD, enter:

```
# mount -t procfs proc /proc
```

How do I use Strace tool?

Please see our previous FAQ / tutorials about strace command:

1. [Debugging Tip: Trace the Process and See What It is Doing with strace](#) ^[3]
2. [Truss like command under Linux to monitor and diagnostic the system calls](#) ^[4]

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our [daily email](#) newsletter or [weekly newsletter](#) to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via [RSS/XML](#) feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>

URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-install-strace-under-freebsd/>

URLs in this post:

[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/freebsd/>

[2] /proc: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-freebsd-mount-procfs/>

[3] Debugging Tip: Trace the Process and See What It is Doing with strace: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/linux-strace-command-examples.html>

[4] Truss like command under Linux to monitor and diagnostic the system calls: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-use-linux-truss-strace-command/>

Copyright © 2006-2010 [nixCraft](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright). All rights reserved. This print / pdf version is for personal non-commercial use only. More details <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright>.