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PF Firewall Open FTP Port 21 (PASSIVE Configuration)

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Question: I've vsftpd ftp server configured under FreeBSD 7.x and PF firewall [2]. Both PF and FTP server running on a dedicated FreeBSD web server. How do I configure PASSIVE FTP PF firewall [3] configuration so that my vsftpd work? How do I configure **PF firewall to protect an FTP server and open port 21**? [1]

Answer: You can easily open port with PF firewall. However, you need to make few changes to VSFTPD server itself. When servicing a passive FTP connection, FTP will use a randomly chosen, high TCP port for incoming data. Open vsftpd.conf file:

```
# vi /usr/local/etc/vsftpd.conf
```

Append following two config directive to setup ftp port ranges:

```
pasv_min_port=49152
pasv_max_port=65535
```

Save and close the file. Restart vsftpd:

```
# /usr/local/etc/rc.d/vsftpd restart
```

PF firewall configuration - Open port 21

Open pf.conf file:

```
# vi /etc/pf.conf
```

Append following two rules (202.54.1.2 is FTP server IP address):

```
pass in on $ext_if proto tcp from any to 202.54.1.2 port 21 flags S/SA synproxy state
pass in on $ext_if proto tcp from any to 202.54.1.2 port > 49151 keep state
```

Make sure outgoing connection tracking also exists:

```
# keep stats of outgoing connections
pass out keep state
```

Save and close the file. Reload PF firewall:

```
# /etc/rc.d/pf reload
```

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URLs in this post:

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

[2] PF firewall: **http://bash.cyberciti.biz/firewall/pf-firewall-script/**

[3] PASSIVE FTP PF firewall: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/freebsd-opebsd-pf-firewall-ftp-configuration/**