

## RE: Xfree86 Config Problems

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/questions/2003-06/2554.html>

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**From:** Timms, Simon (*STimms\_at\_petro-canada.ca*)

**Date:** 06/24/03

To: "'bsd@sleve.mailshell.com'" <bsd@sleve.mailshell.com>, questions@FreeBSD.org  
Date: Tue, 24 Jun 2003 11:00:27 -0600

sounds like you are doing pretty good. If you are getting the gray screen and black X then your video card is supported and you have started X. What you are missing is a window manager. I don't know what window manager you want but give fluxbox a try, it is in the ports collection. If you want something a little heavier try KDE or GNOME. I am aware that KDE/Gnome aren't window managers, thank you. Once you have installed a window manager they edit your .xinitrc and add a call to your window manager (exec startkde for kde, exec fluxbox for fluxbox). Check the archive of this list somebody has done a good walk through for this before. If you do install kde from ports then allow a good few hours for it to finish.

try:

[http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en\\_US.ISO8859-1/books/handbook/x11-wm.html](http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en_US.ISO8859-1/books/handbook/x11-wm.html) the friendly handbook for some good examples.

good luck!

-----Original Message-----

From: bsd@sleve.mailshell.com [mailto:bsd@sleve.mailshell.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2003 10:22 AM

To: questions@FreeBSD.org

Subject: Re: Xfree86 Config Problems

Thanks for prompt reply, guys. I enjoy this community, but hate the install.

While I didn't mention it in my email, I did try this as well:

```
> > # XFree86 -configure
```

And it didn't work. Gave me X cursor in gray screen and could not get out.

As for checking for multiple config files, how would I know? Where would I find them? What would I do with them all, just rm them? What if I found more than one? How do I know which one is being used? Why so many config utils? Why are there so many possible locations?

This is my first install of BSD, and while I've installed Linux a dozen times, I don't know where to find things in BSD. I'm overwhelmed and

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frustrated. Please walk me through the steps before I give up on BSD.

I wonder if my S3 Savage 2000 video card is supported, even though it was on the list. I saw many posts about S3 problems, none with obvious solutions. I could use the FreeBSD 5.1 Release if that would help. I saw this link about S3 Savage at <http://www.xfree86.org/support.html> a private developer at <http://www.probo.com/timr/savage40.html> where he says: "xvideo on the Savage2000 still seems to be broken. I don't know when I'll be able to get around to this."

Thus far, the install process is overly complicated and not inviting to new users. I could provide specific feedback on this if anyone wants it.

>From Viktor Lazlo <viktorlazlo@telus.net> on 23 Jun 2003:

>  
>  
> On Sun, 22 Jun 2003 [bsd@sleve.mailshell.com](mailto:bsd@sleve.mailshell.com) wrote:  
>  
> <http://cgisleve.tripod.com/bsd/xfreebad.html> is a web page of this info.  
> >  
> > XFree86 Configuration Problems  
> > by Steve LeBlanc © 2003.6.22  
> > Installed FreeBSD for first time. Text login was fine. NIC worked.  
> > Did a telnet and ftp to computers on the Internet. All seemed to work  
> > except for configuring XFree86. No screen found when I did startx. Below  
> > are the details:  
> >  
> > The full commented files: XF86Config.txt and XFreeLog.txt  
> >  
> > Settings  
> > XFree86 Ver:4.2.1  
> > Release Date: 3 September 2002  
> > OS: FreeBSD 5.0 RELEASE  
> > Video: S3 Savage2000 (generic) 64MB, 3D  
> > Monitor: Cornea MT1700 17" LCD H: 31.5-80, V: 56-75  
> >  
> >  
> > After install I tried both: xf86cfg -textmode and xf86config to  
> > reconfigure. I read the docs deeply and redid this 15 times, using the  
> > various command line tools. Each of the last 10 times, I typed in my  
> > settings and selected my Graphics card from the list. I just can't get  
> > startx to work. Below are my XF86Config file and my XFree log file,  
> > with comments removed.  
> >  
> > Fatal server error:  
> > no screens found  
> >  
> > Check the handbook:  
> >  
> > 5.4.2 Configuring XFree86 4.X

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>  
> *Configuration of XFree86 4.X is a multi-step process. The first step*  
>  
> *is to build an initial configuration file with the -configure option to*  
> *XFree86. As the super user, simply run:*  
>  
> *# XFree86 -configure*  
>  
> *Cheers,*  
>  
> *Viktor*

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freebsd-questions@freebsd.org mailing list

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