

Re: pf and bittorrent

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- *From:* naddy@xxxxxxxxxxxxx (Christian Weisgerber)
 - *Date:* Tue, 7 Aug 2007 15:42:58 +0000 (UTC)
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Dave <dmehler26@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Thanks for your reply. I'd prefer to use the standard ports, so as to assure maximum compatibility.

I think it needs pointing out that BitTorrent isn't tied to any particular port numbers. Port 6881 and subsequent ones is just the default setting where the Mainline client listens for incoming connections.

(Note that there are trackers that explicitly refuse clients that use the default port numbers, because these can be a target for filtering/traffic shaping by ISPs, so "to assure maximum compatibility" you actually want to use a different range.)

There are three subcommunications to consider:

- (1) The local client connects to the remote tracker. The port number is specified in the tracker URL in the torrent file.
- (2) The local client connects to a remote client. The connection will be from an ephemeral port to whatever port the remote client has specified via the tracker.
- (3) A remote client connects to the local client. The connection will be from some random port to whatever port the local client has specified via the tracker.

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