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## FreeBSD Configure NIC Jumbo Frames

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**Q.** Under [Linux I can set Jumbo Frames](#) <sup>[2]</sup> by modifying configuration file. How do I configure FreeBSD network card to enable Jumbo frames on all of my NIC for 1000 Mbps speed and make MTU configuration persistence?

**A.** You can use standard FreeBSD ifconfig command to set Jumbo Frames i.e. set the Maximum Transport Unit (MTU) frame size above its default of 1500 bytes. The maximum MTU setting for Jumbo Frames is 16110. This value coincides with the maximum Jumbo Frames size of 16128.

Make sure your adapter driver and network infrastructure supports jumbo frames.

## FreeBSD command to set MTU (Jumbo Frames)

Login as the root user and use ifconfig command as follows:



**WARNING!** Using Jumbo Frames at 10 or 100 Mbps may result in poor performance or loss of link.

```
# ifconfig {interface-name} {ip-address} mtu 9000
# ifconfig em0 10.20.110.2 mtu 9000
```

Alternatively, you can use route command to set mtu:

```
# route change 10.20.110.2 -mtu 9000
```

### Task: FreeBSD - Find out MTU settings

To confirm the MTU used between two specific devices. use route command as follows::

```
# route get {destination-IP-address}
# route get 10.20.110.2
```

Output:

```
route get 10.20.110.2
  route to: 10.20.110.2
destination: 10.20.110.0
      mask: 255.255.255.192
  interface: em0
      flags:
recvpipe  sendpipe  ssthresh  rtt,msec    rttvar  hopcount      mtu     expire
      0          0          0           0          0         0         9000    -454924
```

## Make Jumbo Frames Configuration Persistence

Set mtu settings by editing /etc/rc.conf file:

```
# vi /etc/rc.conf
```

Modify interface em0 as follows, enter:

```
ifconfig_em0="inet x.x.x.x netmask y.y.y.y media 1000baseTX mediaopt full-duplex mtu
9000"
```

Save and close the file. Restart networking:

```
# /etc/rc.d/netif restart
```

Please note that you may also need to tune the application / network protocol such as NFS and SMB to take advantage of Jumbo Frames.

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