The pkgsrc guide

Documentation on the NetBSD packages system

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The pkgsrc guide: Documentation on the NetBSD packages system

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pkgsrc is a centralized package management system for Unix-like operating systems. This guide provides information for users and developers of pkgsrc. It covers installation of binary and source packages, creation of binary and source packages and a high-level overview about the infrastructure.

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Chapter 1.
What is pkgsrc?

1.1. Introduction

There is a lot of software freely available for Unix-based systems, which is usually available in form of the source code. Before such software can be used, it needs to be configured to the local system, compiled and installed, and this is exactly what The NetBSD Packages Collection (pkgsrc) does. pkgsrc also has some basic commands to handle binary packages, so that not every user has to build the packages for himself, which is a time-costly task.

pkgsrc currently contains several thousand packages, including:

- `www/apache24` - The Apache web server
- `www/firefox` - The Firefox web browser
- `meta-pkgs/gnome` - The GNOME Desktop Environment
- `meta-pkgs/kde4` - The K Desktop Environment

... just to name a few.

pkgsrc has built-in support for handling varying dependencies, such as pthreads and X11, and extended features such as IPv6 support on a range of platforms.

1.1.1. Why pkgsrc?

pkgsrc provides the following key features:

- Easy building of software from source as well as the creation and installation of binary packages. The source and latest patches are retrieved from a master or mirror download site, checksum verified, then built on your system. Support for binary-only distributions is available for both native platforms and NetBSD emulated platforms.
- All packages are installed in a consistent directory tree, including binaries, libraries, man pages and other documentation.
- Tracking of package dependencies automatically, including when performing updates, to ensure required packages are installed. The configuration files of various packages are handled automatically during updates, so local changes are preserved.
- Like NetBSD, pkgsrc is designed with portability in mind and consists of highly portable code. This allows the greatest speed of development when porting to a new platform. This portability also ensures that pkgsrc is *consistent across all platforms*.

- The installation prefix, acceptable software licenses, international encryption requirements and build-time options for a large number of packages are all set in a simple, central configuration file.
- The entire source (not including the distribution files) is freely available under a BSD license, so you may extend and adapt pkgsrc to your needs. Support for local packages and patches is available right out of the box, so you can configure it specifically for your environment.

The following principles are basic to pkgsrc:

- "It should only work if it's right." — That means, if a package contains bugs, it's better to find them and to complain about them rather than to just install the package and hope that it works. There are numerous checks in pkgsrc that try to find such bugs: static analysis tools (`pkgtools/pkglint`), build-time checks (portability of shell scripts), and post-installation checks (installed files, references to shared libraries, script interpreters).
- "If it works, it should work everywhere" — Like NetBSD has been ported to many hardware architectures, pkgsrc has been ported to many operating systems. Care is taken that packages behave the same on all platforms.

1.1.2. Supported platforms

pkgsrc consists of both a source distribution and a binary distribution for these operating systems. After retrieving the required source or binaries, you can be up and running with pkgsrc in just minutes!

pkgsrc was derived from FreeBSD's ports system, and initially developed for NetBSD only. Since then, pkgsrc has grown a lot, and now supports the following platforms:

Table 1-1. Platforms supported by pkgsrc

Platform	Date Support Added	Notes
NetBSD (https://www.NetBSD.org/)	Aug 1997	
Solaris (http://wwws.sun.com/software/solaris/)	Mar 1999	README.Solaris (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
Linux (https://www.kernel.org/)	Jun 1999	README.Linux (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
Darwin / Mac OS X / OS X / macOS (https://developer.apple.com/macos/)	Oct 2001	README.macOS (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
FreeBSD (https://www.freebsd.org/)	Nov 2002	README.FreeBSD (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
OpenBSD (https://www.openbsd.org/)	Nov 2002	README.OpenBSD (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l

Platform	Date Support Added	Notes
IRIX (https://www.sgi.com/software/irix/)	Dec 2002	README.IRIX (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
BSD/OS	Dec 2003	
AIX (https://www-1.ibm.com/servers/aix/)	Dec 2003	README.AIX (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
Interix (https://www.microsoft.com/windows/sfu/) (Microsoft Windows Services for Unix)	Mar 2004	README.Interix (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
DragonFlyBSD (https://www.dragonflybsd.org/)	Oct 2004	
OSF/1 (http://www.tru64.org/)	Nov 2004	README.OSF1 (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
HP-UX (https://www.hp.com/products1/unix/)	Apr 2007	README.HPUX (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
Haiku (https://www.haiku-os.org/)	Sep 2010	README.Haiku (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
MirBSD (https://www.mirbsd.org/)	Jan 2011	
Minix3 (https://www.minix3.org/)	Nov 2011	README.Minix3 (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
Cygwin (https://cygwin.com/)	Mar 2013	README.Cygwin (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
GNU/kFreeBSD (https://www.debian.org/ports/kfreebsd-gnu/)	Jul 2013	README.GNUkFreeBSD (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc/l
Bitrig (https://www.bitrig.org/)	Jun 2014	Removed from pkgsrc Sep 2022

1.2. Overview

This document is divided into three parts. The first, *The pkgsrc user's guide*, describes how one can use one of the packages in the Package Collection, either by installing a precompiled binary package, or by building one's own copy using the NetBSD package system. The second part, *The pkgsrc developer's guide*, explains how to prepare a package so it can be easily built by other NetBSD users without knowing about the package's building details. The third part,

The pkgsrc infrastructure internals is intended for those who want to understand how pkgsrc is implemented.

This document is available in various formats: HTML (index.html), PDF (pkgsrc.pdf), PS (pkgsrc.ps), TXT (pkgsrc.txt).

1.3. Terminology

There has been a lot of talk about “ports”, “packages”, etc. so far. Here is a description of all the terminology used within this document.

Package

A set of files and building instructions that describe what’s necessary to build a certain piece of software using pkgsrc. Packages are traditionally stored under `/usr/pkgsrc`, but may be stored in any location, referred to as `PKGSRCDIR`.

The NetBSD package system

This is the former name of “pkgsrc”. It is part of the NetBSD operating system and can be bootstrapped to run on non-NetBSD operating systems as well. It handles building (compiling), installing, and removing of packages.

Distfile

This term describes the file or files that are provided by the author of the piece of software to distribute his work. All the changes necessary to build on NetBSD are reflected in the corresponding package. Usually the distfile is in the form of a compressed tar-archive, but other types are possible, too. Distfiles are usually stored below `/usr/pkgsrc/distfiles`.

Port

This is the term used by FreeBSD and OpenBSD people for what we call a package. In NetBSD terminology, “port” refers to a different architecture.

Precompiled/binary package

A set of binaries built with pkgsrc from a distfile and stuffed together in a single `.tgz` file so it can be installed on machines of the same machine architecture without the need to recompile. Packages are usually generated in `/usr/pkgsrc/packages`; there is also an archive on ftp.NetBSD.org (ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/packages/).

Sometimes, this is referred to by the term “package” too, especially in the context of precompiled packages.

Program

The piece of software to be installed which will be constructed from all the files in the distfile by the actions defined in the corresponding package.

1.3.1. Roles involved in pkgsrc

pkgsrc users

The pkgsrc users are people who use the packages provided by pkgsrc. Typically they are system administrators. The people using the software that is inside the packages (maybe called "end users") are not covered by the pkgsrc guide.

There are two kinds of pkgsrc users: Some only want to install pre-built binary packages. Others build the pkgsrc packages from source, either for installing them directly or for building binary packages themselves. For pkgsrc users Part I in *The pkgsrc guide* should provide all necessary documentation.

package maintainers

A package maintainer creates packages as described in Part II in *The pkgsrc guide*.

infrastructure developers

These people are involved in all those files that live in the `mk/` directory and below. Only these people should need to read through Part III in *The pkgsrc guide*, though others might be curious, too.

1.4. Typography

When giving examples for commands, shell prompts are used to show if the command should/can be issued as root, or if "normal" user privileges are sufficient. We use a `#` for root's shell prompt, a `%` for users' shell prompt, assuming they use the C-shell or tcsh and a `$` for Bourne shell and derivatives.

I. The pkgsrc user’s guide

Chapter 2.
Getting help

To get help when using pkgsrc, the definitive source is this document, the pkgsrc guide. If you don't find anything here, there are alternatives:

- The built-in pkgsrc help, which is available after bootstrapping pkgsrc. Run **bmake help topic=...** to get help for any topic, such as a variable name like `BUILD_DEFS`, a make target like **do-build**, a missing C or C++ function like **strcasecmp** or any other topic.

  The available help topics are listed in Appendix E.
- To see the value of a single variable, run **bmake show-var VARNAME=*X***.
- To see the values of the most common variables, run **bmake show-all**. These variables are grouped by topic. To see the variables for a single topic, run **bmake show-all-*topic***, for example **bmake show-all-fetch**.
- The pkgsrc-users mailing list, to which you can subscribe (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/#pkgsrc-users) and then ask your questions (mailto:pkgsrc-users@NetBSD.org).
- The #pkgsrc IRC channel, which is accessible via a web browser (https://webchat.freenode.net/) or by using a specialized chat program such as XChat (http://xchat.org/). Pick any user name and join the channel #pkgsrc.

Chapter 3.
Where to get pkgsrc and how to keep it up-to-date

Before you download and extract the files, you need to decide where you want to extract them. When using pkgsrc as root user, pkgsrc is usually installed in `/usr/pkgsrc`. You are though free to install the sources and binary packages wherever you want in your filesystem, provided that the pathname does not contain white-space or other characters that are interpreted specially by the shell and some other programs. A safe bet is to use only letters, digits, underscores and dashes.

3.1. Getting pkgsrc for the first time

Before you download any pkgsrc files, you should decide whether you want the *current* branch or the *stable* branch. The latter is forked on a quarterly basis from the current branch and only gets modified for security updates. The names of the stable branches are built from the year and the quarter, for example `2023Q3`.

The second step is to decide *how* you want to download pkgsrc. You can get it as a tar file or via CVS. Both ways are described here.

Note that tar archive contains CVS working copy. Thus you can switch to using CVS at any later time.

3.1.1. As tar archive

The primary download location for all pkgsrc files is https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/ or ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/ (it points to the same location). There are a number of subdirectories for different purposes, which are described in detail in Appendix D.

The tar archive for the current branch is in the directory `current` and is called `pkgsrc.tar.gz` (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc.tar.gz). It is autogenerated weekly.

To save download time we provide bzip2- and xz-compressed archives which are published at `pkgsrc.tar.bz2` (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc.tar.bz2) and `pkgsrc.tar.xz` (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc.tar.xz) respectively.

You can fetch the same files using FTP.

The tar file for the stable branch 2023Q3 is in the directory `pkgsrc-2023Q3` and is also called `pkgsrc.tar.gz` (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/pkgsrc-2023Q3/pkgsrc.tar.gz).

To download the latest pkgsrc stable tarball, run:

```
$ ftp ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/pkgsrc-2023Q3/pkgsrc.tar.gz
```

If you prefer, you can also fetch it using "wget", "curl", or your web browser.

Then, extract it with:

```
$ tar -xzf pkgsrc.tar.gz -C /usr
```

This will create the directory `pkgsrc/` in `/usr/` and all the package source will be stored under `/usr/pkgsrc/`.

To download pkgsrc-current, run:

```
$ ftp ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc.tar.gz
```

3.1.2. Via anonymous CVS

To fetch a specific pkgsrc stable branch, run:

```
$ cd /usr && cvs -q -z2 -d anoncvs@anoncvs.NetBSD.org:/cvsroot checkout -r pkgsrc-2023Q3 -P pkgsrc
```

This will create the directory `pkgsrc/` in your `/usr/` directory and all the package source will be stored under `/usr/pkgsrc/`.

To fetch the pkgsrc current branch, run:

```
$ cd /usr && cvs -q -z2 -d anoncvs@anoncvs.NetBSD.org:/cvsroot checkout -P pkgsrc
```

Refer to the list of available mirrors (https://www.NetBSD.org/mirrors/#anoncvs) to choose a faster CVS mirror, if needed.

If you get error messages from `rsh`, you need to set CVS_RSH variable. E.g.:

```
$ cd /usr && env CVS_RSH=ssh cvs -q -z2 -d anoncvs@anoncvs.NetBSD.org:/cvsroot checkout -P pkgsrc
```

Refer to documentation on your command shell how to set CVS_RSH=ssh permanently. For Bourne shells, you can set it in your `.profile` or better globally in `/etc/profile`:

```
# set CVS remote shell command
CVS_RSH=ssh
export CVS_RSH
```

By default, CVS doesn't do things like most people would expect it to do. But there is a way to convince CVS, by creating a file called `.cvsrc` in your home directory and saving the following lines to it. This file will save you lots of headache and some bug reports, so we strongly recommend it. You can find an explanation of this file in the CVS documentation.

```
# recommended CVS configuration file from the pkgsrc guide
cvs -q
checkout -P
update -dP
diff -upN
rdiff -u
release -d
```

3.2. Keeping pkgsrc up-to-date

The preferred way to keep pkgsrc up-to-date is via CVS (which also works if you have first installed it via a tar file). It saves bandwidth and hard disk activity, compared to downloading the tar file again.

3.2.1. Via tar files

> **Warning**
>
> When updating from a tar file, you first need to completely remove the old pkgsrc directory. Otherwise those files that have been removed from pkgsrc in the mean time will not be removed on your local disk, resulting in inconsistencies. When removing the old files, any changes that you have done to the pkgsrc files will be lost after updating. Therefore updating via CVS is strongly recommended.

Note that by default the distfiles and the binary packages are saved in the pkgsrc tree, so don't forget to rescue them before updating. You can also configure pkgsrc to store distfiles and packages in directories outside the pkgsrc tree by setting the `DISTDIR` and `PACKAGES` variables. See Chapter 6 for the details.

To update pkgsrc from a tar file, download the tar file as explained above. Then, make sure that you have not made any changes to the files in the pkgsrc directory. Remove the pkgsrc directory and extract the new tar file. Done.

3.2.2. Via CVS

To update pkgsrc via CVS, change to the `pkgsrc` directory and run cvs:

```
$ cd /usr/pkgsrc && cvs update -dP
```

If you get error messages from `rsh`, you need to set CVS_RSH variable as described above. E.g.:

```
$ cd /usr/pkgsrc && env CVS_RSH=ssh cvs up -dP
```

3.2.2.1. Switching between different pkgsrc branches

When updating pkgsrc, the CVS program keeps track of the branch you selected. But if you, for whatever reason, want to switch from the stable branch to the current one, you can do it by adding the option "-A" after the "update" keyword. To switch from the current branch back to the stable branch, add the "-rpkgsrc-2023Q3" option.

3.2.2.2. What happens to my changes when updating?

When you update pkgsrc, the CVS program will only touch those files that are registered in the CVS repository. That means that any packages that you created on your own will stay unmodified. If you change files that are managed by CVS, later updates will try to merge your changes with those that have been done by others. See the CVS manual, chapter "update" for details.

Chapter 4.
Using pkgsrc on systems other than NetBSD

4.1. Binary distribution

See Section 5.1.

4.2. Bootstrapping pkgsrc

pkgsrc can be bootstrapped for use in two different modes: privileged and unprivileged one. In unprivileged mode in contrast to privileged one all programs are installed under one particular user and cannot utilise privileged operations (packages don't create special users and all special file permissions like setuid are ignored).

Installing the bootstrap kit from source should be as simple as:

```
# env CVS_RSH=ssh cvs -d anoncvs@anoncvs.NetBSD.org:/cvsroot checkout -P pkgsrc
# cd pkgsrc/bootstrap
# ./bootstrap
```

To bootstrap in unprivileged mode pass "--unprivileged" flag to **bootstrap**

By default, in privileged mode pkgsrc uses `/usr/pkg` for *prefix* where programs will be installed in, and `/usr/pkg/pkgdb` for the package database directory where pkgsrc will do its internal bookkeeping, `/var` is used as *varbase*, where packages install their persistent data. In unprivileged mode pkgsrc uses `~/pkg` for *prefix*, `~/pkg/pkgdb` for the package database, and `~/pkg/var` for *varbase*.

You can change default layout using command-line arguments. Run "./bootstrap --help" to get details.

Note: The bootstrap installs a **bmake** tool. Use this **bmake** when building via pkgsrc. For examples in this guide, use **bmake** instead of "make".

Note: It is possible to bootstrap multiple instances of pkgsrc using non-intersecting directories. Use **bmake** corresponding to the installation you're working with to build and install packages.

Chapter 5.
Using pkgsrc

Basically, there are two ways of using pkgsrc. The first is to only install the package tools and to use binary packages that someone else has prepared. This is the "pkg" in pkgsrc. The second way is to install the "src" of pkgsrc, too. Then you are able to build your own packages, and you can still use binary packages from someone else.

5.1. Using binary packages

On the cdn.NetBSD.org (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/) site and mirrors, there are collections of binary packages, ready to be installed. These binary packages have been built using the default settings for the directories, that is:

- `/usr/pkg` for `LOCALBASE`, where most of the files are installed,
- `/usr/pkg/etc` for configuration files,
- `/var` for `VARBASE`, where those files are installed that may change after installation.

If you cannot use these directories for whatever reasons (maybe because you're not root), you cannot use these binary packages, but have to build the packages yourself, which is explained in Section 4.2.

5.1.1. Finding binary packages

To install binary packages, you first need to know from where to get them. The first place where you should look is on the main pkgsrc CDN in the directory `/pub/pkgsrc/packages` (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/packages/).

This directory contains binary packages for multiple platforms. First, select your operating system. Then, select your hardware architecture, and in the third step, the OS version and the "version" of pkgsrc.

In this directory, you may find a file called `bootstrap.tar.gz` which contains the package management tools. If the file is missing, it is likely that your operating system already provides those tools. Download the file and extract it in the `/` directory. It will create the directories `/usr/pkg` (containing the tools for managing binary packages and the database of installed packages).

5.1.2. Installing binary packages

In the directory from the last section, there is a subdirectory called `All/`, which contains all the binary packages that are available for the platform, excluding those that may not be distributed via HTTP or FTP.

