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FreeBSD Install VIM Editor Without X11 GUI

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Q. I'm running FreeBSD on an old PC and find that all the visual bells and whistles in FreeBSD X11 are really slowing things down. How do I install vim text editor under FreeBSD without using GUI (gvim) version? How do I build vim port without X11 GUI?

A. You can easily build VIM without X11 under FreeBSD. First, update your ports tree, using portsnap command, enter:

```
# portsnap fetch update
```

Install vim without X11, enter:

```
# cd /usr/ports/editors/vim
# make WITHOUT_X11=yes install clean
```

Optional: vim configuration

Copy /usr/local/share/vim/vimXY/vimrc_example.vim to /usr/local/share/vimrc, enter:

```
# cp /usr/local/share/vim/vim72/vimrc_example.vim /usr/local/share/vimrc
```

Create your ~/.vimrc file, enter:

```
$ vi ~/.vimrc
```

Add customization:

```
set nocompatible
filetype on
filetype indent on
filetype plugin on
set laststatus=2
syntax on
```

Save and close the file. Set bash alias, enter:

```
$ echo "alias vi='vim'" >> ~/.bashrc
```

Setup [INPUTRC for bash](#) ^[2], enter:

```
# echo 'export INPUTRC=/usr/local/etc/inputrc' >> /etc/profile
```

Finally, create /usr/local/etc/inputrc, enter:

```
# cat >> /usr/local/etc/inputrc
```

Append config:

```
set meta-flag on
set input-meta on
set convert-meta off
set output-meta on

"\e[1~": beginning-of-line
"\e[4~": end-of-line
"\e[5~": beginning-of-history
"\e[6~": end-of-history
```

```
"\e[3~": delete-char  
"\e[2~": quoted-insert  
"\e[5C": forward-word  
"\e[5D": backward-word
```

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

[2] INPUTRC for bash: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/freebsd-how-to-customized-home-del-insert-keys-for-bash-shell.html>

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