

# Re: Total Newbie

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*Source:* <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.unix.bsd.freebsd.misc/2006-09/msg00205.html>

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- *From:* [talon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:talon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) (Michel Talon)
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"james wrote:

gewy program to be compiled for CUPS and require Gnome!? Speaking of

If you observe carefully the packages on the freebsd ftp server (or pointyhat) you will discover that programs are not systematically compiled with gnome support. For example you have gimp, but not gimp-gnome2. You can also get this information on my documentation. Indeed KDE comes with cups dependencies which can be removed. In my opinion, removing a small part of big stuff is not very necessary. You are never obliged to use Cups, but KDE certainly works better with Cups.

Ubuntu... mplayer doesn't have DVD or WMV support... you still have to compile from scratch (which is a bit of a bitch when you're missing

Not true. You have only to augment the list of repositories to get the appropriate "forbidden" libraries. If i remember well, uncommenting universe and multiverse is sufficient (\*). If you do that you can watch dvd's. I have done it. Mplayer has a capacity to dlopen() shared libraries afterwards, if he finds libdvdcss it will load it.

development libraries for everything) or use something like Automatix to get packages with the good stuff they leave out.

people. Note that FreeBSD developers themselves push for \*no kernel recompilation\* and use of kernel modules as far as possible. So in this direction you are very close to what Linux distros do.

And yet the handbook even says you should recompile to add support for a firewall and other things. Not to mention I don't own a RAID controller

All firewalls, ipfw, ipfilter and pf are provided as kernel modules.

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You only need to recompile to do traffic shaping with pf. As a general rule i do not find the handbook of exceptional quality. There are a lot of dubious things in it. Man pages are certainly closer to reality.

and therefore don't need 20 extra drivers compiled in for one, and I rarely have more than 2 NICs in a machine from no more than 2 mfgs so i don't need 30 extra drivers for those either. That's just silly.

I do recompile myself to remove this sort of stuff, but it is perfectly and totally useless on present day machines with a lot of memory.

So do Solaris, and Solaris is also a Unix system which doesn't need to be neglected, because it is *\*very\** good.

For what purposes? Great server? yes. Desktop? not so much. I've used

Yes, as a server. But the Nexenta version with Gnome desktop is a very nice desktop.

with computers. There certainly are a lot of fools out there.

Perhaps. Mainly these fools earn \$\$\$\$ each hour, and don't want to spend days tinkering with a Unix machine gratis.

problem, nor my concern. again.. Nobody ever said UN\*X is easy and anyone that does should have their head examined, but it does make things easier for those willing, wanting, and able to learn it.

Yes.

(\*) Sorry, it is in <http://packages.freecontrib.org/plf/>  
If i go to dists/dapper/free/binary-i386/ and read Packages i find:  
Package: xmms-wma  
Package: libdvdcss2

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Michel TALON

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