To install packages directly from an FTP or HTTP server, run the following commands in a Bourne-compatible shell (be sure to **su** to root first):

```
# PATH="/usr/pkg/sbin:/usr/pkg/bin:$PATH"
# PKG_PATH="https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/packages"
# PKG_PATH="$PKG_PATH/OPSYS/ARCH/VERSIONS/All/"
# export PATH PKG_PATH
# pkg_add pkgin
```

Instead of URLs, you can also use local paths, for example if you are installing from a set of CDROMs, DVDs or an NFS-mounted repository. If you want to install packages from multiple sources, you can separate them by a semicolon in `PKG_PATH`.

After these preparations, installing a package is very easy:

```
# pkgin search nginx
nginx-1.19.6         Lightweight HTTP server and mail proxy server
nginx-1.18.0nb8      Lightweight HTTP server and mail proxy server
# pkgin install zsh nginx-1.19.6 vim
```

Note that **pkgin** is a user-friendly frontend to the **pkg_*** tools.

Any prerequisite packages needed to run the package in question will be installed, too, assuming they are present in the repository.

After you've installed packages, be sure to have `/usr/pkg/bin` and `/usr/pkg/sbin` in your `PATH` so you can actually start the just installed program.

5.1.3. Updating packages

To update binary packages, it is recommended that you use **pkgin upgrade**. This will compare the remote package repository to your locally installed packages and safely replace any older packages.

Note that pkgsrc is released as quarterly branches. If you are updating to a newer quarterly branch of pkgsrc, you may need to adjust the repository in `/usr/pkg/etc/pkgin/repositories.conf`.

5.1.4. Deinstalling packages

To deinstall a package, it does not matter whether it was installed from source code or from a binary package. Neither the **pkgin** or the **pkg_delete** command need to know.

To delete a package, you can just run **pkgin remove** ***package-name***. The package name can be given with or without version number.

5.1.5. Getting information about installed packages

The **pkg_info** shows information about installed packages or binary package files. As with other management tools, it works with packages installed from source or binaries.

5.1.6. Checking for security vulnerabilities in installed packages

The pkgsrc Security Team and Packages Groups maintain a list of known vulnerabilities to packages which are (or have been) included in pkgsrc. The list is available from the NetBSD CDN at https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/NetBSD/packages/vulns/pkg-vulnerabilities.

Please note that not every "vulnerability" with a CVE assignment is exploitable in every configuration. Some bugs are marked as active simply because an fix was not marked as such. Operating system specific hardening and mitigation features may also reduce the impact of bugs.

Through **pkg_admin fetch-pkg-vulnerabilities**, this list can be downloaded automatically, and a security audit of all packages installed on a system can take place.

There are two components to auditing. The first step, **pkg_admin fetch-pkg-vulnerabilities**, is for downloading the list of vulnerabilities from the NetBSD FTP site. The second step, **pkg_admin audit**, checks to see if any of your installed packages are vulnerable. If a package is vulnerable, you will see output similar to the following:

```
Package samba-2.0.9 has a local-root-shell vulnerability, see
    https://www.samba.org/samba/whatsnew/macroexploit.html
```

You may wish to have the vulnerabilities (https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/distfiles/vulnerabilities) file downloaded daily so that it remains current. This may be done by adding an appropriate entry to the root users crontab(5) entry. For example the entry

```
# Download vulnerabilities file
0 3 * * * /usr/pkg/sbin/pkg_admin fetch-pkg-vulnerabilities >/dev/null 2>&1
# Audit the installed packages and email results to root
9 3 * * * /usr/pkg/sbin/pkg_admin audit |mail -s "Installed package audit result" \
     root >/dev/null 2>&1
```

will update the vulnerability list every day at 3AM, followed by an audit at 3:09AM. The result of the audit are then emailed to root. On NetBSD this may be accomplished instead by adding the following line to `/etc/daily.conf`:

```
fetch_pkg_vulnerabilities=YES
```

to fetch the vulnerability list from the daily security script. The system is set to audit the packages by default but can be set explicitly, if desired (not required), by adding the following line to `/etc/security.conf`:

```
check_pkg_vulnerabilities=YES
```

see daily.conf(5) and security.conf(5) for more details.

5.1.7. Finding if newer versions of your installed packages are in pkgsrc

Install `pkgtools/lintpkgsrc` and run **lintpkgsrc** with the “-i” argument to check if any packages are stale, e.g.

```
% lintpkgsrc -i
...
Version mismatch: 'tcsh' 6.09.00 vs 6.10.00
```

5.1.8. Other administrative functions

The **pkg_admin** executes various administrative functions on the package system.

5.2. Building packages from source

After obtaining pkgsrc, the `pkgsrc` directory now contains a set of packages, organized into categories. You can browse the online index of packages, or run **make readme** from the `pkgsrc` directory to build local `README.html` files for all packages, viewable with any web browser such as `www/lynx` or `www/firefox`.

The default *prefix* for installed packages is `/usr/pkg`. If you wish to change this, you should do so by setting `LOCALBASE` in `mk.conf`. You should not try to use multiple different `LOCALBASE` definitions on the same system (inside a chroot is an exception).

The rest of this chapter assumes that the package is already in pkgsrc. If it is not, see Part II in *The pkgsrc guide* for instructions how to create your own packages.

5.2.1. Requirements

To build packages from source, you need a working C compiler. On NetBSD, you need to install the "comp" and the "text" distribution sets. If you want to build X11-related packages, the "xbase" and "xcomp" distribution sets are required, too.

5.2.2. Fetching distfiles

The first step for building a package is downloading the distfiles (i.e. the unmodified source). If they have not yet been downloaded, pkgsrc will fetch them automatically.

If you have all files that you need in the `distfiles` directory, you don't need to connect. If the distfiles are on CD-ROM, you can mount the CD-ROM on `/cdrom` and add:

```
DISTDIR=/cdrom/pkgsrc/distfiles
```

to your `mk.conf`.

By default a list of distribution sites will be randomly intermixed to prevent huge load on servers which holding popular packages (for example, SourceForge.net mirrors). Thus, every time when you need to fetch yet another distfile all the mirrors will be tried in new (random) order. You can turn this feature off by setting `MASTER_SORT_RANDOM=NO` (for `PKG_DEVELOPER`s it's already disabled).

You can overwrite some of the major distribution sites to fit to sites that are close to your own. By setting one or two variables you can modify the order in which the master sites are accessed. `MASTER_SORT`

contains a whitespace delimited list of domain suffixes. MASTER_SORT_REGEX is even more flexible, it contains a whitespace delimited list of regular expressions. It has higher priority than MASTER_SORT. Have a look at pkgsrc/mk/defaults/mk.conf to find some examples. This may save some of your bandwidth and time.

You can change these settings either in your shell's environment, or, if you want to keep the settings, by editing the mk.conf file, and adding the definitions there.

If a package depends on many other packages (such as meta-pkgs/kde4), the build process may alternate between periods of downloading source, and compiling. To ensure you have all the source downloaded initially you can run the command:

```
% make fetch-list | sh
```

which will output and run a set of shell commands to fetch the necessary files into the distfiles directory. You can also choose to download the files manually.

5.2.3. How to build and install

Once the software has downloaded, any patches will be applied, then it will be compiled for you. This may take some time depending on your computer, and how many other packages the software depends on and their compile time.

> **Note:** If using bootstrap or pkgsrc on a non-NetBSD system, use the pkgsrc **bmake** command instead of "make" in the examples in this guide.

For example, type

```
% cd misc/figlet
% make
```

at the shell prompt to build the various components of the package.

The next stage is to actually install the newly compiled program onto your system. Do this by entering:

```
% make install
```

while you are still in the directory for whatever package you are installing.

Installing the package on your system may require you to be root. However, pkgsrc has a *just-in-time-su* feature, which allows you to only become root for the actual installation step.

That's it, the software should now be installed and setup for use. You can now enter:

```
% make clean
```

to remove the compiled files in the work directory, as you shouldn't need them any more. If other packages were also added to your system (dependencies) to allow your program to compile, you can tidy these up also with the command:

```
% make clean-depends
```

Taking the figlet utility as an example, we can install it on our system by building as shown in Appendix C.

The program is installed under the default root of the packages tree - /usr/pkg. Should this not conform to your tastes, set the LOCALBASE variable in your environment, and it will use that value as the root of your packages tree. So, to use /usr/local, set LOCALBASE=/usr/local in your environment. Please note that you should use a directory which is dedicated to packages and not shared with other programs (i.e., do not try and use LOCALBASE=/usr). Also, you should not try to add any of your own files or directories (such as src/, obj/, or pkgsrc/) below the LOCALBASE tree. This is to prevent possible conflicts between programs and other files installed by the package system and whatever else may have been installed there.

Some packages look in mk.conf to alter some configuration options at build time. Have a look at pkgsrc/mk/defaults/mk.conf to get an overview of what will be set there by default. Environment variables such as LOCALBASE can be set in mk.conf to save having to remember to set them each time you want to use pkgsrc.

Occasionally, people want to “look under the covers” to see what is going on when a package is building or being installed. This may be for debugging purposes, or out of simple curiosity. A number of utility values have been added to help with this.

1. If you invoke the make(1) command with PKG_DEBUG_LEVEL=2, then a huge amount of information will be displayed. For example,

   ```
   make patch PKG_DEBUG_LEVEL=2
   ```

   will show all the commands that are invoked, up to and including the “patch” stage.

2. If you want to know the value of a certain make(1) definition, then the VARNAME definition should be used, in conjunction with the show-var target. e.g. to show the expansion of the make(1) variable LOCALBASE:

   ```
   % make show-var VARNAME=LOCALBASE
   /usr/pkg
   %
   ```

If you want to install a binary package that you’ve either created yourself (see next section), that you put into pkgsrc/packages manually or that is located on a remote FTP server, you can use the "bin-install" target. This target will install a binary package - if available - via pkg_add(1), else do a **make package**. The list of remote FTP sites searched is kept in the variable BINPKG_SITES, which defaults to ftp.NetBSD.org. Any flags that should be added to pkg_add(1) can be put into BIN_INSTALL_FLAGS. See pkgsrc/mk/defaults/mk.conf for more details.

A final word of warning: If you set up a system that has a non-standard setting for LOCALBASE, be sure to set that before any packages are installed, as you cannot use several directories for the same purpose. Doing so will result in pkgsrc not being able to properly detect your installed packages, and fail miserably. Note also that precompiled binary packages are usually built with the default LOCALBASE of /usr/pkg, and that you should *not* install any if you use a non-standard LOCALBASE.

Chapter 6.
Configuring pkgsrc

The whole pkgsrc system is configured in a single file, usually called `mk.conf`. In which directory pkgsrc looks for that file depends on the installation. On NetBSD, when you use make(1) from the base system, it is in the directory `/etc/`. In all other cases the default location is `${PREFIX}/etc/`, depending on where you told the bootstrap program to install the binary packages.

The format of the configuration file is that of the usual BSD-style `Makefile`s. The whole pkgsrc configuration is done by setting variables in this file. Note that you can define all kinds of variables, and no special error checking (for example for spelling mistakes) takes place.

6.1. General configuration

The following variables apply to all pkgsrc packages. A complete list of the variables that can be configured by the user is available in `mk/defaults/mk.conf`, together with some comments that describe each variable's intent.

- `LOCALBASE`: Where packages will be installed. The default is `/usr/pkg`. Do not mix binary packages with different `LOCALBASE`s!
- `CROSSBASE`: Where "cross" category packages will be installed. The default is `${LOCALBASE}/cross`.
- `X11BASE`: Where X11 is installed on the system. The default is `/usr/X11R7`.
- `DISTDIR`: Where to store the downloaded copies of the original source distributions used for building pkgsrc packages. The default is `${PKGSRCDIR}/distfiles`.
- `PKG_DBDIR`: Where the database about installed packages is stored. The default is `/usr/pkg/pkgdb`.
- `MASTER_SITE_OVERRIDE`: If set, override the packages' `MASTER_SITES` with this value.
- `MASTER_SITE_BACKUP`: Backup location(s) for distribution files and patch files if not found locally or in `${MASTER_SITES}` or `${PATCH_SITES}` respectively. The defaults is `ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/distfiles/${DIST_SUBDIR}/`.
- `BINPKG_SITES`: List of sites carrying binary pkgs. *`rel`* and *`arch`* are replaced with OS release ("2.0", etc.) and architecture ("mipsel", etc.).
- `ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES`: List of acceptable licenses. License names are case-sensitive. Whenever you try to build a package whose license is not in this list, you will get an error message. If the license condition is simple enough, the error message will include specific instructions on how to change this variable.

6.2. Variables affecting the build process

- PACKAGES: The top level directory for the binary packages. The default is ${PKGSRCDIR}/packages.
- WRKOBJDIR: The top level directory where, if defined, the separate working directories will get created, and symbolically linked to from ${WRKDIR} (see below). This is useful for building packages on several architectures, then ${PKGSRCDIR} can be NFS-mounted while ${WRKOBJDIR} is local to every architecture. (It should be noted that PKGSRCDIR should not be set by the user — it is an internal definition which refers to the root of the pkgsrc tree. It is possible to have many pkgsrc tree instances.)
- LOCALPATCHES: Directory for local patches that aren't part of pkgsrc. See Section 12.3 for more information.
- PKGMAKECONF: Location of the mk.conf file used by a package's BSD-style Makefile. If this is not set, MAKECONF is set to /dev/null to avoid picking up settings used by builds in /usr/src.

6.3. Preferences for native or pkgsrc software

Whenever a package depends on a package that has a builtin.mk file, the dependent package can either use the built-in (native) version from the base system or the pkgsrc-provided version. This only affects dependencies, so it is still possible to build the pkgsrc package devel/pcre++ even when other packages depend on the native pcre++ version instead.

To force using the pkgsrc-provided version for a particular package, define "PREFER_PKGSRC = *package-ID*" in mk.conf. To force using the native package, define "PREFER_NATIVE = *package-ID*". In both cases, the *package-ID* is the one from the buildlink3.mk of the package. In most cases, this ID is the same as the directory name of the package, but for example, devel/pcre++ has the package ID "pcrexx".

For the packages that are not listed by their package ID, pkgsrc uses the pkgsrc-provided version if PREFER_PKGSRC contains the word "yes". Otherwise, if PREFER_NATIVE contains the word "yes", pkgsrc uses the native version. For example, to require using the pkgsrc-provided versions for all but the most basic bits on a NetBSD system, you can set:

```
PREFER_PKGSRC=  yes
PREFER_NATIVE=  getopt skey tcp_wrappers
```

A package *must* have a builtin.mk file to be listed in PREFER_NATIVE, otherwise it is simply ignored in that list.

PREFER_PKGSRC and PREFER_NATIVE should be set during bootstrap to ensure that the bootstrap process does not use inapropriate native tools as dependencies for core packages.

```
# ./bootstrap --prefer-pkgsrc yes --prefer-native openssl
```

Switching between settings globally at a later date can introduce complications with dependency resolution. This is caused by packages built with the opposite preference being installed alongside each other. Hence, when changing any of these variables after bootstrap, you need to rebuild all packages depending on those whose preference has been changed. This is not trivial and should be avoided.

When using pkgsrc on Linux systems, there is high risk of “leakage”, where programs installed by pkgsrc may inadvertently use a command or library not installed by pkgsrc, e.g. those installed by yum or apt. Such foreign dependencies may be installed, removed, or upgraded to a version incompatible with the pkgsrc package at any time, causing pkgsrc packages to subsequently malfunction. Pkgsrc cannot prevent this, as it has no control over other package managers. Another potential problem is that under Redhat Enterprise and related Linux systems, yum packages are only patched and never upgraded, so eventually they may become too outdated for use by pkgsrc. Even intentionally using foreign dependencies, not considered leakage, can lead to these problems, so it is generally discouraged. In order to minimize such problems, PREFER_PKGSRC defaults to “yes” on Linux systems. This ensures that pkgsrc is aware of any changes to dependency packages and can rebuild or upgrade the entire dependency tree as needed. This default can be overridden by setting --prefer-pkgsrc to a list of packages and --prefer-native to “yes”.

6.4. Variables affecting the installation process

- `PKGSRC_KEEP_BIN_PKGS`: By default, binary packages of built packages are preserved in `${PACKAGES}/All`. Setting this variable to "no" prevents this.

Packages have to support installation into a subdirectory of `WRKDIR`. This allows a package to be built, before the actual filesystem is touched. DESTDIR support exists in two variations:

- Basic DESTDIR support means that the package installation and packaging is still run as root.
- Full DESTDIR support can run the complete build, installation and packaging as normal user. Root privileges are only needed to add packages.

With basic DESTDIR support, **`make clean`** needs to be run as root.

Considering the `foo/bar` package, DESTDIR full support can be tested using the following commands

```
$ id
uid=1000(myusername) gid=100(users) groups=100(users),0(wheel)
$ mkdir $HOME/packages
$ cd $PKGSRCDIR/foo/bar
```

Verify `DESTDIR` full support, no root privileges should be needed

```
$ make stage-install
```

Create a package without root privileges

```
$ make PACKAGES=$HOME/packages package
```

For the following command, you must be able to gain root privileges using su(1)

```
$ make PACKAGES=$HOME/packages install
```

Then, as a simple user

```
$ make clean
```

6.5. Selecting and configuring the compiler

6.5.1. Selecting the compiler

By default, pkgsrc will use GCC to build packages. This may be overridden by setting the following variables in /etc/mk.conf:

PKGSRC_COMPILER:

This is a list of values specifying the chain of compilers to invoke when building packages. Valid values are:

- ccc: Compaq C Compilers (Tru64)
- ccache: compiler cache (chainable)
- clang: Clang C and Objective-C compiler
- distcc: distributed C/C++ (chainable)
- f2c: Fortran 77 to C compiler (chainable)
- icc: Intel C++ Compiler (Linux)
- ido: SGI IRIS Development Option cc (IRIX 5)
- gcc: GNU C/C++ Compiler
- hp: HP-UX C/aC++ compilers
- mipspro: Silicon Graphics, Inc. MIPSpro (n32/n64)
- mipspro-ucode: Silicon Graphics, Inc. MIPSpro (o32)
- sunpro: Sun Microsystems, Inc. WorkShip/Forte/Sun ONE Studio
- xlc: IBM's XL C/C++ compiler suite

The default is "gcc". You can use ccache and/or distcc with an appropriate PKGSRC_COMPILER setting, e.g. "ccache gcc". This variable should always be terminated with a value for a real compiler. Note that only one real compiler should be listed (e.g. "sunpro gcc" is not allowed).

