

pfSense - 2.0 and beyond

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Introduction to pfSense

- Customized FreeBSD distribution tailored for use as a firewall and router.
- Entirely managed via web interface
- Configuration stored in single XML file
- Founded in 2004 as fork of m0n0wall
 - Initially full PC focused
 - Expandability a focus
 - “Making sense of PF” for the average point-and-click user
 - for lack of a better name
- 18 active developers contributed in past 12 months
 - 29 have contributed since the project’s inception

Near future – 1.2.3

- Maintenance release
- Update to FreeBSD 7.2 base
- Minor edge case bug fixes
- Outbound load balancing replaced
 - slbd replaced with apinger
- IPsec reload improvements
 - Dynamic DNS endpoint support
 - NAT-T added, then removed
- Embedded switched to nanobsd base

New nanobsd embedded



[HTTP://WWW.PFSENSE.ORG](http://www.pfsense.org)

- 1.2.3 and newer
- Multiple partition/firmware support
- Reliable remote upgrades
- Package support
- Future support for additional architectures
 - MIPS
 - ARM

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Book release



[HTTP://WWW.PFSENSE.ORG](http://www.pfsense.org)

- pfSense: The Definitive Guide, from Reed Media
- Roughly 500 pages
- Will be finished this coming week, available soon



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2.0 Release



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- FreeBSD 8.0 base
- Vast changes to numerous features
- 3 years of feature additions

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New features (base)

- New traffic shaper
- User Manager
- OpenVPN, IPsec enhancements
- L2TP VPN added
- PHP 5
- Certificate Manager
- Routing / Gateways improvements
- Dashboard
- Load balancer changes
- Web based PFTOP, TOP
- IGMP proxy

New features (continued)



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- Complete new interface system
- Multiple DynDNS account and interface support
- DHCP Server improvements
- New libalias based in-kernel FTP helper
- Improved load balancing (incoming and outgoing)

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New traffic shaper

- Rewritten from scratch by Ermal Luci
- Supports HFSC, CBQ, FairQ, PriQ
- Uses ALTQ
- Now works on more than 2 interfaces
 - Multi-WAN
 - Multi-LAN
 - etc.
- Layer 7 classifier
 - ipfw-classifyd by Mike Makonnen modified for pf
 - Using Linux I7-filter protocol patterns
- All major limitations are now gone!

User Manager



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- Full user manager with user and groups support
- Can allow an account to specific areas
- Consolidating all accounts in various areas
 - Administrators
 - Captive Portal
 - All VPNs – IPsec, L2TP, OpenVPN, PPTP
 - PPPoE server
- LDAP authentication support
- Per user certificate support

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IPsec



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- Major overhaul by Matthew Grooms, ipsec-tools committer and author of Shrew Soft IPsec client - <http://shrew.net>
- Multiple Phase 2 per Phase 1
- Transport mode support added

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IPsec

- Xauth - user and group authentication
 - pfSense local user database
 - LDAP
 - Microsoft Active Directory
 - Novell eDirectory
 - and others...
 - RADIUS
 - Microsoft Active Directory
 - many others
- Now a drop-in replacement for Cisco VPN concentrators, PIX firewalls, and routers

OpenVPN



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- Major overhaul
- More options exposed in the GUI
- Standardization with other VPN types
- Client exporter
 - Pre-configured Windows installer
 - Configuration file for Viscosity

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New interfaces

- GRE
- gif
- PPP (dial up POTS modems, 3G cellular wireless)
- QinQ VLANs
- Interface groupings
- lagg(4) interface bonding
 - failover
 - load balance
 - round robin
 - Etherchannel
 - LACP

Bridging enhancements

- all of if_bridge capabilities supported
- 18 Advanced configuration options available
- STP and RSTP - fully configurable
- SPAN port capable

Certificate Manager



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- Certificate authority support
- Generate OpenVPN certificates
- Generate user certificates
- Generate HTTPS certificate
- Generate IPsec certificates
- Revocation support
- Import existing certificates

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Routing / Gateway Additions

- New gateway group feature
- Failover threshold supports RTT or packet loss triggers
- Groups now employ a "Tier" type system
 - Supports balancing
 - Supports interface failover ordering
- Can fail on X% loss, 100% down, and/or high latency
 - User-definable thresholds

Dashboard

- Allows quick access to system information
- Added RSS widget
- Added picture widget
- Added gateways widget with RTT and loss reporting
- New AJAX CPU utilization widget

The screenshot displays the pfSense Dashboard interface. At the top right, the pfSense logo is visible with the URL [HTTP://WWW.PFSENSE.ORG](http://www.pfsense.org). The dashboard is organized into several sections:

- Gateways:** A table showing gateway status for WAN and WANX.
- CPU Graphs:** A line graph showing CPU usage over time.
- Interfaces:** A table showing interface status for WAN (DHCP), LAN, and WLAN.
- Traffic Graphs:** Two line graphs showing current WAN and LAN traffic.
- System Information:** A detailed view of system parameters including name, version, platform, uptime, current date/time, DNS server(s), last config change, state table size, MBUF usage, CPU usage, memory usage, SWAP usage, and disk usage.
- Picture:** A widget displaying a photograph of a laptop with the URL <http://www.pfsense.org>.
- Rss:** A widget displaying RSS feed items related to pfSense news and events.

