# The Book of PF: A No-Nonsense Guide to the OpenBSD Firewall

*By Peter N.M. Hansteen*



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OpenBSD's stateful packet filter, PF, is the heart of the OpenBSD firewall and a necessity for any admin working in a BSD environment. With a little effort and this book, you'll gain the insight needed to unlock PF's full potential.

This second edition of *The Book of PF* has been completely updated and revised. Based on Peter N.M. Hansteen's popular PF website and conference tutorials, this no-nonsense guide covers NAT and redirection, wireless networking, spam fighting, failover provisioning, logging, and more. Throughout the book, Hansteen emphasizes the importance of staying in control with a written network specification, keeping rule sets readable using macros, and performing rigid testing when loading new rules.

*The Book of PF* tackles a broad range of topics that will stimulate your mind and pad your resume, including how to:

- Create rule sets for all kinds of network traffic, whether it's crossing a simple LAN, hiding behind NAT, traversing DMZs, or spanning bridges or wider networks
- Create wireless networks with access points, and lock them down with authpf and special access restrictions
- Maximize flexibility and service availability via CARP, relayd, and redirection
- Create adaptive firewalls to proactively defend against would-be attackers and spammers
- Implement traffic shaping and queues with ALTQ (priq, cbq, or hfsc) to keep your network responsive
- Master your logs with monitoring and visualization tools (including NetFlow)

*The Book of PF* is for BSD enthusiasts and network administrators at any skill level. With more and more services placing high demands on bandwidth and an increasingly hostile Internet environment, you can't afford to be without PF expertise.

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## Editorial Review

About the Author

Peter N. M. Hansteen is a consultant, writer and sysadmin based in Bergen, Norway. A longtime Freenix advocate, Hansteen is a frequent lecturer on FreeBSD and OpenBSD topics, an occasional contributor to BSD Magazine and writes a frequently slashdotted blog at http://bsdly.blogspot.com. Hansteen was a participant in the original RFC 1149 implementation team. The Book of PF is an expanded follow up to his very popular online PF tutorial (http://home.nuug.no/~peter/pf/).

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Paul Hill:**

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