GCC_REQD:

This specifies the minimum version of GCC to use when building packages. If the system GCC doesn't satisfy this requirement, then pkgsrc will build and install one of the GCC packages to use instead.

PYTHON_VERSION_DEFAULT:

Specifies which version of python to use when several options are available.

PKGSRC_FORTRAN:

Specifies the Fortran compiler to use. The default is gfortran.

GFORTRAN_VERSION:

If PKGSRC_FORTRAN= gfortran is used, this option specifies which version to use.

6.5.2. Additional flags to the compiler (CFLAGS)

If you wish to set the CFLAGS variable, please make sure to use the += operator instead of the = operator:

```
CFLAGS+=        -your -flags
```

Using CFLAGS= (i.e. without the "+") may lead to problems with packages that need to add their own flags. You may want to take a look at the devel/cpuflags package if you're interested in optimization specifically for the current CPU.

6.5.3. Additional flags to the linker (LDFLAGS)

If you want to pass flags to the linker, both in the configure step and the build step, you can do this in two ways. Either set LDFLAGS or LIBS. The difference between the two is that LIBS will be appended to the command line, while LDFLAGS come earlier. LDFLAGS is pre-loaded with rpath settings for ELF machines depending on the setting of USE_IMAKE or the inclusion of mk/x11.buildlink3.mk. As with CFLAGS, if you do not wish to override these settings, use the += operator:

```
LDFLAGS+=       -your -linkerflags
```

6.6. Developer/advanced settings

- PKG_DEVELOPER: Run some sanity checks that package developers want:
  - make sure patches apply with zero fuzz
  - run check-shlibs to see that all binaries will find their shared libs.
- CHECK_FILES_STRICT: Also check VARBASE and PKG_SYSCONFDIR values in PLIST entries.
- PKG_DEBUG_LEVEL: The level of debugging output which is displayed whilst making and installing the package. The default value for this is 0, which will not display the commands as they are executed (normal, default, quiet operation); the value 1 will display all shell commands before their invocation, and the value 2 will display both the shell commands before their invocation, as well as their actual execution progress with **set -x**.

6.7. Selecting Build Options

Some packages have build time options, usually to select between different dependencies, enable optional support for big dependencies or enable experimental features.

To see which options, if any, a package supports, and which options are mutually exclusive, run **make show-options**, for example:

```
The following options are supported by this package:
```

```
        ssl      Enable SSL support.
    Exactly one of the following gecko options is required:
        firefox  Use firefox as gecko rendering engine.
        mozilla  Use mozilla as gecko rendering engine.
    At most one of the following database options may be selected:
        mysql    Enable support for MySQL database.
        pgsql    Enable support for PostgreSQL database.

    These options are enabled by default: firefox
    These options are currently enabled: mozilla ssl
```

The following variables can be defined in `mk.conf` to select which options to enable for a package: `PKG_DEFAULT_OPTIONS`, which can be used to select or disable options for all packages that support them, and `PKG_OPTIONS.`*`pkgbase`*, which can be used to select or disable options specifically for package *`pkgbase`*. Options listed in these variables are selected, options preceded by "-" are disabled. A few examples:

```
$ grep "PKG.*OPTION" mk.conf
PKG_DEFAULT_OPTIONS=    -arts -dvdread -esound
PKG_OPTIONS.kdebase=    debug -sasl
PKG_OPTIONS.apache=     suexec
```

It is important to note that options that were specifically suggested by the package maintainer must be explicitly removed if you do not wish to include the option. If you are unsure you can view the current state with **make show-options**.

The following settings are consulted in the order given, and the last setting that selects or disables an option is used:

1. the default options as suggested by the package maintainer
2. the options implied by the settings of legacy variables (see below)
3. `PKG_DEFAULT_OPTIONS`
4. `PKG_OPTIONS.`*`pkgbase`*

For groups of mutually exclusive options, the last option selected is used, all others are automatically disabled. If an option of the group is explicitly disabled, the previously selected option, if any, is used. It is an error if no option from a required group of options is selected, and building the package will fail.

Before the options framework was introduced, build options were selected by setting a variable (often named `USE_`*`FOO`*) in `mk.conf` for each option. To ease transition to the options framework for the user, these legacy variables are converted to the appropriate options setting (`PKG_OPTIONS.`*`pkgbase`*) automatically. A warning is issued to prompt the user to update `mk.conf` to use the options framework directly. Support for the legacy variables will be removed eventually.

Chapter 7.
Creating binary packages

7.1. Building a single binary package

Once you have built and installed a package, you can create a *binary package* which can be installed on another system with pkg_add(1). This saves having to build the same package on a group of hosts and wasting CPU time. It also provides a simple means for others to install your package, should you distribute it.

To create a binary package, change into the appropriate directory in pkgsrc, and run **make package**:

```
$ cd misc/figlet
$ make package
```

This will build your package (if not already done) and package it into a binary package. You can then use the **pkg_*** tools to manipulate it. Binary packages are created in `PACKAGES`, which defaults to `/usr/pkgsrc/packages`, in the form of a compressed tar file. See Section C.2 for a continuation of the above `misc/figlet` example.

See Chapter 23 for information on how to submit such a binary package.

7.2. Settings for creation of binary packages

See Section 13.17.

Chapter 8.
Creating binary packages for everything in pkgsrc (bulk builds)

For a number of reasons, you may want to build binary packages for a large selected set of packages in pkgsrc, or even for all pkgsrc packages. For instance, when you have multiple machines that should run the same software, it is wasted time if they all build their packages themselves from source. Or you may want to build a list of packages you want and check them before deploying onto production systems. There is a way of getting a set of binary packages: the bulk build system, or pbulk ("p" stands for "parallel"). This chapter describes how to set it up.

8.1. Preparations

First of all, you have to decide whether you build all packages or a limited set of them. Full bulk builds usually consume a lot more resources, both space and time, than builds for some practical sets of packages. A number of particularly heavy packages exist that are not actually interesting to a wide audience. (The approximate resource consumption for a full bulk build is given in section Section 8.3.) For limited bulk builds you need to make a list of packages you want to build. Note that all their dependencies will be built, so you don't need to track them manually.

During bulk builds various packages are installed and deinstalled in `/usr/pkg` (or whatever `LOCALBASE` is), so make sure that you don't need any package during the builds. Essentially, you should provide a fresh system, either a chroot environment or something even more restrictive, depending on what the operating system provides, or dedicate the whole physical machine. As a useful side effect this makes sure that bulk builds cannot break anything in your system. There have been numerous cases where certain packages tried to install files outside the `LOCALBASE` or wanted to edit some files in `/etc`.

8.2. Running a bulk build

Running a bulk build works roughly as follows:

- First, build the pbulk infrastructure in a fresh pkgsrc location.
- Then, build each of the packages from a clean installation directory using the infrastructure.

8.2.1. Configuration

To simplify configuration, we provide the helper script `mk/pbulk/pbulk.sh`.

In order to use it, prepare a clear system (real one, chroot environment, jail, zone, virtual machine). Configure network access to fetch distribution files. Create a user with name "pbulk".

Fetch and extract pkgsrc. Use a command like one of these:

```
# (cd /usr && ftp -o - https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc.tar.gz | tar -zxf-)
# (cd /usr && fetch -o - https://cdn.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/current/pkgsrc.tar.gz | tar -zxf-)
# (cd /usr && cvs -Q -z3 -d anoncvs@anoncvs.NetBSD.org:/cvsroot get -P pkgsrc)
```

Or any other way that fits (e.g., curl, wget).

Deploy and configure pbulk tools, e.g.:

```
# sh pbulk.sh -n # use native make, no bootstrap kit needed (for use on NetBSD)
# sh pbulk.sh -n -c mk.conf.frag # native, apply settings from given mk.conf fragment
# sh pbulk.sh -nlc mk.conf.frag # native, apply settings, configure for limited build
```

> **Note:** `mk.conf.frag` is a fragment of `mk.conf` that contains settings you want to apply to packages you build. For instance,
>
> ```
> PKG_DEVELOPER=          yes     # perform more checks
> X11_TYPE=               modular # use pkgsrc X11
> SKIP_LICENSE_CHECK=     yes     # accept all licences (useful
>                                 # when building all packages)
> ```

If configured for limited list, replace the list in `/usr/pbulk/etc/pbulk.list` with your list of packages, one per line without empty lines or comments. E.g.:

```
www/firefox
mail/thunderbird
misc/libreoffice4
```

At this point you can also review configuration in `/usr/pbulk/etc` and make final amendments, if wanted.

Start it:

```
# /usr/pbulk/bin/bulkbuild
```

After it finishes, you'll have `/mnt` filled with distribution files, binary packages, and reports, plain text summary in `/mnt/bulklog/meta/report.txt`

> **Note:** The `pbulk.sh` script does not cover all possible use cases. While being ready to run, it serves as a good starting point to understand and build more complex setups. The script is kept small enough for better understanding.

> **Note:** The `pbulk.sh` script supports running unprivileged bulk build and helps configuring distributed bulk builds. Distributed bulk builds support either building in worker chroots (each node is a path to a

different chroot) that replicate the target system, including the pbulk prefix, or remote machines (each node is an IP address that must be accessible over SSH without a password).

8.3. Requirements of a full bulk build

A complete bulk build requires lots of disk space. Some of the disk space can be read-only, some other must be writable. Some can be on remote filesystems (such as NFS) and some should be local. Some can be temporary filesystems, others must survive a sudden reboot.

- 70 GB for the distfiles (read-write, remote, temporary)
- 60 GB for the binary packages (read-write, remote, permanent)
- 1 GB for the pkgsrc tree (read-only, remote, permanent)
- 5 GB for `LOCALBASE` (read-write, local, temporary)
- 10 GB for the log files (read-write, remote, permanent)
- 5 GB for temporary files (read-write, local, temporary)

8.4. Bulk build variants

To ensure that pkgsrc packages work in different configurations, it makes sense to run non-default bulk builds from time to time. This section lists some ideas for bulk builds that intentionally let packages fail if they don't follow the pkgsrc style.

8.4.1. Detect unknown configure options

Add the following line to `mk.conf`.

```
GNU_CONFIGURE_STRICT=   yes
```

When a package fails this additional check, the most common cause is that the configure option was valid for an older version of the package but does not apply anymore. In that case, just remove it.

8.4.2. Detect classes of bugs by forcing compiler warnings

The job of a compiler is not restricted to producing executable code, most compilers also detect typical programming mistakes. The pkgsrc compiler wrappers make it easy to force compiler options when the package is built. This can be used to find typical bugs across all packages that are in pkgsrc. By reporting these bugs upstream, the packages will be more reliable with the next updates.

Add some of the following lines to `mk.conf`:

```
CFLAGS+=        -Werror=char-subscripts
CFLAGS+=        -Werror=implicit-function-declaration
```

When a package fails to build using these stricter compiler options, document the circumstances in which the compiler produced the error message. This includes:

- The platform (MACHINE_PLATFORM)
- The source file
- An excerpt of the code. GCC and Clang already do this as part of the diagnostic.
- The exact error message from the compiler.

If a package produces these error messages, but the package is fine, record this in your local mk.conf, like this, to skip this check in the next builds:

```
.if ${PKGPATH} == category/package
# Version ${VERSION} failed on ${MACHINE_PLATFORM}:
# error message
# code
# Reason why the code does not need to be fixed.
BUILDLINK_TRANSFORM+=   rm:-Werror=char-subscripts
.endif
```

If the error messages from the compiler are valid and the code needs to be fixed, prepare a local patch (see LOCALPATCHES) and report the bug to the upstream authors of the package, providing them with the information you collected above.

Patches that are not essential for the package to work should only be reported upstream but not committed to pkgsrc, to make future updates easier.

8.4.3. Force compiler options only in the build phase

When adding custom compiler flags via CFLAGS, these apply to all phases of the package build process. Especially in the configure phase, adding -Werror leads to wrong decisions. The GNU configure scripts feed many small test programs to the C compiler to see whether certain headers are available, functions are defined in a library and programs can be run. In many cases these programs would not survive a strict compiler run with -Wall -Wextra -Werror.

The pkgsrc infrastructure is flexible enough to support compiler options being added between the configure and build phases. It's a little more complicated than the other examples in this section but still easy enough.

The basic idea is to use the pkgsrc compiler wrapper to inject the desired compiler options. The compiler wrapper's original task is to hide unwanted directories of include files and to normalize compiler options. It does this by wrapping the compiler command and rewriting the command line. To see this in action, run **bmake patch** in a package directory and examine the work/.cwrappers/config directory. It contains individual configurations for the C compiler and the related tools. The plan is to find a hook between the configure and build phases, and to modify these configuration files at that point.

To find this hook, have a look at mk/build/build.mk, which contains among others the pre-build-checks-hook. The word checks doesn't quite fit, but the pre-build-hook sounds good enough.

The code to be included in mk.conf is:

```
# Just a few example options.
BUILD_ONLY_CFLAGS=      -Wall -Werror -O2 -DTEMPDIR='"/tmp"'

.if ${BUILD_ONLY_CFLAGS:U:M*}
pre-build-checks-hook: add-build-only-cflags

add-build-only-cflags: .PHONY
        ${RUN} cd ${CWRAPPERS_CONFIG_DIR};      \
        ${TEST} ! -f ${.TARGET} || exit 0;      \
        for flag in ${BUILD_ONLY_CFLAGS}; do    \
                ${ECHO} "append=$$flag" >> cc;  \
        done;                                   \
        > ${.TARGET}
.endif
```

(When editing the `mk.conf`, make sure that the commands of the `add-build-only-cflags` target are indented with a tab, not with spaces.)

The condition in the `.if` statement contains the `:U` modifier to prevent parse errors if the variable should be undefined, possibly because it is only defined for a subset of the packages. The `:M*` modifier ensures that there is at least one compiler option, to prevent a syntax error in the shell parser.

The code around the `${.TARGET}` variable ensures that the additional compiler options are only appended once, even if **bmake build** is run multiple times. To do this, it creates a marker file.

To verify that this setup works, run **bmake configure** in a package directory. Up to now, everything works as usual. Examine the directory `work/.cwrappers/config` to see that the compiler options from `BUILD_ONLY_CFLAGS` are not yet added to the file `cc`. Examine the tail of the `work/.work.log` file to see that the normal compiler options are used.

Now run **bmake build**. This will append the options to the file `cc` and will create the marker file in the same directory. After that, the build starts as usual, but with the added compiler options. Examine the tail of the file `work/.work.log` to see that the lines starting with `[*]` don't contain the compiler options, but the corresponding lines starting with `<.>` do end with these options.

Building packages using this setup variant and fixing the resulting bugs is the same as in Section 8.4.2.

8.4.4. Use custom directories

Some directories like `PREFIX`, `VARBASE`, `PKG_SYSCONFDIR`, `PKGMANDIR`, `PKG_INFODIR` can be configured in pkgsrc. Set these to arbitrary paths during bootstrap or afterwards in `mk.conf`.

```
PREFIX=         /a-random-uuid
PKG_SYSCONFDIR= /a-random-uuid
VARBASE=        /a-random-uuid
PKGMANDIR= a-random-uuid
PKG_INFODIR= a-random-uuid
```

8.4.5. Turn warnings into errors

When building a package, warnings are typically ignored since they just flow by and do not cause the build to fail immediately. To find these warnings, redefine them to errors in `mk.conf`.

```
DELAYED_WARNING_MSG=    ${DELAYED_ERROR_MSG} "(was warning)"
WARNING_MSG=            ${FAIL_MSG} "(was warning)"
```

(There are many more classes of warnings in pkgsrc, and most of them can be redefined with a simple definition like above.

If a package suggests to add `USE_TOOLS+=perl` to the package Makefile, research whether the package actually needs Perl. If it does, add `USE_TOOLS+=perl` to the package Makefile, and if it doesn't, add `TOOLS_BROKEN+=perl`.

8.4.6. Reject packages for which pkglint reports errors

Using pkglint as part of the regular build process is mostly a waste of time. If you want to fix some of the warnings, just run pkglint recursively on the whole pkgsrc tree. This will take a few minutes (up to 10), which is much faster than a complete bulk build.

8.4.7. Reject packages that contain forbidden strings

To ensure that the binary packages don't contain references to the build directory, there is already `CHECK_WRKREF`. If that variable includes the item `extra`, it is possible to define additional patterns that must not appear in any installed file. This is specified in `mk.conf`.

```
CHECK_WRKREF=                   extra
CHECK_WRKREF_EXTRA_DIRS+=       /usr/local
CHECK_WRKREF_EXTRA_DIRS+=       /usr/pkg
CHECK_WRKREF_EXTRA_DIRS+= @[A-Z][A-Z]*@
```

The above patterns will probably generate many false positives, therefore the results need to be taken with a grain of salt.

8.4.8. Reject packages whose self-test fails

To run the test suites that come with each package, add this line to `mk.conf`.

```
PKGSRC_RUN_TEST=        yes
```

Be prepared that even the most basic packages fail this test. When doing a bulk build with this, it will often abort in the early phase where the packages are scanned for their dependencies since there are cyclic dependencies. There is still a lot to do in this area.

8.4.9. Reject packages that use undefined shell variables

To catch typos in the shell snippets from the Makefile fragments, add the `-u` flag to most of the commands by adding this line to `mk.conf`.

```
RUN=    @set -eu;
```

After that, ensure that none of the bulk build log files (even those for successfully built packages) contains the string `parameter not set` or whatever error message the command **sh -ceu '$undefined'** outputs.

See `mk/misc/common.mk` for the existing definition.

8.4.10. Turn off verbose logging

The build logs of a package are often quite long. This allows error messages or other interesting details to hide between the noise. To make the actual error message stand out more, add these lines to `mk.conf`.

```
GNU_CONFIGURE_QUIET=    yes
MAKE_FLAGS+=            -s
```

The `-s` option works for both GNU Make and BSD Make. On exotic platforms with their own make, it may be a little different.

