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## FreeBSD make: don't know how to make buildkernel. Stop Error and Solution

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**Q.** I'm trying to recompile my kernel by typing the following commands:

```
cd /usr/src/sys/i386/conf
cp GENERIC NEWKEN
vi NEWKEN
cd /usr/src
make buildkernel KERNCONF=NEWKEN
```

But I'm bumped with an error that read as follows:

**make: don't know how to make buildkernel. Stop Error and Solution**

How do I fix this error?

**A.** This is well known problem. You need an up to date and complete copy of the FreeBSD source including kernel at /usr/src and /usr/src/sys. To grab latest FreeBSD kernel source use [cvsup](#) <sup>[2]</sup> or sysinstall command.

```
# sysinstall
```

Select > Configure > Distributions > Src > Select Base, Sys and all other required source code > Ok > Ok > Select Internet > FTP Main site and install the source code.

Once installed type the following command to compile the kernel:

```
# cd /usr/src
# make buildkernel KERNCONF=NEWKEN
# make installkernel KERNCONF=NEWKEN
# reboot
```

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[2] cvsup: [http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en\\_US.ISO8859-1/books/handbook/cvsup.html](http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en_US.ISO8859-1/books/handbook/cvsup.html)