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How To Upgrade FreeBSD 6.3 to 7.0 Stable Release

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Q. FreeBSD 7.0-RELEASE is now available for the 64 and 32 bit computer architectures. How do I upgrade FreeBSD version 6.3-pX 64 bit to latest 7.0 64 bit system?

A. FreeBSD 6.3 allows upgrade of existing installation to FreeBSD 7.0-RELEASE. Since this is a major version upgrade, it is recommended that you backup existing data, database and config files. You also need to reinstall all ports.

Step # 1: Upgrade ports

Type the following command, enter:

```
# portupgrade -faP
```

⚠ **WARNING!** This procedure might not work for you as upgrading system is complex procedure. This may result into data loos. Please backup all important data and configuration files before executing any commands. All instructions are tested on FreeBSD 6.3pX 32/64 bit computers.

Step # 2: Download updated freebsd-update-upgrade tool

Type the following command:

```
# fetch http://people.freebsd.org/~cperciva/freebsd-update-upgrade.tgz
# fetch http://people.freebsd.org/~cperciva/freebsd-update-upgrade.tgz.asc
# gpg --verify freebsd-update-upgrade.tgz.asc freebsd-update-upgrade.tgz
# tar -xf freebsd-update-upgrade.tgz
```

Step # 3: Start upgrade procedure

Type the following command to install new kernel and reboot the system, enter:

```
# sh freebsd-update.sh -f freebsd-update.conf -r 7.0-RELEASE upgrade
# sh freebsd-update.sh -f freebsd-update.conf install
# reboot
```

Step # 4: Install updated userland tools

Install the new userland components, after which all ports should be recompiled to link to new libraries:

```
# sh freebsd-update.sh -f freebsd-update.conf install
# portupgrade -faP
```

Step # 5: Remove all old libraries

Finally, freebsd-update.sh needs to be run one last time to remove old system libraries, after which the system should be rebooted in order that the updated userland and ports will be running:

```
# sh freebsd-update.sh -f freebsd-update.conf install
# reboot
```

Step # 6: Verify FreeBSD 7.0

Run following command to verify that everything is running smoothly, enter:

```
# uname -a
# tail -f /var/log/messages
# tail -f /path/to/other/log/files
# egrep -i 'error|warning' /path/to/log/files [2]
# sockstat -4 -l [3]
```

References:

- For more information, see the man pages - portupgrade, ports,sockstat and freebsd-update
- FreeBSD source code based update CVSup and rebuilding world [4]
- FreeBSD major version upgrades [5]

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

[2] egrep -i 'error|warning' /path/to/log/files: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-use-grep-command-in-linux-unix/**

[3] sockstat -4 -l: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/freebsd-lists-open-internet-unix-domain-sockets.html**

[4] FreeBSD source code based update CVSup and rebuilding world: **http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en_US.ISO8859-1/books/handbook/makeworld.html**

[5] FreeBSD major version upgrades: **http://www.daemonology.net/blog/2007-11-11-freebsd-major-version-upgrade.html**