8.5. Creating a multiple CD-ROM packages collection

After your pkgsrc bulk-build has completed, you may wish to create a CD-ROM set of the resulting binary packages to assist in installing packages on other machines. The `pkgtools/cdpack` package provides a simple tool for creating the ISO 9660 images. **cdpack** arranges the packages on the CD-ROMs in a way that keeps all the dependencies for a given package on the same CD as that package.

8.5.1. Example of cdpack

Complete documentation for cdpack is found in the cdpack(1) man page. The following short example assumes that the binary packages are left in `/usr/pkgsrc/packages/All` and that sufficient disk space exists in `/u2` to hold the ISO 9660 images.

```
# mkdir /u2/images
# pkg_add /usr/pkgsrc/packages/All/cdpack
# cdpack /usr/pkgsrc/packages/All /u2/images
```

If you wish to include a common set of files (`COPYRIGHT`, `README`, etc.) on each CD in the collection, then you need to create a directory which contains these files, e.g.:

```
# mkdir /tmp/common
# echo "This is a README" > /tmp/common/README
# echo "Another file" > /tmp/common/COPYING
# mkdir /tmp/common/bin
# echo "#!/bin/sh" > /tmp/common/bin/myscript
# echo "echo Hello world" >> /tmp/common/bin/myscript
# chmod 755 /tmp/common/bin/myscript
```

Now create the images:

```
# cdpack -x /tmp/common /usr/pkgsrc/packages/All /u2/images
```

Each image will contain `README`, `COPYING`, and `bin/myscript` in their root directories.

Chapter 9.
Directory layout of the installed files

The files that are installed by pkgsrc are organized in a way that is similar to what you find in the `/usr` directory of the base system. But some details are different. This is because pkgsrc initially came from FreeBSD and had adopted its file system hierarchy. Later it was largely influenced by NetBSD. But no matter which operating system you are using pkgsrc with, you can expect the same layout for pkgsrc.

There are mainly four root directories for pkgsrc, which are all configurable in the `bootstrap/bootstrap` script. When pkgsrc has been installed as root, the default locations are:

```
LOCALBASE=              /usr/pkg
PKG_SYSCONFBASE=        /usr/pkg/etc
VARBASE=                /var
PKG_DBDIR=              /usr/pkg/pkgdb
```

In unprivileged mode (when pkgsrc has been installed as any other user), the default locations are:

```
LOCALBASE=              ${HOME}/pkg
PKG_SYSCONFBASE=        ${HOME}/pkg/etc
VARBASE=                ${HOME}/pkg/var
PKG_DBDIR=              ${HOME}/pkg/pkgdb
```

What these four directories are for, and what they look like is explained below.

- `LOCALBASE` corresponds to the `/usr` directory in the base system. It is the "main" directory where the files are installed and contains the well-known subdirectories like `bin`, `include`, `lib`, `share` and `sbin`.
- `VARBASE` corresponds to `/var` in the base system. Some programs (especially games, network daemons) need write access to it during normal operation.
- `PKG_SYSCONFDIR` corresponds to `/etc` in the base system. It contains configuration files of the packages, as well as pkgsrc's `mk.conf` itself.

9.1. File system layout in `${LOCALBASE}`

The following directories exist in a typical pkgsrc installation in `${LOCALBASE}`.

`bin`

Contains executable programs that are intended to be directly used by the end user.

`emul`

Contains files for the emulation layers of various other operating systems, especially for NetBSD.

`etc` (the usual location of `${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}`)

Contains the configuration files.

`include`

Contains headers for the C and C++ programming languages.

`info`

Contains GNU info files of various packages.

`lib`

Contains shared and static libraries.

`libdata`

Contains data files that don't change after installation. Other data files belong into `${VARBASE}`.

`libexec`

Contains programs that are not intended to be used by end users, such as helper programs or network daemons.

`libexec/cgi-bin`

Contains programs that are intended to be executed as CGI scripts by a web server.

`man` (the usual value of `${PKGMANDIR}`)

Contains brief documentation in form of manual pages.

`sbin`

Contains programs that are intended to be used only by the super-user.

`share`

Contains platform-independent data files that don't change after installation.

`share/doc`

Contains documentation files provided by the packages.

`share/examples`

Contains example files provided by the packages. Among others, the original configuration files are saved here and copied to `${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}` during installation.

`share/examples/rc.d`

Contains the original files for rc.d scripts.

`var` (the usual location of `${VARBASE}`)

Contains files that may be modified after installation.

9.2. File system layout in `${VARBASE}`

`db/pkg` (the usual location of `${PKG_DBDIR}`)

Contains information about the currently installed packages.

`games`

Contains highscore files.

`log`

Contains log files.

`run`

Contains informational files about daemons that are currently running.

Chapter 10.
Frequently Asked Questions

This section contains hints, tips & tricks on special things in pkgsrc that we didn't find a better place for in the previous chapters, and it contains items for both pkgsrc users and developers.

10.1. Are there any mailing lists for pkg-related discussion?

The following mailing lists may be of interest to pkgsrc users:

- pkgsrc-users (http://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/index.html#pkgsrc-users): This is a general purpose list for most issues regarding pkgsrc, regardless of platform, e.g. soliciting user help for pkgsrc configuration, unexpected build failures, using particular packages, upgrading pkgsrc installations, questions regarding the pkgsrc release branches, etc. General announcements or proposals for changes that impact the pkgsrc user community, e.g. major infrastructure changes, new features, package removals, etc., may also be posted.
- pkgsrc-bulk (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/index.html#pkgsrc-bulk): A list where the results of pkgsrc bulk builds are sent and discussed.
- pkgsrc-changes (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/index.html#pkgsrc-changes): This list is for those who are interested in getting a commit message for every change committed to pkgsrc. It is also available in digest form, meaning one daily message containing all commit messages for changes to the package source tree in that 24 hour period.

To subscribe, do:

```
% echo subscribe listname | mail majordomo@NetBSD.org
```

Archives for all these mailing lists are available from https://mail-index.NetBSD.org/.

10.2. Utilities for package management (pkgtools)

The directory `pkgsrc/pkgtools` contains a number of useful utilities for both users and developers of pkgsrc. This section attempts only to make the reader aware of some of the utilities and when they might be useful, and not to duplicate the documentation that comes with each package.

Utilities used by pkgsrc (automatically installed when needed):

- `pkgtools/x11-links`: Symlinks for use by buildlink.

OS tool augmentation (automatically installed when needed):

- `pkgtools/digest`: Calculates various kinds of checksums (including SHA3).

- pkgtools/libnbcompat: Compatibility library for pkgsrc tools.
- pkgtools/mtree: Installed on non-BSD systems due to lack of native mtree.
- pkgtools/pkg_install: Up-to-date replacement for /usr/sbin/pkg_install, or for use on operating systems where pkg_install is not present.

Utilities used by pkgsrc (not automatically installed):

- pkgtools/pkg_tarup: Create a binary package from an already-installed package. Used by **make replace** to save the old package.
- pkgtools/dfdisk: Adds extra functionality to pkgsrc, allowing it to fetch distfiles from multiple locations. It currently supports the following methods: multiple CD-ROMs and network FTP/HTTP connections.
- devel/cpuflags: Determine the best compiler flags to optimise code for your current CPU and compiler.

Utilities for keeping track of installed packages, being up to date, etc:

- pkgtools/pkgin: A package update tool similar to apt(1). Download, install, and upgrade binary packages easily.
- pkgtools/pkg_chk: Reports on packages whose installed versions do not match the latest pkgsrc entries.
- pkgtools/pkgdep: Makes dependency graphs of packages, to aid in choosing a strategy for updating.
- pkgtools/pkgdepgraph: Makes graphs from the output of pkgtools/pkgdep (uses graphviz).
- pkgtools/pkglint: The pkglint(1) program checks a pkgsrc entry for errors.
- pkgtools/lintpkgsrc: The lintpkgsrc(1) program does various checks on the complete pkgsrc system.
- pkgtools/pkgsurvey: Report what packages you have installed.

Utilities for people maintaining or creating individual packages:

- pkgtools/pkgdiff: Automate making and maintaining patches for a package (includes pkgdiff, pkgvi, mkpatches, etc.).
- pkgtools/url2pkg: Aids in converting to pkgsrc.

Utilities for people maintaining pkgsrc (or: more obscure pkg utilities)

- pkgtools/pkg_comp: Build packages in a chrooted area.
- pkgtools/libkver: Spoof kernel version for chrooted cross builds.

10.3. How to use pkgsrc as non-root

To install packages from source as a non-root user, download pkgsrc as described in Chapter 3, cd into that directory and run the command **./bootstrap/bootstrap --unprivileged**.

This will install the binary part of pkgsrc to ~/pkg and put the pkgsrc configuration mk.conf into ~/pkg/etc.

For more details, see mk/unprivileged.mk.

10.4. How to resume transfers when fetching distfiles?

By default, resuming transfers in pkgsrc is disabled, but you can enable this feature by adding the option PKG_RESUME_TRANSFERS=YES into mk.conf. If, during a fetch step, an incomplete distfile is found, pkgsrc will try to resume it.

You can also use a different program than the platform default program by changing the FETCH_USING variable. You can specify the program by using of ftp, fetch, wget or curl. Alternatively, fetching can be disabled by using the value manual. A value of custom disables the system defaults and dependency tracking for the fetch program. In that case you have to provide FETCH_CMD, FETCH_BEFORE_ARGS, FETCH_RESUME_ARGS, FETCH_OUTPUT_ARGS, FETCH_AFTER_ARGS.

For example, if you want to use wget to download, you'll have to use something like:

```
FETCH_USING=    wget
```

10.5. How can I install/use modular X.org from pkgsrc?

If you want to use modular X.org from pkgsrc instead of your system's own X11 (/usr/X11R6, /usr/openwin, ...) you will have to add the following line into mk.conf:

```
X11_TYPE=modular
```

10.6. How to fetch files from behind a firewall

If you are sitting behind a firewall which does not allow direct connections to Internet hosts (i.e. non-NAT), you may specify the relevant proxy hosts. This is done using an environment variable in the form of a URL, e.g. in Amdahl, the machine "orpheus.amdahl.com" is one of the firewalls, and it uses port 80 as the proxy port number. So the proxy environment variables are:

```
ftp_proxy=ftp://orpheus.amdahl.com:80/
http_proxy=http://orpheus.amdahl.com:80/
```

10.7. How to fetch files from HTTPS sites

Some fetch tools are not prepared to support HTTPS by default (for example, the one in NetBSD 6.0), or the one installed by the pkgsrc bootstrap (to avoid an openssl dependency that low in the dependency graph).

Usually you won't notice, because distribution files are mirrored weekly to "ftp.NetBSD.org", but that might not be often enough if you are following pkgsrc-current. In that case, set FETCH_USING in your

mk.conf file to “curl” or “wget”, which are both compiled with HTTPS support by default. Of course, these tools need to be installed before you can use them this way.

10.8. How do I tell make fetch to do passive FTP?

This depends on which utility is used to retrieve distfiles. From bsd.pkg.mk, FETCH_CMD is assigned the first available command from the following list:

- ${LOCALBASE}/bin/ftp
- /usr/bin/ftp

On a default NetBSD installation, this will be /usr/bin/ftp, which automatically tries passive connections first, and falls back to active connections if the server refuses to do passive. For the other tools, add the following to your mk.conf file: PASSIVE_FETCH=1.

Having that option present will prevent /usr/bin/ftp from falling back to active transfers.

10.9. How to fetch all distfiles at once

You would like to download all the distfiles in a single batch from work or university, where you can’t run a **make fetch**. There is an archive of distfiles on ftp.NetBSD.org (ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/distfiles/), but downloading the entire directory may not be appropriate.

The answer here is to do a **make fetch-list** in /usr/pkgsrc or one of its subdirectories, carry the resulting list to your machine at work/school and use it there. If you don’t have a NetBSD-compatible ftp(1) (like tnftp) at work, don’t forget to set FETCH_CMD to something that fetches a URL:

At home:

```
% cd /usr/pkgsrc
% make fetch-list FETCH_CMD=wget DISTDIR=/tmp/distfiles >/tmp/fetch.sh
% scp /tmp/fetch.sh work:/tmp
```

At work:

```
% sh /tmp/fetch.sh
```

then tar up /tmp/distfiles and take it home.

If you have a machine running NetBSD, and you want to get *all* distfiles (even ones that aren’t for your machine architecture), you can do so by using the above-mentioned **make fetch-list** approach, or fetch the distfiles directly by running:

```
% make mirror-distfiles
```

If you even decide to ignore NO_{SRC,BIN}_ON_{FTP,CDROM}, then you can get everything by running:

```
% make fetch NO_SKIP=yes
```

10.10. What does “Don’t know how to make /usr/share/tmac/tmac.andoc” mean?

When compiling the pkgtools/pkg_install package, you get the error from make that it doesn’t know how to make /usr/share/tmac/tmac.andoc? This indicates that you don’t have installed the “text” set (nroff, ...) from the NetBSD base distribution on your machine. It is recommended to do that to format man pages.

In the case of the pkgtools/pkg_install package, you can get away with setting NOMAN=YES either in the environment or in mk.conf.

10.11. What does “Could not find bsd.own.mk” mean?

You didn’t install the compiler set, comp.tgz, when you installed your NetBSD machine. Please get and install it, by extracting it in /:

```
# cd /
# tar --unlink -zxvpf .../comp.tgz
```

comp.tgz is part of every NetBSD release. Get the one that corresponds to your release (determine via **uname -r**).

10.12. Using ’sudo’ or ‘priv‘ with pkgsrc

When installing packages as non-root user and using the just-in-time su(1) feature of pkgsrc, it can become annoying to type in the root password for each required package installed. To avoid this, the sudo package can be used, which does password caching over a limited time. To use it, install **sudo** or **priv** (either as binary package, from security/priv, or security/sudo) and then put the following into your mk.conf, somewhere *after* the definition of the LOCALBASE variable:

```
.if exists(${LOCALBASE}/bin/sudo)
SU_CMD=         ${LOCALBASE}/bin/sudo /bin/sh -c
.endif
```

10.13. How do I change the location of configuration files?

As the system administrator, you can choose where configuration files are installed. The default settings make all these files go into ${PREFIX}/etc or some of its subdirectories; this may be suboptimal depending on your expectations (e.g., a read-only, NFS-exported PREFIX with a need of per-machine configuration of the provided packages).

In order to change the defaults, you can modify the PKG_SYSCONFBASE variable (in mk.conf) to point to your preferred configuration directory; some common examples include /etc or /etc/pkg.

Furthermore, you can change this value on a per-package basis by setting the PKG_SYSCONFDIR.${PKG_SYSCONFVAR} variable. PKG_SYSCONFVAR’s value usually matches the name of the package you would like to modify, that is, the contents of PKGBASE.

Note that after changing these settings, you must rebuild and reinstall any affected packages.

10.14. Automated security checks

Please be aware that there can often be bugs in third-party software, and some of these bugs can leave a machine vulnerable to exploitation by attackers. In an effort to lessen the exposure, the NetBSD packages team maintains a database of known-exploits to packages which have at one time been included in pkgsrc. The database can be downloaded automatically, and a security audit of all packages installed on a system can take place. To do this, refer to the following two tools (installed as part of the `pkgtools/pkg_install` package):

1. **pkg_admin fetch-pkg-vulnerabilities**, an easy way to download a list of the security vulnerabilities information. This list is kept up to date by the pkgsrc security team, and is distributed from the NetBSD ftp server:

   https://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/NetBSD/packages/vulns/pkg-vulnerabilities

2. **pkg_admin audit**, an easy way to audit the current machine, checking each known vulnerability. If a vulnerable package is installed, it will be shown by output to stdout, including a description of the type of vulnerability, and a URL containing more information.

Use of these tools is strongly recommended! See Section 5.1.6 for instructions on how to automate checking and reporting.

If this database is installed, pkgsrc builds will use it to perform a security check before building any package.

10.15. Why do some packages ignore my CFLAGS?

When you add your own preferences to the `CFLAGS` variable in your `mk.conf`, these flags are passed in environment variables to the `./configure` scripts and to make(1). Some package authors ignore the `CFLAGS` from the environment variable by overriding them in the `Makefile`s of their package.

Currently there is no solution to this problem. If you really need the package to use your `CFLAGS` you should run **make patch** in the package directory and then inspect any `Makefile` and `Makefile.in` for whether they define `CFLAGS` explicitly. Usually you can remove these lines. But be aware that some "smart" programmers write so bad code that it only works for the specific combination of `CFLAGS` they have chosen.

To find out where the CFLAGS are ignored, add the following lines to `mk.conf`:

```
CPPFLAGS+=              -Dpkgsrc___CPPFLAGS
CFLAGS+=                -Dpkgsrc___CFLAGS
CXXFLAGS+=              -Dpkgsrc___CXXFLAGS
```

Then run **bmake show-all-configure show-all-build** to see whether the above flags are passed to the actual build commands in general.

To find out whether the flags are passed to individual compiler commands, have a look at the file `work/.work.log`. In most cases, the flags from the original command lines (the lines starting with `[*]`)

are passed unmodified to the actual compiler (the lines starting with < . >). If the flag is missing from the actual compiler command, it must have been removed by the pkgsrc compiler wrappers.

10.16. A package does not build. What shall I do?

1. Make sure that your copy of pkgsrc is consistent. A case that occurs often is that people only update pkgsrc in parts, because of performance reasons. Since pkgsrc is one large system, not a collection of many small systems, there are sometimes changes that only work when the whole pkgsrc tree is updated.
2. Make sure that you don't have any CVS conflicts. Search for "<<<<<<" or ">>>>>>" in all your pkgsrc files.
3. Make sure that you don't have old copies of the packages extracted. Run **make clean clean-depends** to verify this.
4. If you are a package developer who wants to invest some work, have a look at Chapter 21.
5. If the problem still exists, write a mail to the `pkgsrc-users` mailing list.

