

## Re: 6.0-BETA2 as reliable webserver?

**Source:** <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/stable/2005-08/0380.html>

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**From:** Peter Jeremy (*PeterJeremy\_at\_optushome.com.au*)

**Date:** 08/20/05

Date: Sat, 20 Aug 2005 14:24:06 +1000

To: "Frans-Jan v. Steenbeek" <Frans-Jan@van-Steenbeek.net>

On Fri, 2005-Aug-19 23:42:18 +0200, Frans-Jan v. Steenbeek wrote:

>building. Since we are moving in a few months, we decided to use a HP  
>laptop instead (reasonably fast CPU, 512 Megs) since we had a few to  
>spare.

>

>The toy is currently set up with FreeBSD 6.0-BETA2, Apache 2.0, MySQL 5.0  
>and PHP-5.0 with all the reasonable modules. Everything is compiled from  
>ports. No changes to the kernel yet, no world-rebuilding done.

I'd also be extremely loath to bet my company on a laptop running beta software. As others have pointed out, laptops aren't designed for this. (Though my old Compaq laptop ran FreeBSD 24x7 for several years and I only stopped using it because the lid was cracking too badly).

If you're really concerned about noise:

- use an older desktop and maybe even underclock it to keep it cooler
- build your own system. Either go the low power route (mini-ITX) so you don't need noisy fans or use an over-rated PSU and CPU heatsink to keep fan speed (and noise) down. In either case, you'll need to look around to find a quiet HDD.
- [as a completely left-field suggestion] look at something like an Apple G5 system - large fans running slowly generate very little noise.

At the very least, you need to build a test harness to test the system under load (and maybe get some friends and/or friendly customers to hammer it as well). Whilst all the software is derived from a mature code-base, I'd be surprised if you can't crash it.

>I will post all problems not yet reported to the list, but if anyone of  
>you would like to share his or her opinion on this matter, please let me  
>know. Will 4.11-RELEASE perhaps be a better choice?

4.x is definitely more mature than 6.x. That said, I'd recommend against deploying 4.x in a new system because it is a dead end - you'll need to migrate off it at some point and that's far easier to do before a system goes live. You made the point that you support for newer hardware is better in newer releases. Why not use 5.4? As you point out, you are more familiar with it. And, once 6.x does become

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more stable, moving from 5.x to 6.x will be far easier than moving from 4.x to 6.x.

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Peter Jeremy

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freebsd-stable@freebsd.org mailing list

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