

PF firewall (FreeBSD, OpenBSD) configuration and debug commands cheat sheet

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PF (Packet Filter) management for FreeBSD & OpenBSD

Command	Description
pfctl -d	Disable PF in place, does not survive reboot.
pfctl -ef /etc/pf.conf	Enable PF and load the rule set from file /etc/pf.conf in one go.
pfctl -nf /etc/pf.conf	Parse security rules stored in a file without installing them (dry run).
pfctl -F <all/rules/nat/states>	Flush, accordingly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• all Everything (filter rules, nat, but NOT stateful table - those already connected will stay so). Blank/flushed rules mean "permit any any".• rules Rules only (stateful table of existing connections stay intact)• nat NAT rules only• states Stateful table (but again - active connections stay alive)
pfctl -k <source IP of connection to clear> [-k <destination>]	Kill an active connection from the state table. You can specify IP address as the 1st selector to the 1st -k and optionally, destination selector with another -k key. 0.0.0.0/0 as a wildcard can be used. E.g. to clear all connections from any to 10.10.10.13/32 pfctl -k 0.0.0.0/0 10.10.10.13/32 . To add selectors, look at available ones via pfctl -s state .
pfctl -z	Clear all per rule statistics/counters

Command	Description
pass in quick on egress from 62.13.77.141 to any	<p>'Quick' rule, means allow this traffic to pass through on all interfaces, otherwise we would need 2nd rule allowing this traffic in <i>outgoing</i> direction on egress interface, to allow destined to ANY port/protocol with the source being 62.13.77.141 and destination being ANY IP address behind the PF firewall. NOTE: here, egress is not a direction, but a group name to which the interface in question (em0) belongs to. In OpenBSD you set it in a file /etc/hostname.em0: group egress or in real-time with the command: ifconfig em0 group egress.</p>