10.17. What does "Makefile appears to contain unresolved cvs/rcs/??? merge conflicts" mean?

You have modified a file from pkgsrc, and someone else has modified that same file afterwards in the CVS repository. Both changes are in the same region of the file, so when you updated pkgsrc, the `cvs` command marked the conflicting changes in the file. Because of these markers, the file is no longer a valid `Makefile`.

Have a look at that file, and if you don't need your local changes anymore, you can remove that file and run **cvs -q update -dP** in that directory to download the current version.

II. The pkgsrc developer's guide

This part of the book deals with creating and modifying packages. It starts with a "HOWTO"-like guide on creating a new package. The remaining chapters are more like a reference manual for pkgsrc.

Chapter 11.
Getting help

To get help when developing pkgsrc, the definitive source is this document, the pkgsrc guide. If you don't find anything here, there are alternatives:

- The built-in pkgsrc help, which is available after bootstrapping pkgsrc. Run **bmake help topic=...** to get help for any topic, such as a variable name like `BUILD_DEFS`, a make target like **do-build**, a missing C or C++ function like **strcasecmp** or any other topic.

  The available help topics are listed in Appendix E.

- To see the value of a single variable, run **bmake show-var VARNAME=*x***.
- To see the values of the most common variables, run **bmake show-all**. These variables are grouped by topic. To see the variables for a single topic, run **bmake show-all-*topic***, for example **bmake show-all-fetch**.
- The tech-pkg mailing list, to which you can subscribe (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/#tech-pkg) and then ask your questions (mailto:tech-pkg@NetBSD.org).
- The #pkgsrc IRC channel, which is accessible via a web browser (https://webchat.freenode.net/) or by using a specialized chat program such as XChat (http://xchat.org/). Pick any user name and join the channel #pkgsrc.

Chapter 12.
Package components - files, directories and contents

Whenever you're preparing a package, there are a number of files involved which are described in the following sections.

12.1. `Makefile`

Building, installation and creation of a binary package are all controlled by the package's `Makefile`. The `Makefile` describes various things about a package, for example from where to get it, how to configure, build, and install it.

A package `Makefile` contains several sections that describe the package.

In the first section there are the following variables, which should appear exactly in the order given here. The order and grouping of the variables is mostly historical and has no further meaning.

- `DISTNAME` is the basename of the distribution file to be downloaded from the package's website.
- `PKGNAME` is the name of the package, as used by pkgsrc. You need to provide it if `DISTNAME` (which is the default) is not a good name for the package in pkgsrc or `DISTNAME` is not provided (no distribution file is required). Usually it is the pkgsrc directory name together with the version number. It must match the regular expression `^[A-Za-z0-9][A-Za-z0-9_.+]*$`, that is, it starts with a letter or digit, and contains only letters, digits, dashes, underscores, dots and plus signs. New packages should have entirely lower-case names, with the exception of some that must follow pre-existing conventions (e.g. R packages begin with `R-`). You can use the `:tl` variable modifier to lower-case the package name.
- `CATEGORIES` is a list of categories which the package fits in. You can choose any of the top-level directories of pkgsrc for it.

  Currently the following values are available for `CATEGORIES`. If more than one is used, they need to be separated by spaces:

```
archivers     cross         geography     meta-pkgs     security
audio         databases     graphics      misc          shells
benchmarks    devel         ham           multimedia    sysutils
biology       editors       inputmethod   net           textproc
cad           emulators     lang          news          time
chat          finance       mail          parallel      wm
comms         fonts         math          pkgtools      www
converters    games         mbone         print         x11
```

- MASTER_SITES, DYNAMIC_MASTER_SITES, DIST_SUBDIR, EXTRACT_SUFX and DISTFILES are discussed in detail in Section 13.5.

The second section contains information about separately downloaded patches, if any.

- PATCHFILES: Name(s) of additional files that contain distribution patches. There is no default. pkgsrc will look for them at PATCH_SITES. They will automatically be uncompressed before patching if the names end with .gz or .Z.
- PATCH_SITES: Primary location(s) for distribution patch files (see PATCHFILES above) if not found locally.
- PATCH_DIST_STRIP: an argument to patch(1) that sets the pathname strip count to help find the correct files to patch. It defaults to **-p0**.

The third section contains the following variables.

- MAINTAINER is the email address of the person who is currently responsible for this package. In theory, the maintainer will be aware of upstream release, keep it updated, and generally resolve problems. Others contemplating significant changes should ask the maintainer for advice or review of a proposed change. This is not necessary for micro updates, bug fixes, pkgsrc-wide changes affecting many packages, and other things expected to be uncontroversial. It goes with this "should ask" that the maintainer should respond to inquiries reasonably promptly (most of the time), and either approve changes or provide reasons why not. Typically, when packaging a new program, set MAINTAINER to yourself. If you don't intend to maintain the package (especially if you feel you have no special insight), set it to <pkgsrc-users@NetBSD.org>. This special value is a code point indicating that there is no maintainer, but the variable is mandatory, absent OWNER.
- OWNER can be used instead of MAINTAINER in relatively rare circumstances when the package is such that modifying it is riskier than normal. This is a stronger form of being the maintainer, with an expectation that others will ask for almost all changes, except revbumps and accommodating structural changes. Someone who becomes OWNER has a strong obligation to keep the package very well maintained, to answer queries promptly and to be a steward of the package on behalf of users. In this case, MAINTAINER should be omitted.

  Because of the friction that OWNER adds, PMC may downgrade it to MAINTAINER at any time.
- HOMEPAGE is a URL where users can find more information about the package.
- COMMENT is a one-line description of the package (should not include the package name).
- LICENSE indicates the license(s) applicable for the package. See Section 21.1.3 for further details.

Other variables that affect the build:

- WRKSRC: The directory where the interesting distribution files of the package are found. The default is ${WRKDIR}/${DISTNAME}, which works for most packages.

  If a package doesn't create a subdirectory for itself (most GNU software does, for instance), but extracts itself in the current directory, you should set WRKSRC=${WRKDIR}.

  If a package doesn't create a subdirectory with the name of DISTNAME but some different name, set WRKSRC to point to the proper name in ${WRKDIR}, for example WRKSRC=${WRKDIR}/${DISTNAME}/unix. See lang/tcl and x11/tk for other examples.

The name of the working directory created by pkgsrc is taken from the WRKDIR_BASENAME variable. By default, its value is work. If you want to use the same pkgsrc tree for building different kinds of binary packages, you can change the variable according to your needs. Two other variables handle common cases of setting WRKDIR_BASENAME individually. If OBJHOSTNAME is defined in mk.conf, the first component of the host's name is attached to the directory name. If OBJMACHINE is defined, the platform name is attached, which might look like work.i386 or work.sparc.

Please pay attention to the following gotchas:

- Add MANCOMPRESSED if man pages are installed in compressed form by the package. For packages using BSD-style makefiles which honor MANZ, there is MANCOMPRESSED_IF_MANZ.
- Replace /usr/local with "${PREFIX}" in all files (see patches, below).
- If the package installs any info files, see Section 21.6.8.

12.2. distinfo

The distinfo file contains the message digest, or checksum, of each distfile needed for the package. This ensures that the distfiles retrieved from the Internet have not been corrupted during transfer or altered by a malign force to introduce a security hole. To provide maximum security, all distfiles are protected using two different message digest algorithms (BLAKE2s and SHA512), as well as the file size.

The distinfo file also contains the checksums for all the patches found in the patches directory (see Section 12.3). These checksums ensure that patches are only applied intentionally and that they don't accidentally change, e.g. when merging different changes together. They also make sure that new patches are actually added to CVS and old ones are removed. Too see whether the patches and the distinfo file match, run **pkglint** after changing the patches.

To regenerate the distinfo file, use the **make distinfo** command.

Some packages have different sets of distfiles depending on the platform, for example lang/openjdk8. These are kept in the same distinfo file and care should be taken when upgrading such a package to ensure distfile information is not lost.

12.3. patches/*

Some packages don't work out-of-the box on the various platforms that are supported by pkgsrc. These packages need to be patched to make them work. The patch files can be found in the patches/ directory.

In the *patch* phase, these patches are applied to the files in WRKSRC directory after extracting them, in alphabetic order.

12.3.1. Structure of a single patch file

The patch-* files should be in **diff -bu** format, and apply without a fuzz to avoid problems. (To force patches to apply with fuzz you can set PATCH_FUZZ_FACTOR=-F2). Furthermore, each patch should

contain only changes for a single file, and no file should be patched by more than one patch file. This helps to keep future modifications simple.

Each patch file is structured as follows: In the first line, there is the RCS Id of the patch itself. The second line should be empty for aesthetic reasons. After that, there should be a comment for each change that the patch does. There are a number of standard cases:

- Patches for commonly known vulnerabilities should mention the vulnerability ID (CAN, CVE).
- Patches that change source code should mention the platform and other environment (for example, the compiler) that the patch is needed for.

The patch should be commented so that any developer who knows the code of the application can make some use of the patch. Special care should be taken for the upstream developers, since we generally want that they accept our patches, so we have less work in the future.

12.3.2. Creating patch files

One important thing to mention is to pay attention that no RCS IDs get stored in the patch files, as these will cause problems when later checked into the NetBSD CVS tree. Use the **pkgdiff** command from the `pkgtools/pkgdiff` package to avoid these problems.

For even more automation, we recommend using **mkpatches** from the same package to make a whole set of patches. You just have to back up files before you edit them to `filename.orig`, e.g., with **cp -p filename filename.orig** or, easier, by using **pkgvi** again from the same package. If you upgrade a package this way, you can easily compare the new set of patches with the previously existing one with **patchdiff**. The files in `patches` are replaced by new files, so carefully check if you want to take all the changes.

When you have finished a package, remember to generate the checksums for the patch files by using the **make makepatchsum** command, see Section 12.2.

When adding a patch that corrects a problem in the distfile (rather than e.g. enforcing pkgsrc's view of where man pages should go), send the patch as a bug report to the maintainer. This benefits non-pkgsrc users of the package, and usually makes it possible to remove the patch in future version.

The file names of the patch files are usually of the form `patch-`*`path_to_file__with__underscores.c`*. Many packages still use the previous convention `patch-`*`[a-z][a-z]`*, but new patches should be of the form containing the filename. **mkpatches** included in `pkgtools/pkgdiff` takes care of the name automatically.

When updating pre-existing patch files, if a file uses the old `patch-`*`[a-z][a-z]`* convention, it's best not to change it to the new form, as that will just cause churn that makes it harder to track changes to patching over time. Similarly, if a patch now applies at different line offsets, but still applies cleanly as-is, there's no need to update it, as that also unnecessarily complicates the patch history.

12.3.3. Sources where the patch files come from

If you want to share patches between multiple packages in pkgsrc, e.g. because they use the same distfiles, set `PATCHDIR` to the path where the patch files can be found, e.g.:

```
PATCHDIR=       ../../editors/xemacs/patches
```

Patch files that are distributed by the author or other maintainers can be listed in PATCHFILES.

If it is desired to store any patches that should not be committed into pkgsrc, they can be kept outside the pkgsrc tree in the $LOCALPATCHES directory. The directory tree there is expected to have the same "category/package" structure as pkgsrc, and patches are expected to be stored inside these dirs (also known as $LOCALPATCHES/$PKGPATH). For example, if you want to keep a private patch for pkgsrc/graphics/png, keep it in $LOCALPATCHES/graphics/png/mypatch. All files in the named directory are expected to be patch files, and *they are applied after pkgsrc patches are applied*.

12.3.4. Patching guidelines

When fixing a portability issue in the code do not use preprocessor magic to check for the current operating system nor platform. Doing so hurts portability to other platforms because the OS-specific details are not abstracted appropriately.

The general rule to follow is: instead of checking for the operating system the application is being built on, check for the specific *features* you need. For example, instead of assuming that kqueue is available under NetBSD and using the __NetBSD__ macro to conditionalize kqueue support, add a check that detects kqueue itself — yes, this generally involves patching the **configure** script. There is absolutely nothing that prevents some OSes from adopting interfaces from other OSes (e.g. Linux implementing kqueue), something that the above checks cannot take into account.

Of course, checking for features generally involves more work on the developer's side, but the resulting changes are cleaner and there are chances they will work on many other platforms. Not to mention that there are higher chances of being later integrated into the mainstream sources. Remember: *It doesn't work unless it is right!*

Some typical examples:

Table 12-1. Patching examples

Where	Incorrect	Correct
configure script	`case ${target_os} in netbsd*) have_kvm=yes ;; *) have_kvm=no ;; esac`	`AC_CHECK_LIB(kvm, kvm_open, have_kvm=ye`
C source file	`#if defined(__NetBSD__) # include <sys/event.h> #endif`	`#if defined(HAVE_SYS_EVENT_H) # include <sys/event.h> #endif`
C source file	`int monitor_file(...) { #if defined(__NetBSD__) int fd = kqueue(); ... #else ... #endif }`	`int monitor_file(...) { #if defined(HAVE_KQUEUE) int fd = kqueue(); ... #else ... #endif }`

12.3.5. Feedback to the author

Always, always, **always** feed back any *portability fixes* or improvements you do to a package to the mainstream developers. This is the only way to get their attention on portability issues and to ensure that future versions can be built out-of-the box on NetBSD. Furthermore, any user that gets newer distfiles will get the fixes straight from the packaged code.

This generally involves cleaning up the patches (because sometimes the patches that are added to pkgsrc are quick hacks), filing bug reports in the appropriate trackers for the projects and working with the mainstream authors to accept your changes. It is *extremely important* that you do it so that the packages in pkgsrc are kept simple and thus further changes can be done without much hassle.

When you have done this, please add a URL to the upstream bug report to the patch comment.

Support the idea of free software!

12.4. Other mandatory files

`DESCR`

A multi-line description of the piece of software. This should include any credits where they are due. Please bear in mind that others do not share your sense of humour (or spelling idiosyncrasies), and that others will read everything that you write here.

`PLIST`

This file governs the files that are installed on your system: all the binaries, manual pages, etc. There are other directives which may be entered in this file, to control the creation and deletion of directories, and the location of inserted files. See Chapter 19 for more information.

12.5. Optional files

12.5.1. Files affecting the binary package

`INSTALL`

This shell script is invoked twice by pkg_add(1). First time after package extraction and before files are moved in place, the second time after the files to install are moved in place. This can be used to do any custom procedures not possible with @exec commands in `PLIST`. See pkg_add(1) and pkg_create(1) for more information. See also Section 20.1. Please note that you can modify variables in it easily by using `FILES_SUBST` in the package's `Makefile`:

```
FILES_SUBST+=  SOMEVAR="somevalue"
```

replaces "@SOMEVAR@" with "somevalue" in the `INSTALL`. By default, substitution is performed for `PREFIX`, `LOCALBASE`, `X11BASE`, `VARBASE`, and a few others, type **make help topic=FILES_SUBST** for a complete list.

DEINSTALL

This script is executed before and after any files are removed. It is this script's responsibility to clean up any additional messy details around the package's installation, since all pkg_delete knows is how to delete the files created in the original distribution. See pkg_delete(1) and pkg_create(1) for more information. The same methods to replace variables can be used as for the INSTALL file.

MESSAGE

This file is displayed after installation of the package. While this was used often in the past, it has two problems: the display will be missed if many packages are intalled at once, and the person installing the package and the one using or configuring it may be different. It should therefore be used only in exceptional circumstances where lasting negative consequences would result from someone not reading it.

MESSAGE should not be used for:

- exhortations to read the documentation
- reminders to install rc.d files and set variables
- anything that should be explained in the installation/configuration documentation that should come with the package

If the documentation provided by upstream needs enhancing, create e.g. files/README.pkgsrc and install it in the package's documentation directory.

Note that MESSAGE is shown for all operating systems and all init systems. If a MESSAGE is necessary, it should be narrowed to only those operating systems and init systems to which it applies.

Note that you can modify variables in it easily by using MESSAGE_SUBST in the package's Makefile:

```
MESSAGE_SUBST+=  SOMEVAR="somevalue"
```

replaces "${SOMEVAR}" with "somevalue" in MESSAGE. By default, substitution is performed for PKGNAME, PKGBASE, PREFIX, LOCALBASE, X11BASE, PKG_SYSCONFDIR, ROOT_GROUP, and ROOT_USER.

You can display a different or additional files by setting the MESSAGE_SRC variable. Its default is MESSAGE, if the file exists.

ALTERNATIVES

This file is used by the alternatives framework. It creates, configures, and destroys generic wrappers used to run programs with similar interfaces. See pkg_alternatives(8) from pkgtools/pkg_alternatives for more information.

Each line of the file contains two filenames, first the wrapper and then the alternative provided by the package. Both paths are relative to PREFIX.

12.5.2. Files affecting the build process

`Makefile.common`

This file contains arbitrary things that could also go into a `Makefile`, but its purpose is to be used by more than one package. This file should only be used when the packages that will use the file are known in advance. For other purposes it is often better to write a `*.mk` file and give it a good name that describes what it does.

`buildlink3.mk`

This file contains the dependency information for the buildlink3 framework (see Chapter 18).

`hacks.mk`

This file contains workarounds for compiler bugs and similar things. It is included automatically by the pkgsrc infrastructure, so you don't need an extra `.include` line for it.

`options.mk`

This file contains the code for the package-specific options (see Chapter 16) that can be selected by the user. If a package has only one or two options, it is equally acceptable to put the code directly into the `Makefile`.

12.5.3. Files affecting nothing at all

`README*`

These files do not take place in the creation of a package and thus are purely informative to the package developer.

`TODO`

This file contains things that need to be done to make the package even better.

12.6. `work*`

When you type **make**, the distribution files are unpacked into the directory denoted by `WRKDIR`. It can be removed by running **make clean**. Besides the sources, this directory is also used to keep various timestamp files. The directory gets *removed completely* on clean. The default is `${.CURDIR}/work` or `${.CURDIR}/work.${MACHINE_ARCH}` if `OBJMACHINE` is set.

12.7. `files/*`

If you have any files that you wish to be placed in the package prior to configuration or building, you can place these files here and use a **${CP}** command in the "post-extract" target to achieve this.

