





be responsive to the mirror sites, and lets users download the needed files as quickly as possible.

The main <http://www.kernel.org> site shows all of the current kernel versions for the various different kernel trees, as shown in Figure 3-2.



Figure 3-2. The main kernel.org web site

To download the latest stable kernel version, click on the *F* character on the line for the kernel version. This will download the full source tree. Or you can navigate to the proper subdirectory for all of the 2.6 kernel versions, <http://www.us.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel/v2.6/>, shown in Figure 3-3.

It is also possible to download the kernel source from the command line, using the *wget* or *curl* utilities, both of which should come with your Linux distribution.

To download the 2.6.17.8 kernel version using *wget*, enter:

```
$ wget http://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel/v2.6/linux-2.6.17.8.tar.gz
--17:44:55-- http://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel/v2.6/linux-2.6.17.8.
tar.gz
=> `linux-2.6.17.8.tar.gz'
Resolving www.kernel.org... 204.152.191.5, 204.152.191.37
Connecting to www.kernel.org[204.152.191.5]:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
```





Figure 3-4. Latest kernel version

Now move the source code into this directory:

```
$ mv ~/linux-2.6.17.8.tar.gz ~/linux/
```

And go into the *linux* directory:

```
$ cd ~/linux
```

```
$ ls
```

```
linux-2.6.17.8.tar.gz
```

Now that the source code is in the proper directory, uncompress the tree:

```
$ tar -xzf linux-2.6.17.8.tar.gz
```

The screen will be filled with files that are uncompressed, and you will be left with the following in the *linux/* directory:

```
$ ls
```

```
linux-2.6.17.8.tar.gz
```

```
linux-2.6.17.8/
```