

Some notes on this glossary.

1. It is by means complete. Hell it doesn't even begin to scratch the surface.
2. I will add/ delete or modify things here without notice and as I see fit.
3. This is not a wiki. You can send in your ideas if you want. I won't promise you I will use them. and if they aren't easy for newbies to understand. I won't even consider it.

Basic structure of Glossary:

**Item listed:** Group it belongs to, application as in program, term for terminology. file as in a script or text, command as in something you tell you computer to do or Directory as in a place things are located. Definition of item.

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**application:** Term. A program or utility that can be loaded to run or function on your computer.

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**cd:** Command. Change directory. Move from where you are currently located in the computer database to somewhere else. Man page [here](#).At the prompt type:

cd /name of directory you want to be at./subdirectory if needed/

cd~ Will always take you to your home directory.

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**cp:** Command. Copy. Take stuff from one place in the computer and duplicate it in another. Man pages [here](#). At the prompt type:

cp /name of current directory for file/ name of file /name of new directory /name of file

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**cvsup:** Application. A application that will upgrade to date the [ports](#) tree and/ or the [source](#) files for FreeBSD. Works with [ports-supfile](#), [stable-supfile](#) [standard-supfile](#). To work this command you basically do this:

cvsup /"directory location"/"location of supfile"

Read more [here](#).Man pages [here](#)

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**df:** Command. Display disk space. Man pages [here](#). At the prompt type:

df -h

You will get something like this:

Filesystem	Size	Used	Avail	Capacity	Mounted on
/dev/ad0s1a	194M	50M	129M	28%	/
/dev/ad0s1f	992M	513K	913M	0%	/tmp
/dev/ad0s1g	8.8G	2.8G	5.3G	34%	/usr
/dev/ad0s1e	1.9G	14M	1.8G	1%	/var
procfs	4.0K	4.0K	0B	100%	/proc

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**easy editor:** Application. AKA ee. A simple editor. Used for creating or editing files. At the prompt type:

ee /name of directory /name of file

Press Esc to exit out of Easy Editor. Man pages [here](#).

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**ftp:** Application. A way to download files from a server. Ftp stands for file transfer protocol. Read the man pages [here](#). At the prompt type:

ftp

you will see this

ftp>

you can add this:

ftp>open ftp.freebsd.org

That is one way to access a ftp server and download a file from the ftp server, AKA [ftpd](#). You can read more on how to use command line ftp [here](#).

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**ftpd:** Command. Ftp server. This command activates a ftp server. So others can download files from you. Setting up a ftp server is a bit more complicated than running a client. So it won't be addressed here. Read the man pages [here](#).

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**GENERIC:** File. The name of the kernel file on a basic FreeBSD setup.

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**install:** Term. To make an application active and available to work for you. Read [packages](#) or [ports](#) for the commands needed to install an application. This can be part of a command such as "make install."

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**kernel:** Term. This term refers to the core file of the FreeBSD operating system.

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**make:** Command. Use this command to build applications. It can or should be used with some of the below listed options.

buildworld: Build the foundation files of the operating system.  
buildkernel: build the core files of the operating system.  
clean: Clean up extraneous files after building a application.  
install: Place and make available the application.  
installworld: Place the foundation files of the operating system.  
install kernel: Place the core files of the operating system.

You can read the man pages [here](#).

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**make.conf:** File. The make.conf is a file that is read when you issue your make buildworld, make installworld and other make commands issued during a 'make world' upgrade. You can see a make.conf [here](#). Man pages [here](#).

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**makefile:** File. A file containing the information needed to install a application. This file is invoked with the make, make install commands.

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**mergemaster:** Application. This application is used to update files and settings in your FreeBSD computer. Using this program can change very crucial files. So it recommended you backup before using it. Especially your /etc/ directory. This application takes a look at certain files including /dev/MAKEDEV and everything in the /etc/ directory. It compares them to the files stored in /usr/src/ and then lets you know which ones need to be updated. Depending on which switches (-s,-c,-r,-v,-a,-h,-i,-p,-C,-m,-t,-d,-u,-w,-D) you use. You can have mergemaster function in many ways for you. One of the reasons this application is so complicated is because of all the switches (options) available. Please read the man pages [here](#).

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**mkdir:** Command. Make directory. You this command to build directories. You can read the man pages [here](#).

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**motd:** File: Message Of The Day. This is the file you see when you startup or login . It is usually kept in the /etc/ directory. Man pages [here](#)

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**package(s):** Term. Applications that are precompiled and ready to go. You can install a package through /stand/sysinstall or with the command pkg\_add. You should either have the package on a CD disc or have downloaded it from an ftp site. You can read more [here](#).

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**port(s):** Term. Directory. Are what FreeBSD uses to make certain applications available for easy install. The port of a program has a [makefile](#). That makefile grabs the application uncompresses it, compiles it and installs it. The ports are usually located in the directory /usr/ports. You want to install application lynx do the following:

1. Make sure you are root. non root users generally cannot install applications.
2. cd to the directory where the port is located.  
cd /usr/ports/www/lynx
3. At the prompt type this command:

make clean && make && make install && rehash

That's it. application installed have a nice day. You can read more [here](#).

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**ports-supfile:** File. The file that updates the ports tree. This used in conjunction with cvsup. The ports tree is the directory usually addressed as /usr/ports/. You can see a ports-supfile [here](#).

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**ppp.conf:** File. The file that is used for point to point protocol. This is the most common file used when setting up ADSL connection with FreeBSD. The file is usually kept in the /etc/ppp/ directory. It can also be used with a dial up setting. You can read more [here](#) and [here](#).

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**prompt:** Term. What shows up when you are in a command line shell. This is telling you " Hey I need input in order to do stuff. Type something."

Some shell prompts look like this:

#  
%  
\$  
>

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**rm:** Command. Remove. Use this command to remove, unlink, delete files or directories. You can read the man pages [here](#).

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**shutdown:** Command. This command does as the it says. It is used to shutdown and either turn off or reboot the FreeBSD operating system. At the prompt you can type:

shutdown -r +3 (reboot in three minutes)

shutdown -h +3 (shut the system down turn off the OS in three minuets)

Read the man pages [here](#).

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**source:**Term. 1. The core files of a system.  
2. The lines of code that make up a file(s).

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**stable-supfile:**File.The file that is read when you upgrade your FreeBSD system in the [STABLE](#) tree. The file that updates the [src](#) tree. This

used in conjunction with cvsup. The src tree is the directory usually addressed as /usr/src/. You can see a stable-supfile [here](#).

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**standard-supfile:** File .The file that is read when you upgrade your FreeBSD system in the [CURRENT](#) tree. This used in conjunction with cvsup. You can see an example of it [here](#)

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**src:**Term.Directory. The place where your source files are placed when you use cvsup and either stable-supfile or standard-supfile. The full directory is usually /usr/src/.

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**uname:**Command. Gives you information on your operating system. At the prompt type:

uname -a

You will see something like this:


FreeBSD TheBaron.bjh.homenet 4.7-STABLE FreeBSD 4.7-STABLE #0: Sun Oct 13 23:32:36 EDT 2002  
root@TheBaron.bjh.homenet:/usr/src/sys/compile/THEBARON i386

Man pages [here](#)

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