If you want to share files in this way with other packages, set the `FILESDIR` variable to point to the other package's `files` directory, e.g.:

```
FILESDIR=       ../../editors/xemacs/files
```

Chapter 13.
The build process

13.1. Introduction

This chapter gives a detailed description on how a package is built. Building a package is separated into different *phases* (for example `fetch`, `build`, `install`), all of which are described in the following sections. Each phase is split into so-called *stages*, which take the name of the containing phase, prefixed by one of `pre-`, `do-` or `post-`. (Examples are `pre-configure`, `post-build`.) Most of the actual work is done in the `do-*` stages.

Never override the regular targets (like `fetch`), if you have to, override the `do-*` ones instead.

The basic steps for building a program are always the same. First the program's source (*distfile*) must be brought to the local system and then extracted. After any pkgsrc-specific patches to compile properly are applied, the software can be configured, then built (usually by compiling), and finally the generated binaries, etc. can be put into place on the system.

To get more details about what is happening at each step, you can set the `PKG_VERBOSE` variable, or the `PATCH_DEBUG` variable if you are just interested in more details about the *patch* step.

13.2. Program location

Before outlining the process performed by the NetBSD package system in the next section, here's a brief discussion on where programs are installed, and which variables influence this.

The automatic variable `PREFIX` indicates where all files of the final program shall be installed. It is usually set to `LOCALBASE` (`/usr/pkg`), or `CROSSBASE` for pkgs in the `cross` category. The value of `PREFIX` needs to be put into the various places in the program's source where paths to these files are encoded. See Section 12.3 and Section 21.3.1 for more details.

When choosing which of these variables to use, follow the following rules:

- `PREFIX` always points to the location where the current pkg will be installed. When referring to a pkg's own installation path, use "${PREFIX}".
- `LOCALBASE` is where all pkgs are installed. If you need to construct a -I or -L argument to the compiler to find includes and libraries installed by another pkg, use "${LOCALBASE}". The name `LOCALBASE` stems from FreeBSD, which installed all packages in `/usr/local`. As pkgsrc leaves `/usr/local` for the system administrator, this variable is a misnomer.
- `X11BASE` is where the actual X11 distribution (from xsrc, etc.) is installed. When looking for *standard* X11 includes (not those installed by a package), use "${X11BASE}".
- X11-based packages using imake must set `USE_IMAKE` to be installed correctly under `LOCALBASE`.

- Within ${PREFIX}, packages should install files according to hier(7), with the exception that manual pages go into ${PREFIX}/man, not ${PREFIX}/share/man.

13.3. Directories used during the build process

When building a package, various directories are used to store source files, temporary files, pkgsrc-internal files, and so on. These directories are explained here.

Some of the directory variables contain relative pathnames. There are two common base directories for these relative directories: PKGSRCDIR/PKGPATH is used for directories that are pkgsrc-specific. WRKSRC is used for directories inside the package itself.

PKGSRCDIR

This is an absolute pathname that points to the pkgsrc root directory. Generally, you don't need it.

PKGDIR

This is an absolute pathname that points to the current package.

PKGPATH

This is a pathname relative to PKGSRCDIR that points to the current package. It is defined after including bsd.prefs.mk and can be used in makefile fragments that are used by several packages to distinguish between these packages. Other variables that would serve the same purpose are PKGBASE and PKGNAME, but these are only defined after including bsd.pkg.mk, which is too late.

In mk.conf, the pkgsrc user can use PKGPATH to tweak variables like MAKE_JOBS and CFLAGS.

WRKDIR

This is an absolute pathname pointing to the directory where all work takes place. The distfiles are extracted to this directory. It also contains temporary directories and log files used by the various pkgsrc frameworks, like *buildlink* or the *wrappers*.

WRKSRC

This is an absolute pathname pointing to the directory where the distfiles are extracted. It is usually a direct subdirectory of WRKDIR, and often it's the only directory entry that isn't hidden. This variable may be changed by a package Makefile.

The CREATE_WRKDIR_SYMLINK definition takes either the value *yes* or *no* and defaults to *no*. It indicates whether a symbolic link to the WRKDIR is to be created in the pkgsrc entry's directory. If users would like to have their pkgsrc trees behave in a read-only manner, then the value of CREATE_WRKDIR_SYMLINK should be set to *no*.

13.4. Running a phase

You can run a particular phase by typing **make *phase***, where *phase* is the name of the phase. This will automatically run all phases that are required for this phase. The default phase is build, that is, when you run **make** without parameters in a package directory, the package will be built, but not installed.

13.5. The *fetch* phase

The first step in building a package is to fetch the distribution files (distfiles) from the sites that are providing them. This is the task of the *fetch* phase.

13.5.1. What to fetch and where to get it from

In simple cases, MASTER_SITES defines all URLs from where the distfile, whose name is derived from the DISTNAME variable, is fetched. The more complicated cases are described below.

The variable DISTFILES specifies the list of distfiles that have to be fetched. Its value defaults to ${DEFAULT_DISTFILES} and its value is ${DISTNAME}${EXTRACT_SUFX}, so that most packages don't need to define it at all. EXTRACT_SUFX is .tar.gz by default, but can be changed freely. Note that if your package requires additional distfiles to the default one, you cannot just append the additional filenames using the += operator, but you have write for example:

```
DISTFILES=      ${DEFAULT_DISTFILES} additional-files.tar.gz
```

Each distfile is fetched from a list of sites, usually MASTER_SITES. If the package has multiple DISTFILES or multiple PATCHFILES from different sites, you can set SITES.*distfile* to the list of URLs where the file *distfile* (including the suffix) can be found.

```
DISTFILES=      ${DISTNAME}${EXTRACT_SUFX}
DISTFILES+=     foo-file.tar.gz
SITES.foo-file.tar.gz= \
https://www.somewhere.com/somehow/ \
https://www.somewhereelse.com/mirror/somehow/
```

When actually fetching the distfiles, each item from MASTER_SITES or SITES.* gets the name of each distfile appended to it, without an intermediate slash. Therefore, all site values have to end with a slash or other separator character. This allows for example to set MASTER_SITES to a URL of a CGI script that gets the name of the distfile as a parameter. In this case, the definition would look like:

```
MASTER_SITES=   https://www.example.com/download.cgi?file=
```

The exception to this rule are URLs starting with a dash. In that case the URL is taken as is, fetched and the result stored under the name of the distfile. You can use this style for the case when the download URL style does not match the above common case. For example, if permanent download URL is a redirector to the real download URL, or the download file name is offered by an HTTP Content-Disposition header. In the following example, foo-1.0.0.tar.gz will be created instead of the default v1.0.0.tar.gz.

```
DISTNAME=       foo-1.0.0
MASTER_SITES=   -https://www.example.com/archive/v1.0.0.tar.gz
```

There are some predefined values for MASTER_SITES, which can be used in packages. The names of the variables should speak for themselves.

MASTER_SITE_APACHE	MASTER_SITE_BACKUP
MASTER_SITE_CRATESIO	MASTER_SITE_CYGWIN
MASTER_SITE_DEBIAN	MASTER_SITE_FREEBSD
MASTER_SITE_FREEBSD_LOCAL	MASTER_SITE_GENTOO

MASTER_SITE_GITHUB	MASTER_SITE_GITLAB
MASTER_SITE_GNOME	MASTER_SITE_GNU
MASTER_SITE_GNUSTEP	MASTER_SITE_HASKELL_HACKAGE
MASTER_SITE_IFARCHIVE	MASTER_SITE_KDE
MASTER_SITE_MOZILLA	MASTER_SITE_MOZILLA_ALL
MASTER_SITE_MYSQL	MASTER_SITE_NETLIB
MASTER_SITE_OPENBSD	MASTER_SITE_OPENOFFICE
MASTER_SITE_OSDN	MASTER_SITE_PERL_CPAN
MASTER_SITE_PGSQL	MASTER_SITE_PYPI
MASTER_SITE_RUBYGEMS	MASTER_SITE_R_CRAN
MASTER_SITE_SOURCEFORGE	MASTER_SITE_SUNSITE
MASTER_SITE_SUSE	MASTER_SITE_TEX_CTAN
MASTER_SITE_XCONTRIB	MASTER_SITE_XEMACS
MASTER_SITE_XORG	

Some explanations for the less self-explaining ones: `MASTER_SITE_BACKUP` contains backup sites for packages that are maintained in ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/distfiles/${DIST_SUBDIR}. `MASTER_SITE_LOCAL` contains local package source distributions that are maintained in ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/distfiles/LOCAL_PORTS/.

If you choose one of these predefined sites, you may want to specify a subdirectory of that site. Since these macros may expand to more than one actual site, you *must* use the following construct to specify a subdirectory:

```
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_GNU:=subdirectory/name/}
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_SOURCEFORGE:=project_name/}
```

Note the trailing slash after the subdirectory name.

13.5.2. How are the files fetched?

The *fetch* phase makes sure that all the distfiles exist in a local directory (`DISTDIR`, which can be set by the pkgsrc user). If the files do not exist, they are fetched using commands of the form

```
${FETCH_CMD} ${FETCH_BEFORE_ARGS} ${site}${file} ${FETCH_AFTER_ARGS}
```

where `${site}` varies through several possibilities in turn: first, `MASTER_SITE_OVERRIDE` is tried, then the sites specified in either `SITES.file` if defined, else `MASTER_SITES` or `PATCH_SITES`, as applies, then finally the value of `MASTER_SITE_BACKUP`. The order of all except the first and the last can be optionally sorted by the user, via setting either `MASTER_SORT_RANDOM`, and `MASTER_SORT_AWK` or `MASTER_SORT_REGEX`.

The specific command and arguments used depend on the `FETCH_USING` parameter. The example above is for `FETCH_USING=custom`.

The distfiles mirror run by the NetBSD Foundation uses the *mirror-distfiles* target to mirror the distfiles, if they are freely distributable. Packages setting `NO_SRC_ON_FTP` (usually to "${RESTRICTED}") will not have their distfiles mirrored.

13.6. The *checksum* phase

After the distfile(s) are fetched, their checksum is generated and compared with the checksums stored in the distinfo file. If the checksums don't match, the build is aborted. This is to ensure the same distfile is used for building, and that the distfile wasn't changed, e.g. by some malign force, deliberately changed distfiles on the master distribution site or network lossage.

13.7. The *extract* phase

When the distfiles are present on the local system, they need to be extracted, as they usually come in the form of some compressed archive format.

By default, all `DISTFILES` are extracted. If you only need some of them, you can set the `EXTRACT_ONLY` variable to the list of those files.

Extracting the files is usually done by a little program, `mk/extract/extract`, which already knows how to extract various archive formats, so most likely you will not need to change anything here. But if you need, the following variables may help you:

`EXTRACT_OPTS_{BIN,LHA,PAX,RAR,TAR,ZIP,ZOO}`

> Use these variables to override the default options for an extract command, which are defined in `mk/extract/extract`.

`EXTRACT_USING`

> This variable can be set to `bsdtar`, `gtar`, `nbtar` (which is the default value), `pax`, or an absolute pathname pointing to the command with which tar archives should be extracted. It is preferred to choose bsdtar over gtar if NetBSD's pax-as-tar is not good enough.

If the `extract` program doesn't serve your needs, you can also override the `EXTRACT_CMD` variable, which holds the command used for extracting the files. This command is executed in the `${WRKSRC}` directory. During execution of this command, the shell variable `extract_file` holds the absolute pathname of the file that is going to be extracted.

And if that still does not suffice, you can override the `do-extract` target in the package Makefile.

13.8. The *patch* phase

After extraction, all the patches named by the `PATCHFILES`, those present in the patches subdirectory of the package as well as in $LOCALPATCHES/$PKGPATH (e.g. `/usr/local/patches/graphics/png`) are applied. Patchfiles ending in `.Z` or `.gz` are uncompressed before they are applied, files ending in `.orig` or `.rej` are ignored. Any special options to patch(1) can be handed in `PATCH_DIST_ARGS`. See Section 12.3 for more details.

By default patch(1) is given special arguments to make it fail if the expected text from the patch context is not found in the patched file. If that happens, fix the patch file by comparing it with the actual text in the file to be patched.

13.9. The *tools* phase

This is covered in Chapter 17.

13.10. The *wrapper* phase

This phase creates wrapper programs for the compilers and linkers. The following variables can be used to tweak the wrappers.

`ECHO_WRAPPER_MSG`

The command used to print progress messages. Does nothing by default. Set to `${ECHO}` to see the progress messages.

`WRAPPER_DEBUG`

This variable can be set to `yes` (default) or `no`, depending on whether you want additional information in the wrapper log file.

`WRAPPER_UPDATE_CACHE`

This variable can be set to `yes` or `no`, depending on whether the wrapper should use its cache, which will improve the speed. The default value is `yes`, but is forced to `no` if the platform does not support it.

`WRAPPER_REORDER_CMDS`

A list of reordering commands. A reordering command has the form `reorder:l:`*`lib1`*`:`*`lib2`*. It ensures that that `-l`*`lib1`* occurs before `-l`*`lib2`*.

13.11. The *configure* phase

Most pieces of software need information on the header files, system calls, and library routines which are available on the platform they run on. The process of determining this information is known as configuration, and is usually automated. In most cases, a script is supplied with the distfiles, and its invocation results in generation of header files, Makefiles, etc.

If the package contains a configure script, this can be invoked by setting `HAS_CONFIGURE` to "yes". If the configure script is a GNU autoconf script, you should set `GNU_CONFIGURE` to "yes" instead.

In the `do-configure` stage, a rough equivalent of the following command is run. See `mk/configure/configure.mk`, target `do-configure-script` for the exact definition.

```
.for dir in ${CONFIGURE_DIRS}
        cd ${WRKSRC} && cd ${dir} \
        && env ${CONFIGURE_ENV} \
            ${CONFIG_SHELL} ${CONFIGURE_SCRIPT} ${CONFIGURE_ARGS}
.endfor
```

`CONFIGURE_DIRS` (default: ".") is a list of pathnames relative to `WRKSRC`. In each of these directories, the configure script is run with the environment `CONFIGURE_ENV` and arguments `CONFIGURE_ARGS`.

The variables CONFIGURE_ENV, CONFIGURE_SCRIPT (default: "./configure") and CONFIGURE_ARGS may all be changed by the package.

If the program uses the Perl way of configuration (mainly Perl modules, but not only), i.e. a file called Makefile.PL, it should include ../../lang/perl5/module.mk. To set any parameter for Makefile.PL use the MAKE_PARAMS variable (e.g., MAKE_PARAMS+=foo=bar

If the program uses an Imakefile for configuration, the appropriate steps can be invoked by setting USE_IMAKE to "yes". If you only need xmkmf, add it to USE_TOOLS. You can add variables to xmkmf's environment by adding them to the SCRIPTS_ENV variable.

If the program uses cmake for configuration, the appropriate steps can be invoked by including ../../devel/cmake/build.mk. You can add variables to cmake's environment by adding them to the CONFIGURE_ENV variable and arguments to cmake by adding them to the CMAKE_ARGS variable. If you want to add arguments only for particular stages, you can use the CMAKE_CONFIGURE_ARGS, CMAKE_BUILD_ARGS, and CMAKE_INSTALL_ARGS variables. You can set the CONFIGURE_DIRS variable to the directories in which CMake should be run, relative to WRKSRC. This defaults to to ".".

If there is no configure step at all, set NO_CONFIGURE to "yes".

13.12. The *build* phase

For building a package, a rough equivalent of the following code is executed; see mk/build/build.mk, target do-build for the exact definition.

```
.for dir in ${BUILD_DIRS}
        cd ${WRKSRC} && cd ${dir} \
        && env ${MAKE_ENV} \
            ${MAKE_PROGRAM} ${MAKE_FLAGS} ${BUILD_MAKE_FLAGS} \
                -f ${MAKE_FILE} \
                ${BUILD_TARGET}
.endfor
```

BUILD_DIRS (default: ".") is a list of pathnames relative to WRKSRC. In each of these directories, MAKE_PROGRAM is run with the environment MAKE_ENV and arguments BUILD_MAKE_FLAGS. The variables MAKE_ENV, BUILD_MAKE_FLAGS, MAKE_FILE and BUILD_TARGET may all be changed by the package.

The default value of MAKE_PROGRAM is "gmake" if USE_TOOLS contains "gmake", "make" otherwise. The default value of MAKE_FILE is "Makefile", and BUILD_TARGET defaults to "all".

If there is no build step at all, set NO_BUILD to "yes".

13.13. The *test* phase

[TODO]

13.14. The *install* phase

Once the build stage has completed, the final step is to install the software in public directories, so users can access the programs and files.

In the *install* phase, a rough equivalent of the following code is executed; see `mk/install/install.mk`, target `do-install` for the exact definition. Additionally, before and after this code, several consistency checks are run against the files-to-be-installed, see `mk/check/*.mk` for details.

```
.for dir in ${INSTALL_DIRS}
        cd ${WRKSRC} && cd ${dir} \
        && env ${INSTALL_ENV} ${MAKE_ENV} \
            ${MAKE_PROGRAM} ${MAKE_FLAGS} ${INSTALL_MAKE_FLAGS} \
                -f ${MAKE_FILE} ${INSTALL_TARGET}
.endfor
```

The variable's meanings are analogous to the ones in the *build* phase. `INSTALL_DIRS` defaults to `BUILD_DIRS`. `INSTALL_TARGET` is "install" by default, plus "install.man" if `USE_IMAKE` is defined and `NO_INSTALL_MANPAGES` is not defined.

In the *install* phase, the following variables are useful. They are all variations of the install(1) command that have the owner, group and permissions preset. `INSTALL` is the plain install command. The specialized variants, together with their intended use, are:

`INSTALL_PROGRAM_DIR`

: directories that contain binaries

`INSTALL_SCRIPT_DIR`

: directories that contain scripts

`INSTALL_LIB_DIR`

: directories that contain shared and static libraries

`INSTALL_DATA_DIR`

: directories that contain data files

`INSTALL_MAN_DIR`

: directories that contain man pages

`INSTALL_GAME_DIR`

: directories that contain data files for games

`INSTALL_PROGRAM`

: binaries that can be stripped from debugging symbols

`INSTALL_SCRIPT`

: binaries that cannot be stripped

INSTALL_GAME

game binaries

INSTALL_LIB

shared and static libraries

INSTALL_DATA

data files

INSTALL_GAME_DATA

data files for games

INSTALL_MAN

man pages

Some other variables are:

INSTALL_UNSTRIPPED

If set to yes, do not run strip(1) when installing binaries. Any debugging sections and symbols present in binaries will be preserved.

