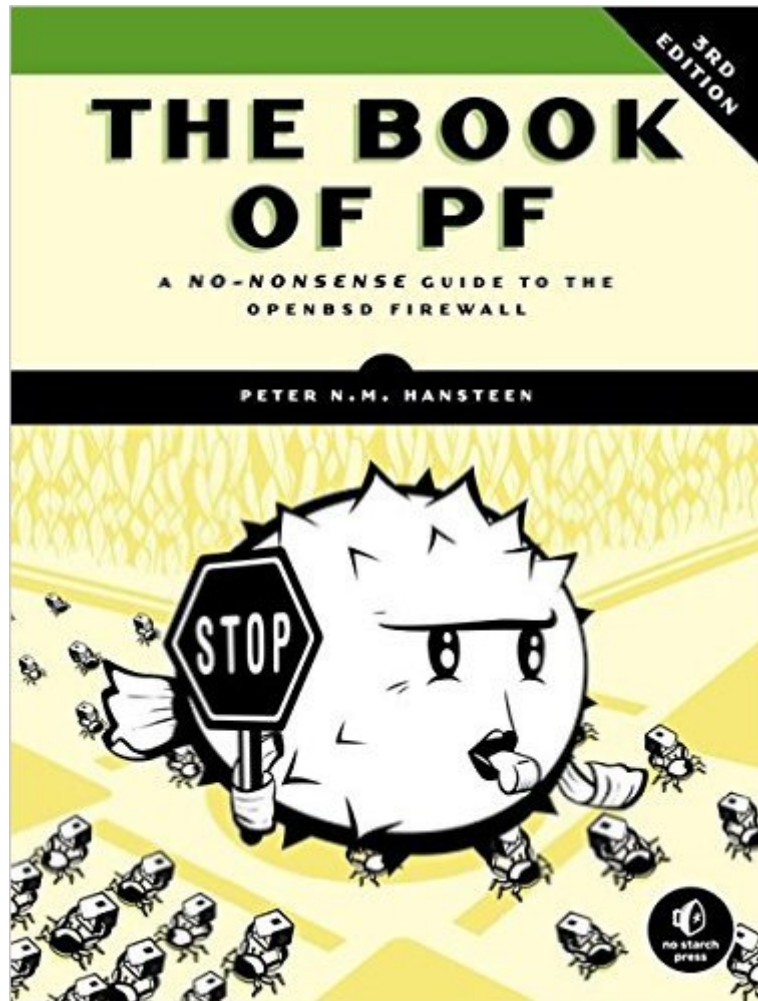


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The Book Of PF: A No-Nonsense Guide To The OpenBSD Firewall



Synopsis

OpenBSD's stateful packet filter, PF, is the heart of the OpenBSD firewall. With more and more services placing high demands on bandwidth and an increasingly hostile Internet environment, no sysadmin can afford to be without PF expertise. The third edition of The Book of PF covers the most up-to-date developments in PF, including new content on IPv6, dual stack configurations, the "queues and priorities" traffic-shaping system, NAT and redirection, wireless networking, spam fighting, failover provisioning, logging, and more. You'll also learn how to: Create rule sets for all kinds of network traffic, whether crossing a simple LAN, hiding behind NAT, traversing DMZs, or spanning bridges or wider networks Set up wireless networks with access points, and lock them down using authpf and special access restrictions Maximize flexibility and service availability via CARP, relayd, and redirection Build adaptive firewalls to proactively defend against attackers and spammers Harness OpenBSD's latest traffic-shaping system to keep your network responsive, and convert your existing ALTQ configurations to the new system Stay in control of your traffic with monitoring and visualization tools (including NetFlow) The Book of PF is the essential guide to building a secure network with PF. With a little effort and this book, you'll be well prepared to unlock PF's full potential.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Third edition, huh? So how does this stack up? Let's get the obvious out of the way. All three editions have yellow covers, but the first edition had blue trim; the second edition, pumpkin; the

third, a kind of fern green. Once you open the cover, you find that the third edition works much like the earlier editions, starting with a simple packet filter setup and building upon it. Building upon success is perhaps the best education technique, and it fits the topic quite well. Structurally, BoPF3 is very similar to the earlier editions. CARP and redundancy now gets its own chapter, which is a welcome addition. The real meat of this book is in the examples, tutorials, and explanations. PF has changed since the second edition, notably with more flexible traffic management and some syntax changes. Not all BSDs have remained synchronized with OpenBSD's PF, so he has the unenviable job of documenting the differences between OpenBSD, NetBSD, and FreeBSD. He's done an excellent job of this by combining information where appropriate, but breaking out some topics by operating system. For example, if a topic needs a sysctl, he lists them for each operating system. When a topic requires more in-depth explanation, such as traffic prioritization, he breaks out OpenBSD's new priority system into one section and FreeBSD/NetBSD's older altq prioritization scheme in another. This makes it very easy to find what you're looking for. This book teaches you how to use PF to filter packets just as well as a million dollar appliance, with more insight and control. One impressive thing is that this book is very clear.

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