

## Re: FreeBSD router on a USB flash drive?

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/isp/2004-01/0093.html>

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**From:** Roman Volf ([volfman\\_at\\_keystreams.com](mailto:volfman_at_keystreams.com))

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Date: Wed, 21 Jan 2004 23:52:47 -0800

To: [freebsd-isp@freebsd.org](mailto:freebsd-isp@freebsd.org)

The fewer moving parts in a router, the better. Flash drives have no moving parts and should have a lower probability of failure. Something you should look into, Christoffer, are pcmcia-to-ide and also CF-to-IDE adapters. You can get a cheaper Compact Flash card, plug it in, and the computer thinks that its a normal IDE HD. They cost about \$40 for the adapters plus the price of the flash card.

Roman Volf

Justin Hopper wrote:

>On Mon, 2004-01-19 at 08:55, Christoffer Pio wrote:

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>

>>Hello all, has anyone experience with booting from, and running a FreeBSD

>>based router on a USB 2.0 flash drive?

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>I'm really curious what brought you to the situation of needing to boot

>from a flash drive for a router? =)

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>I picked up a USB 2.0 flash drive (128MB) for transferring files around

>between workstations and I really like its convenience. I formatted the

>drive in FreeBSD 5.1 and installed the standard boot loader. It took me

>a while to find a box with a new enough BIOS to be able to use the flash

>drive as a boot option, but I finally found one and was able to get to

>the boot loader. However, 128MB didn't seem to be enough space to do a

>minimum install so I was not able to install 5.1 on it and boot from

>it. I didn't have the time to try to see if I could trim down the

>install further, so this was as far as I got.

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>I assume with a larger flash drive it is completely possible. As to why

>you would want to do it, I'm still not sure =)

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freebsd-isp: Re: FreeBSD router on a USB flash drive?

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