INSTALLATION_DIRS

A list of directories relative to PREFIX that are created by pkgsrc at the beginning of the *install* phase. The package is supposed to create all needed directories itself before installing files to it and list all other directories here.

In the rare cases that a package shouldn't install anything, set NO_INSTALL to "yes". This is mostly relevant for packages in the regress category.

13.15. The *package* phase

Once the install stage has completed, a binary package of the installed files can be built. These binary packages can be used for quick installation without previous compilation, e.g. by the **make bin-install** or by using **pkg_add**.

By default, the binary packages are created in ${PACKAGES}/All and symlinks are created in ${PACKAGES}/*category*, one for each category in the CATEGORIES variable. PACKAGES defaults to pkgsrc/packages.

13.16. Cleaning up

Once you're finished with a package, you can clean the work directory by running **make clean**. If you want to clean the work directories of all dependencies too, use **make clean-depends**.

13.17. Other helpful targets

pre/post-*

For any of the main targets described in the previous section (configure, build, install, etc.), two auxiliary targets exist with “pre-” and “post-” used as a prefix for the main target’s name. These targets are invoked before and after the main target is called, allowing extra configuration or installation steps be performed from a package’s Makefile, for example, which a program’s configure script or install target omitted.

About 5% of the pkgsrc packages define their custom post-extract target, another 5% define pre-configure, and 10% define post-install. The other pre/post-* targets are defined even less often.

do-*

Should one of the main targets do the wrong thing, and should there be no variable to fix this, you can redefine it with the do-* target. (Note that redefining the target itself instead of the do-* target is a bad idea, as the pre-* and post-* targets won’t be called anymore, etc.)

About 15% of the pkgsrc packages override the default do-install, the other do-* targets are overridden even less often.

reinstall

If you did a **make install** and you noticed some file was not installed properly, you can repeat the installation with this target, which will ignore the “already installed” flag.

This is the default value of `DEPENDS_TARGET` except in the case of **make update** and **make package**, where the defaults are “package” and “update”, respectively.

deinstall

This target does a pkg_delete(1) in the current directory, effectively de-installing the package. The following variables can be used to tune the behaviour:

`PKG_VERBOSE`

Add a "-v" to the pkg_delete(1) command.

`DEINSTALLDEPENDS`

Remove all packages that require (depend on) the given package. This can be used to remove any packages that may have been pulled in by a given package, e.g. if **make deinstall DEINSTALLDEPENDS=1** is done in `pkgsrc/x11/kde`, this is likely to remove whole KDE. Works by adding “-R” to the pkg_delete(1) command line.

bin-install

Install a binary package from local disk and via FTP from a list of sites (see the `BINPKG_SITES` variable), and do a **make package** if no binary package is available anywhere. The arguments given to **pkg_add** can be set via `BIN_INSTALL_FLAGS` e.g., to do verbose operation, etc.

install-clean

This target removes the state files for the "install" and later phases so that the "install" target may be re-invoked. This can be used after editing the PLIST to install the package without rebuilding it.

build-clean

This target removes the state files for the "build" and later phases so that the "build" target may be re-invoked.

update

This target causes the current package to be updated to the latest version. The package and all depending packages first get de-installed, then current versions of the corresponding packages get compiled and installed. This is similar to manually noting which packages are currently installed, then performing a series of **make deinstall** and **make install** (or whatever `UPDATE_TARGET` is set to) for these packages.

You can use the “update” target to resume package updating in case a previous **make update** was interrupted for some reason. However, in this case, make sure you don’t call **make clean** or otherwise remove the list of dependent packages in `WRKDIR`. Otherwise, you lose the ability to automatically update the current package along with the dependent packages you have installed.

Resuming an interrupted **make update** will only work as long as the package tree remains unchanged. If the source code for one of the packages to be updated has been changed, resuming **make update** will most certainly fail!

The following variables can be used either on the command line or in `mk.conf` to alter the behaviour of **make update**:

`UPDATE_TARGET`

Install target to recursively use for the updated package and the dependent packages. Defaults to `DEPENDS_TARGET` if set, “install” otherwise for **make update**. Other good targets are “package” or “bin-install”. Do not set this to “update” or you will get stuck in an endless loop!

`NOCLEAN`

Don’t clean up after updating. Useful if you want to leave the work sources of the updated packages around for inspection or other purposes. Be sure you eventually clean up the source tree (see the “clean-update” target below) or you may run into troubles with old source code still lying around on your next **make** or **make update**.

`REINSTALL`

Deinstall each package before installing (making `DEPENDS_TARGET`). This may be necessary if the “clean-update” target (see below) was called after interrupting a running **make update**.

`DEPENDS_TARGET`

Allows you to disable recursion and hardcode the target for packages. The default is “update” for the update target, facilitating a recursive update of prerequisite packages. Only set `DEPENDS_TARGET` if you want to disable recursive updates. Use `UPDATE_TARGET` instead to just set a specific target for each package to be installed during **make update** (see above).

clean-update

Clean the source tree for all packages that would get updated if **make update** was called from the current directory. This target should not be used if the current package (or any of its depending packages) have already been de-installed (e.g., after calling **make update**) or you may lose some packages you intended to update. As a rule of thumb: only use this target *before* the first time you run **make update** and only if you have a dirty package tree (e.g., if you used NOCLEAN).

If you are unsure about whether your tree is clean, you can either perform a **make clean** at the top of the tree, or use the following sequence of commands from the directory of the package you want to update (*before* running **make update** for the first time, otherwise you lose all the packages you wanted to update!):

```
# make clean-update
# make clean CLEANDEPENDS=YES
# make update
```

The following variables can be used either on the command line or in mk.conf to alter the behaviour of **make clean-update**:

CLEAR_DIRLIST

After **make clean**, do not reconstruct the list of directories to update for this package. Only use this if **make update** successfully installed all packages you wanted to update. Normally, this is done automatically on **make update**, but may have been suppressed by the NOCLEAN variable (see above).

replace

Update the installation of the current package. This differs from update in that it does not replace dependent packages. You will need to install pkgtools/pkg_tarup for this target to work.

Be careful when using this target! There are no guarantees that dependent packages will still work, in particular they will most certainly break if you **make replace** a library package whose shared library major version changed between your installed version and the new one. For this reason, this target is not officially supported and only recommended for advanced users.

info

This target invokes pkg_info(1) for the current package. You can use this to check which version of a package is installed.

index

This is a top-level command, i.e. it should be used in the pkgsrc directory. It creates a database of all packages in the local pkgsrc tree, including dependencies, comment, maintainer, and some other useful information. Individual entries are created by running **make describe** in the packages' directories. This index file is saved as pkgsrc/INDEX. It can be displayed in verbose format by running **make print-index**. You can search in it with **make search key=*something***. You can extract a list of all packages that depend on a particular one by running **make show-deps PKG=*somepackage***.

Running this command takes a very long time, some hours even on fast machines!

readme

This target generates a `index.html` file, which can be viewed using a browser such as `www/firefox` or `www/links`. The generated files contain references to any packages which are in the `PACKAGES` directory on the local host. The generated files can be made to refer to URLs based on `FTP_PKG_URL_HOST` and `FTP_PKG_URL_DIR`. For example, if I wanted to generate `index.html` files which pointed to binary packages on the local machine, in the directory `/usr/packages`, set `FTP_PKG_URL_HOST=file://localhost` and `FTP_PKG_URL_DIR=/usr/packages`. The `${PACKAGES}` directory and its subdirectories will be searched for all the binary packages.

The target can be run at the toplevel or in category directories, in which case it descends recursively.

readme-all

This is a top-level command, run it in `pkgsrc`. Use this target to create a file `README-all.html` which contains a list of all packages currently available in the NetBSD Packages Collection, together with the category they belong to and a short description. This file is compiled from the `pkgsrc/*/index.html` files, so be sure to run this *after* a **make readme**.

cdrom-readme

This is very much the same as the "readme" target (see above), but is to be used when generating a pkgsrc tree to be written to a CD-ROM. This target also produces `index.html` files, and can be made to refer to URLs based on `CDROM_PKG_URL_HOST` and `CDROM_PKG_URL_DIR`.

show-distfiles

This target shows which distfiles and patchfiles are needed to build the package (`ALLFILES`, which contains all `DISTFILES` and `PATCHFILES`, but not `patches/*`).

show-downlevel

This target shows nothing if the package is not installed. If a version of this package is installed, but is not the version provided in this version of pkgsrc, then a warning message is displayed. This target can be used to show which of your installed packages are downlevel, and so the old versions can be deleted, and the current ones added.

show-pkgsrc-dir

This target shows the directory in the pkgsrc hierarchy from which the package can be built and installed. This may not be the same directory as the one from which the package was installed. This target is intended to be used by people who may wish to upgrade many packages on a single host, and can be invoked from the top-level pkgsrc Makefile by using the "show-host-specific-pkgs" target.

show-installed-depends

This target shows which installed packages match the current package's `DEPENDS`. Useful if out of date dependencies are causing build problems.

print-build-depends-list

This target shows the list of packages that the current package depends on for building.

print-run-depends-list

This target shows the list of packages that the current package depends on for running.

check-shlibs

After a package is installed, check all its binaries and (on ELF platforms) shared libraries to see if they find the shared libs they need. Run by default if `PKG_DEVELOPER` is set in `mk.conf`.

print-PLIST

After a "make install" from a new or upgraded pkg, this prints out an attempt to generate a new `PLIST` from a **find -newer work/.extract_done**. An attempt is made to care for shared libs etc., but it is *strongly* recommended to review the result before putting it into `PLIST`. On upgrades, it's useful to diff the output of this command against an already existing `PLIST` file.

If the package installs files via tar(1) or other methods that don't update file access times, be sure to add these files manually to your `PLIST`, as the "find -newer" command used by this target won't catch them!

See Section 19.3 for more information on this target.

rebuild

If you did a **make build** and you noticed some further modifications of sources are needed, you can repeat the build with this target, which will ignore the "already built" flag. This target is helpful while working with patches.

repackage

If you did a **make package** and you noticed some further modifications of sources are needed, you can repeat the package with this target, which will ignore the "already packaged" flag. This target is helpful while working with patches, PLIST* files etc.

retest

If you did a **make test** and you noticed some further modifications of sources are needed, you can repeat the test with this target, which will ignore the "already tested" flag. This target is helpful while working with patches.

Chapter 14.
Creating a new pkgsrc package from scratch

When you find a package that is not yet in pkgsrc, you most likely have a URL from where you can download the source code. Starting with this URL, creating a package involves only a few steps.

1. In your `mk.conf`, set `PKG_DEVELOPER=yes` to enable the basic quality checks.
2. Install the package `meta-pkgs/pkg_developer`, which among others will install the utilities **url2pkg**, **pkglint**, **pkgvi** and **mkpatches**:

   ```
   $ cd /usr/pkgsrc
   $ (cd meta-pkgs/pkg_developer && bmake update)
   ```

3. Choose one of the top-level directories as the category in which you want to place your package. You can also create a directory of your own (maybe called `local`). Change into that category directory:

   ```
   $ cd category
   ```

4. Run the program **url2pkg**, passing as argument the URL of the distribution file (in most cases a `.tar.gz` file). This will download the distribution file and create the necessary files of the package, based on what's in the distribution file:

   ```
   $ url2pkg https://www.example.org/packages/package-1.0.tar.gz
   ```

5. Examine the extracted files to determine the dependencies of your package. Ideally, this is mentioned in some `README` file, but things may differ. For each of these dependencies, look where it exists in pkgsrc, and if there is a file called `buildlink3.mk` in that directory, add a line to your package `Makefile` which includes that file just before the last line. If the `buildlink3.mk` file does not exist, it must be created first. The `buildlink3.mk` file makes sure that the package's include files and libraries are provided.

   If you just need binaries from a dependent package, add a `DEPENDS` line to the Makefile, which specifies the version of the dependency and where it can be found in pkgsrc. This line should be placed in the third paragraph. If the dependency is only needed for building the package, but not when using it, use `TOOL_DEPENDS` or `BUILD_DEPENDS` instead of `DEPENDS`. The difference between `TOOL_DEPENDS` and `BUILD_DEPENDS` occurs when cross-compiling: `TOOL_DEPENDS` are *native* packages, i.e. packages for the platform where the package is built; `BUILD_DEPENDS` are *target* packages, i.e. packages for the platform for which the package is built. There is also `TEST_DEPENDS`, which specifies a dependency used only for testing the resulting package built, using the upstream project's included test suite, on the native platform. Your package may then look like this:

   ```
   [...]

   TOOL_DEPENDS+=  libxslt-[0-9]*:../../textproc/libxslt
   ```

```
DEPENDS+=       screen-[0-9]*:../../misc/screen
DEPENDS+=       screen>=4.0:../../misc/screen

[...]

.include "../../category/package/buildlink3.mk"
.include "../../devel/glib2/buildlink3.mk"
.include "../../mk/bsd.pkg.mk"
```

6. Run **pkglint** to see what things still need to be done to make your package a "good" one. If you don't know what pkglint's warnings want to tell you, try **pkglint --explain** or **pkglint -e**, which outputs additional explanations.
7. In many cases the package is not yet ready to build. You can find instructions for the most common cases in the next section, Section 14.1. After you have followed the instructions over there, you can hopefully continue here.
8. Run **bmake clean** to clean the working directory from the extracted files. Besides these files, a lot of cache files and other system information have been saved in the working directory, which may have become outdated after you edited the `Makefile`.
9. Now, run **bmake** to build the package. For the various things that can go wrong in this phase, consult Chapter 21.

   If the extracted files from the package need to be fixed, run multiple rounds of these commands:

   ```
   $ bmake
   $ pkgvi ${WRKSRC}/some/file/that/does/not/compile
   $ mkpatches
   $ bmake mps
   $ bmake clean
   ```

10. When the package builds fine, the next step is to install the package. Run **bmake install** and hope that everything works.
11. Up to now, the file `PLIST`, which contains a list of the files that are installed by the package, is nearly empty. Run **bmake print-PLIST >PLIST** to generate a probably correct list. Check the file using your preferred text editor to see if the list of files looks plausible.
12. Run **pkglint** again to see if the generated `PLIST` contains garbage or not.
13. When you ran **bmake install**, the package had been registered in the database of installed files, but with an empty list of files. To fix this, run **bmake deinstall** and **bmake install** again. Now the package is registered with the list of files from `PLIST`.
14. Run **bmake clean update** to run everything from above again in a single step, making sure that the PLIST is correct and the whole package is created as intended.
15. Run **pkglint** to see if there's anything left to do.
16. Commit the package to pkgsrc-wip or main pkgsrc; see Chapter 23.

14.1. Common types of packages

14.1.1. Python modules and programs

Python modules and programs packages are easily created using a set of predefined variables.

If some Python versions are not supported by the software, set the PYTHON_VERSIONS_INCOMPATIBLE variable to the Python versions that are not supported, e.g.

```
PYTHON_VERSIONS_INCOMPATIBLE=       27
```

If the packaged software is a Python module, include ../../lang/python/wheel.mk. Note per PEP-518, the minimum and default requirements to create .whl files are devel/py-setuptools plus devel/py-wheel; however, there are various other possible tools that projects can use. Thus inclusion of wheel.mk does not imply these defaults are defined as TOOL_DEPENDS. Whatever the project specifically requires as packaging tools must be defined in the package Makefile.

The package directory should be called "py-software" and PKGNAME should be set to "${PYPKGPREFIX}-${DISTNAME}", e.g.

```
DISTNAME=    foopymodule-1.2.10
PKGNAME=     ${PYPKGPREFIX}-${DISTNAME}
```

For software in PyPi, the name should match what PyPi specifies for "pip install software".

If it is an application, include "../../lang/python/application.mk". In order to correctly set the path to the Python interpreter, use the REPLACE_PYTHON variable and set it to the list of files (paths relative to WRKSRC) that must be corrected. For example:

```
REPLACE_PYTHON=    *.py
```

14.1.2. R packages

Simple R packages from CRAN (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/available_packages_by_name.html) are handled automatically by **R2pkg**, which is available in pkgtools/R2pkg. Individual packages (and optionally their dependencies) may be created and updated. R packages generally follow the same form, and most of the relevant information needed is contained in a DESCRIPTION file as part of each R package on CRAN (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/available_packages_by_name.html). Consequently, **R2pkg** downloads that information and creates or updates a package in the canonical form. The resulting package should be reviewed for correctness.

14.1.3. TeXlive packages

TeXlive packages from CTAN (https://www.ctan.org/) are handled automatically by **texlive2pkg**, which is available in pkgtools/texlive2pkg.

If the TeXlive package name is not known, it may be useful to search CTAN (https://www.ctan.org/). A "Contained in" field on the package page typically identifies the basename of the package file in the TeXlive archive (https://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/systems/texlive/tlnet/archive).

If the TeXlive package name is known, download the files from the TeXlive archive (https://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/systems/texlive/tlnet/archive). For package `foo`, you will need to download `foo.tar.xz`. Most TeXlive packages also have associated documentation packages, so download `foo.doc.tar.xz` at the same time. These files should be placed in the appropriate category directory, which is often but not always `print`. Then run the following command in the category directory.

```
texlive2pkg foo.tar.xz foo.doc.tar.xz
```

This will create two packages, `tex-foo` and `tex-foo-doc`. Be sure to check that both packages are correct.

