

## RE: Xfree86 Config Problems

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/questions/2003-06/2567.html>

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**From:** Jud ([judmarc\\_at\\_fastmail.fm](mailto:judmarc_at_fastmail.fm))

**Date:** 06/24/03

To: "Timms, Simon" <[STimms@petro-canada.ca](mailto:STimms@petro-canada.ca)>, "'bsd@sleve.mailshell.com'" <[bsd@sleve.mailshell.com](mailto:bsd@sleve.mailshell.com)>  
Date: Tue, 24 Jun 2003 16:40:15 -0400

On Tue, 24 Jun 2003 11:00:27 -0600, "Timms, Simon"

<[STimms@petro-canada.ca](mailto:STimms@petro-canada.ca)> said:

> *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 though 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!*

A *very* helpful article:

[http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/bsd/2000/06/21/FreeBSD\\_Basics.html](http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/bsd/2000/06/21/FreeBSD_Basics.html)

In fact, the whole "FreeBSD Basics" series on O'Reilly's Onlamp.com is excellent. You might want to scan the topics that have been covered in the 3 years the series has been running to see what else is relevant to your situation.

Jud

> -----Original Message-----

freebsd-questions: RE: Xfree86 Config Problems

> From: [bsd@sleve.mailshell.com](mailto:bsd@sleve.mailshell.com) [<mailto:bsd@sleve.mailshell.com>]  
> Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2003 10:22 AM  
> To: [questions@FreeBSD.org](mailto: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  
> 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](mailto: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.  
> > >

freebsd-questions: RE: Xfree86 Config Problems

> > > *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 XFree86.log.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*  
> > >  
> > > *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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> > > *To unsubscribe, send any mail to*  
> > > *"freebsd-questions-unsubscribe@freebsd.org"*  
> > >

freebsd-questions: RE: Xfree86 Config Problems

>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
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