At the bottom of the dashboard, there is a footer with the text "GFX BY HOLGER BRAUER" and "2.0 AND BEYOND" in large, stylized letters. Below this, it says "EURO BSD CON '09" and features the European Union flag.

Load Balancer changes (relayd)

- Layer3 balancing
- Layer7 balancing
- New monitoring features
 - Send/expect
 - DNS
 - HTTP
 - HTTPS

Web based pftop



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Diagnostics: PFTop

Sort type:

pfTop: Up State 1-8/8, View: default, Order: bytes

PR	D	SRC	DEST	STATE	AGE	EXP	PKTS	BYTES
icmp	O	10.211.55.4:49131	10.211.55.1:0	0:0	4310	9	8618	538K
tcp	I	10.211.55.2:55974	10.211.55.4:80	4:4	20	86400	117	83530
tcp	I	10.211.55.2:55957	10.211.55.4:80	9:9	128	7	101	35020
tcp	I	10.211.55.2:55961	10.211.55.4:80	9:9	80	55	101	35014
tcp	I	10.211.55.2:55973	10.211.55.4:80	10:10	32	70	36	11145
udp	I	10.211.55.2:52094	10.211.55.255:137	0:1	19	11	3	234
udp	I	10.211.55.2:52095	10.211.55.255:137	0:1	19	11	3	234
udp	O	10.211.55.4:14829	66.250.45.2:123	2:1	14	16	2	152

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Web based top



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Diagnostics: System Activity

```
last pid: 23231;  load averages:  0.35,  0.13,  0.08  up 0+01:18:20   10:46:36
31 processes:  1 running, 30 sleeping
```

```
Mem: 28M Active, 21M Inact, 23M Wired, 16K Cache, 22M Buf, 52M Free
Swap: 256M Total, 256M Free
```

PID	USERNAME	THR	PRI	NICE	SIZE	RES	STATE	TIME	WCPU	COMMAND
39838	root	1	-8	0	41812K	21400K	pipe	0:07	0.00%	php
60351	nobody	1	44	0	3156K	1224K	select	0:03	0.00%	apinger
41067	root	1	8	20	3492K	1460K	wait	0:02	0.00%	sh
39077	root	1	4	0	6328K	3464K	kqread	0:02	0.00%	lighttpd
23011	root	1	8	20	3156K	796K	nanslp	0:01	0.00%	check_reload_status
26241	root	1	-58	0	5716K	2028K	bpf	0:00	0.00%	tcpdump
50476	root	1	44	0	4920K	3152K	select	0:00	0.00%	openvpn
24619	_ntp	1	44	0	3156K	1228K	select	0:00	0.00%	ntpd
8770	root	1	44	0	3268K	1280K	select	0:00	0.00%	syslogd
39387	root	1	8	0	39688K	9036K	wait	0:00	0.00%	php
11546	root	1	8	0	3492K	1380K	wait	0:00	0.00%	sh
12192	root	1	8	0	3240K	1268K	nanslp	0:00	0.00%	cron
25095	root	1	5	0	3508K	2212K	ttyin	0:00	0.00%	tcsh
26527	root	1	-8	0	3156K	788K	pipe	0:00	0.00%	logger
24767	root	1	44	0	3156K	1240K	select	0:00	0.00%	ntpd
61308	root	1	8	0	3516K	1472K	wait	0:00	0.00%	login
23698	root	1	8	0	3156K	900K	nanslp	0:00	0.00%	minicron
63397	root	1	8	0	3492K	1388K	wait	0:00	0.00%	sh

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IGMP Proxy



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- Compatibility with multicast services
- IP TV
- Phone systems for broadcast announcements

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New interface system



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- All interfaces treated equally - no special status for LAN/WAN.
- Multi interface PPPoE support (WAN)
- Multi interface PPTP support (WAN)
- Allows just one interface to be assigned (appliance mode)
- QinQ VLAN support
- Interface groups

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DHCP Server improvements

- Dynamic DNS client name registration support
- Definable NTP Servers
- LDAP URI Integration
- Now allows duplicate IP address registration for multiple MAC addresses
- Ability to add any custom DHCP option



Appliance building



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- pfSense builder system can now automatically generate custom "Appliances" from an overlay file.
- Simply add files that you want to include into a directory and define the directory in pfsense_local.sh custom_overlay directive
- Also used for rebranding
- Coming appliances
 - DNS server
 - FreeSWITCH VoIP PBX

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2.0 Release Timeline



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- When?
 - When it's ready...
 - Aim for release candidate status by end of 2009

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Revision control



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- Converted from CVS to git
- More open development
- Cloning available to all
- Eases collaborative development and testing

<https://rcs.pfsense.org>

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Further down the road



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Post 2.0 release (2010 and beyond)

- Shorter release cycles
- Each release more evolutionary, less revolutionary

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Commercial side



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- Commercial support and development offerings
- One full time employee, many contractors around the world
- Commercial support is growing with satisfied customers
- Most new 2.0 functionality the result of funded development
- Funds conference attendance, and the projects we use

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Thanks for attending!

Questions?

Comments?

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