Finally, CTAN (https://www.ctan.org/) currently does not include version information in package filenames and changes their contents periodically when updates occur. Consequently, pkgsrc avoids downloading distfiles directly from CTAN (https://www.ctan.org/) and instead relies on the pkgsrc archives. For each new or updated TeXlive package, e.g., the main one and the corresponding documentation, upload the distfiles with the following command in each package directory.

```
make upload-distfiles
```

14.2. Examples

14.2.1. How the www/nvu package came into pkgsrc

14.2.1.1. The initial package

Looking at the file `pkgsrc/doc/TODO`, I saw that the "nvu" package has not yet been imported into pkgsrc. As the description says it has to do with the web, the obvious choice for the category is "www".

```
$ mkdir www/nvu
$ cd www/nvu
```

The web site says that the sources are available as a tar file, so I fed that URL to the **url2pkg** program:

```
$ url2pkg http://cvs.nvu.com/download/nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
```

My editor popped up, and I added a `PKGNAME` line below the `DISTNAME` line, as the package name should not have the word "sources" in it. I also filled in the `MAINTAINER`, `HOMEPAGE` and `COMMENT` fields. Then the package `Makefile` looked like that:

```
# $NetBSD $
#

DISTNAME=       nvu-1.0-sources
PKGNAME=        nvu-1.0
```

```
CATEGORIES=     www
MASTER_SITES=   http://cvs.nvu.com/download/
EXTRACT_SUFX=   .tar.bz2

MAINTAINER=     rillig@NetBSD.org
HOMEPAGE=       http://cvs.nvu.com/
COMMENT=        Web Authoring System

# url2pkg-marker (please do not remove this line.)
.include "../../mk/bsd.pkg.mk"
```

On the first line of output above, an artificial space has been added between NetBSD and $, this is a workaround to prevent CVS expanding to the filename of the guide.

Then, I quit the editor and watched pkgsrc downloading a large source archive:

```
url2pkg> Running "make makesum" ...
=> Required installed package digest>=20010302: digest-20060826 found
=> Fetching nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
Requesting http://cvs.nvu.com/download/nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
100% |***********************************| 28992 KB  150.77 KB/s00:00 ETA
29687976 bytes retrieved in 03:12 (150.77 KB/s)
url2pkg> Running "make extract" ...
=> Required installed package digest>=20010302: digest-20060826 found
=> Checksum SHA1 OK for nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
=> Checksum RMD160 OK for nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
work.bacc -> /tmp/roland/pkgsrc/www/nvu/work.bacc
===> Installing dependencies for nvu-1.0
===> Overriding tools for nvu-1.0
===> Extracting for nvu-1.0
url2pkg> Adjusting the Makefile.

Remember to correct CATEGORIES, HOMEPAGE, COMMENT, and DESCR when you're done!

Good luck! (See pkgsrc/doc/pkgsrc.txt for some more help :-)
```

14.2.1.2. Fixing all kinds of problems to make the package work

Now that the package has been extracted, let's see what's inside it. The package has a `README.txt`, but that only says something about mozilla, so it's probably useless for seeing what dependencies this package has. But since there is a GNU configure script in the package, let's hope that it will complain about everything it needs.

```
$ bmake
=> Required installed package digest>=20010302: digest-20060826 found
=> Checksum SHA1 OK for nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
=> Checksum RMD160 OK for nvu-1.0-sources.tar.bz2
===> Patching for nvu-1.0
===> Creating toolchain wrappers for nvu-1.0
===> Configuring for nvu-1.0
[...]
configure: error: Perl 5.004 or higher is required.
```

```
[...]
WARNING: Please add USE_TOOLS+=perl to the package Makefile.
[...]
```

That worked quite well. So I opened the package Makefile in my editor, and since it already has a `USE_TOOLS` line, I just appended "perl" to it. Since the dependencies of the package have changed now, and since a perl wrapper is automatically installed in the "tools" phase, I need to build the package from scratch.

```
$ bmake clean
===> Cleaning for nvu-1.0
$ bmake
[...]
*** /tmp/roland/pkgsrc/www/nvu/work.bacc/.tools/bin/make is not \
GNU Make.  You will not be able to build Mozilla without GNU Make.
[...]
```

So I added "gmake" to the `USE_TOOLS` line and tried again (from scratch).

```
[...]
checking for GTK - version >= 1.2.0... no
*** Could not run GTK test program, checking why...
[...]
```

Now to the other dependencies. The first question is: Where is the GTK package hidden in pkgsrc?

```
$ echo ../../*/gtk*
[many packages ...]
$ echo ../../*/gtk
../../x11/gtk
$ echo ../../*/gtk2
../../x11/gtk2
$ echo ../../*/gtk2/bui*
../../x11/gtk2/buildlink3.mk
```

The first try was definitely too broad. The second one had exactly one result, which is very good. But there is one pitfall with GNOME packages. Before GNOME 2 had been released, there were already many GNOME 1 packages in pkgsrc. To be able to continue to use these packages, the GNOME 2 packages were imported as separate packages, and their names usually have a "2" appended. So I checked whether this was the case here, and indeed it was.

Since the GTK2 package has a `buildlink3.mk` file, adding the dependency is very easy. I just inserted an `.include` line before the last line of the package `Makefile`, so that it now looks like this:

```
[...]
.include "../../x11/gtk2/buildlink3.mk"
.include "../../mk/bsd.pkg.mk
```

After another **bmake clean && bmake**, the answer was:

```
[...]
checking for gtk-config... /home/roland/pkg/bin/gtk-config
checking for GTK - version >= 1.2.0... no
```

```
*** Could not run GTK test program, checking why...
*** The test program failed to compile or link. See the file config.log for the
*** exact error that occured. This usually means GTK was incorrectly installed
*** or that you have moved GTK since it was installed. In the latter case, you
*** may want to edit the gtk-config script: /home/roland/pkg/bin/gtk-config
configure: error: Test for GTK failed.
[...]
```

In this particular case, the assumption that "every package prefers GNOME 2" had been wrong. The first of the lines above told me that this package really wanted to have the GNOME 1 version of GTK. If the package had looked for GTK2, it would have looked for **pkg-config** instead of **gtk-config**. So I changed the `x11/gtk2` to `x11/gtk` in the package `Makefile`, and tried again.

```
[...]
cc -o xpidl.o -c -DOSTYPE=\"NetBSD3\" -DOSARCH=\"NetBSD\"  [...]
In file included from xpidl.c:42:
xpidl.h:53:24: libIDL/IDL.h: No such file or directory
In file included from xpidl.c:42:
xpidl.h:132: error: parse error before "IDL_ns"
[...]
```

The package still does not find all of its dependencies. Now the question is: Which package provides the `libIDL/IDL.h` header file?

```
$ echo ../../*/*idl*
../../devel/py-idle ../../wip/idled ../../x11/acidlaunch
$ echo ../../*/*IDL*
../../net/libIDL
```

Let's take the one from the second try. So I included the `../../net/libIDL/buildlink3.mk` file and tried again. But the error didn't change. After digging through some of the code, I concluded that the build process of the package was broken and couldn't have ever worked, but since the Mozilla source tree is quite large, I didn't want to fix it. So I added the following to the package `Makefile` and tried again:

```
CPPFLAGS+=              -I${BUILDLINK_PREFIX.libIDL}/include/libIDL-2.0
BUILDLINK_TRANSFORM+=   l:IDL:IDL-2
```

The latter line is needed because the package expects the library `libIDL.so`, but only `libIDL-2.so` is available. So I told the compiler wrapper to rewrite that on the fly.

The next problem was related to a recent change of the FreeType interface. I looked up in `www/seamonkey` which patch files were relevant for this issue and copied them to the `patches` directory. Then I retried, fixed the patches so that they applied cleanly and retried again. This time, everything worked.

14.2.1.3. Installing the package

```
$ bmake CHECK_FILES=no install
[...]
$ bmake print-PLIST >PLIST
$ bmake deinstall
$ bmake install
```

Chapter 15. Programming in Makefiles

Pkgsrc consists of many Makefile fragments, each of which forms a well-defined part of the pkgsrc system. Using the make(1) system as a programming language for a big system like pkgsrc requires some discipline to keep the code correct and understandable.

The basic ingredients for Makefile programming are variables and shell commands. Among these shell commands may even be more complex ones like awk(1) programs. To make sure that every shell command runs as intended it is necessary to quote all variables correctly when they are used.

This chapter describes some patterns that appear quite often in Makefiles, including the pitfalls that come along with them.

15.1. Caveats

- When you are creating a file as a target of a rule, always write the data to a temporary file first and finally rename that file. Otherwise there might occur an error in the middle of generating the file, and when the user runs make(1) for the second time, the file exists and will not be regenerated properly. Example:

```
wrong:
        @echo "line 1" > ${.TARGET}
        @echo "line 2" >> ${.TARGET}
        @false

correct:
        @echo "line 1" > ${.TARGET}.tmp
        @echo "line 2" >> ${.TARGET}.tmp
        @false
        @mv ${.TARGET}.tmp ${.TARGET}
```

  When you run **make wrong** twice, the file wrong will exist, although there was an error message in the first run. On the other hand, running **make correct** gives an error message twice, as expected.

  You might remember that make(1) sometimes removes ${.TARGET} in case of error, but this only happens when it is interrupted, for example by pressing Ctrl+C. This does *not* happen when one of the commands fails (like false(1) above).

15.2. Makefile variables

Makefile variables contain strings that can be processed using the five operators =, +=, ?=, := and !=, which are described in the make(1) man page.

When a variable's value is parsed from a Makefile, the hash character # and the backslash character \ are handled specially. If a backslash is the last character in a line, that backslash is removed from the line and the line continues with the next line of the file.

The # character starts a comment that reaches until the end of the line. To get an actual # character, such as in a URL, write \# instead.

The evaluation of variables either happens immediately or lazy. It happens immediately when the variable occurs on the right-hand side of the := or the != operator, in a .if condition or a .for loop. In the other cases, it is evaluated lazily.

Some of the modifiers split the string into words and then operate on the words, others operate on the string as a whole. When a string is split into words, double quotes and single quotes are interpreted as delimiters, just like in sh(1).

15.2.1. Naming conventions

- All variable names starting with an underscore are reserved for use by the pkgsrc infrastructure. They shall not be used by packages.
- In **.for** loops you should use lowercase variable names for the iteration variables.
- All list variables should have a plural name, such as PKG_OPTIONS or DISTFILES.

15.3. Code snippets

15.3.1. Adding things to a list

When adding a string that possibly contains whitespace or quotes to a list (example 1), it must be quoted using the :Q modifier.

When adding another list to a list (example 2), it must not be quoted, since its elements are already quoted.

```
STRING=         foo * bar `date`
LIST=           # empty
ANOTHER_LIST=   a=b c=d

LIST+=          ${STRING:Q}       # 1
LIST+=          ${ANOTHER_LIST}   # 2
```

15.3.2. Echoing a string exactly as-is

Echoing a string containing special characters needs special work.

```
STRING=         foo bar <    > * `date` $$HOME ' "
EXAMPLE_ENV=    string=${STRING:Q} x=multiple\ quoted\ words

all:
```

```
        echo ${STRING}                  # 1
        echo ${STRING:Q}                # 2
        printf '%s\n' ${STRING:Q}"     # 3
        env ${EXAMPLE_ENV} sh -c 'echo "$$string"; echo "$$x"'   # 4
```

Example 1 leads to a syntax error in the shell, as the characters are just copied.

Example 2 quotes the string so that the shell interprets it correctly. But the echo command may additionally interpret strings with a leading dash or those containing backslashes.

Example 3 can handle arbitrary strings, since printf(1) only interprets the format string, but not the next argument. The trailing single quotes handle the case when the string is empty. In that case, the :Q modifier would result in an empty string too, which would then be skipped by the shell. For printf(1) this doesn't make a difference, but other programs may care.

In example 4, the EXAMPLE_ENV does not need to be quoted because the quoting has already been done when adding elements to the list.

15.3.3. Passing CFLAGS to GNU configure scripts

When passing CFLAGS or similar variables to a GNU-style configure script (especially those that call other configure scripts), it must not have leading or trailing whitespace, since otherwise the configure script gets confused. To trim leading and trailing whitespace, use the :M modifier, as in the following example:

```
CPPFLAGS=               # empty
CPPFLAGS+=              -Wundef -DPREFIX=\"${PREFIX}\"
CPPFLAGS+=              ${MY_CPPFLAGS}

CONFIGURE_ARGS+=        CPPFLAGS=${CPPFLAGS:M*:Q}

all:
        echo x${CPPFLAGS:Q}x            # leading and trailing whitespace
        echo x${CONFIGURE_ARGS:Q}x      # properly trimmed
```

In this example, CPPFLAGS has both leading and trailing whitespace because the += operator always adds a space.

15.3.4. Handling possibly empty variables

When a possibly empty variable is used in a shell program, it may lead to a syntax error.

```
EGFILES=        # empty

install-examples:   # produces a syntax error in the shell
        for egfile in ${EGFILES}; do            \
                echo "Installing $$egfile";     \
        done
```

The shell only sees the text `for egfile in ; do`, since ${EGFILES} is replaced with an empty string by make(1). To fix this syntax error, use one of the snippets below.

```
EGFILES=        # empty

install-examples:
        for egfile in ${EGFILES} ""; do         \
                [ -n "$$egfile" ] || continue;  \
                echo "Installing $$egfile";     \
        done
```

In this case, an empty string is appended to the iteration list (to prevent the syntax error) and filtered out later.

```
EGFILES=        # empty

install-examples:
.for egfile in ${EGFILES}
        echo "Installing ${egfile}"
.endfor
```

If one of the filenames contains special characters, it should be enclosed in single or double quotes.

To have a shell command test whether a make variable is empty, use the following code: `${TEST} -z ${POSSIBLY_EMPTY:Q}""`.

15.3.5. Testing yes/no variables in conditions

When a variable can have the values `yes` or `no`, use the following pattern to test the variable:

```
.if ${VAR:U:tl} == "yes"
# do something
.endif
```

The `:U` modifier is only necessary if the variable can be undefined. If the variable is guaranteed to be defined, the `:U` can be omitted.

The `:tl` modifier converts the variable value to lowercase, allowing for the values `yes`, `Yes`, `YES`.

Chapter 16.
Options handling

Many packages have the ability to be built to support different sets of features. `bsd.options.mk` is a framework in pkgsrc that provides generic handling of those options that determine different ways in which the packages can be built. It's possible for the user to specify exactly which sets of options will be built into a package or to allow a set of global default options apply.

There are two broad classes of behaviors that one might want to control via options. One is whether some particular feature is enabled in a program that will be built anyway, often by including or not including a dependency on some other package. The other is whether or not an additional program will be built as part of the package. Generally, it is better to make a split package for such additional programs instead of using options, because it enables binary packages to be built which can then be added separately. For example, the foo package might have minimal dependencies (those packages without which foo doesn't make sense), and then the foo-gfoo package might include the GTK frontend program gfoo. This is better than including a gtk option to foo that adds gfoo, because either that option is default, in which case binary users can't get foo without gfoo, or not default, in which case they can't get gfoo. With split packages, they can install foo without having GTK, and later decide to install gfoo (pulling in GTK at that time). This is an advantage to source users too, avoiding the need for rebuilds.

Plugins with widely varying dependencies should usually be split instead of options.

It is often more work to maintain split packages, especially if the upstream package does not support this. The decision of split vs. option should be made based on the likelihood that users will want or object to the various pieces, the size of the dependencies that are included, and the amount of work.

A further consideration is licensing. Non-free parts, or parts that depend on non-free dependencies (especially plugins) should almost always be split if feasible.

16.1. Global default options

Global default options are listed in `PKG_DEFAULT_OPTIONS`, which is a list of the options that should be built into every package if that option is supported. This variable should be set in `mk.conf`.

16.2. Converting packages to use `bsd.options.mk`

The following example shows how `bsd.options.mk` should be used by the hypothetical "wibble" package, either in the package `Makefile`, or in a file, e.g. `options.mk`, that is included by the main package `Makefile`.

```
PKG_OPTIONS_VAR=                PKG_OPTIONS.wibble
PKG_SUPPORTED_OPTIONS=          wibble-foo ldap
PKG_OPTIONS_OPTIONAL_GROUPS=    database
PKG_OPTIONS_GROUP.database=     mysql pgsql
```

```
PKG_SUGGESTED_OPTIONS=          wibble-foo
PKG_OPTIONS_LEGACY_VARS+=       WIBBLE_USE_OPENLDAP:ldap
PKG_OPTIONS_LEGACY_OPTS+=       foo:wibble-foo

.include "../../mk/bsd.prefs.mk"

# this package was previously named wibble2
.if defined(PKG_OPTIONS.wibble2)
PKG_LEGACY_OPTIONS+=            ${PKG_OPTIONS.wibble2}
PKG_OPTIONS_DEPRECATED_WARNINGS+= \
        "Deprecated variable PKG_OPTIONS.wibble2 used, use ${PKG_OPTIONS_VAR} instead."
.endif

.include "../../mk/bsd.options.mk"

# Package-specific option-handling

###
### FOO support
###
.if !empty(PKG_OPTIONS:Mwibble-foo)
CONFIGURE_ARGS+=    --enable-foo
.endif

###
### LDAP support
###
.if !empty(PKG_OPTIONS:Mldap)
.  include "../../databases/openldap-client/buildlink3.mk"
CONFIGURE_ARGS+=    --enable-ldap=${BUILDLINK_PREFIX.openldap-client}
.endif

###
### database support
###
.if !empty(PKG_OPTIONS:Mmysql)
.  include "../../mk/mysql.buildlink3.mk"
.endif
.if !empty(PKG_OPTIONS:Mpgsql)
.  include "../../mk/pgsql.buildlink3.mk"
.endif
```

The first section contains the information about which build options are supported by the package, and any default options settings if needed.

1. PKG_OPTIONS_VAR is the name of the make(1) variable that the user can set to override the default options. It should be set to PKG_OPTIONS.*pkgbase*. Do not set it to PKG_OPTIONS.${PKGBASE}, since PKGBASE is not defined at the point where the options are processed.
2. PKG_SUPPORTED_OPTIONS is a list of build options supported by the package.

3. PKG_OPTIONS_OPTIONAL_GROUPS is a list of names of groups of mutually exclusive options. The options in each group are listed in PKG_OPTIONS_GROUP.*groupname*. The most specific setting of any option from the group takes precedence over all other options in the group. Options from the groups will be automatically added to PKG_SUPPORTED_OPTIONS.
4. PKG_OPTIONS_REQUIRED_GROUPS is like PKG_OPTIONS_OPTIONAL_GROUPS, but building the packages will fail if no option from the group is selected.
5. PKG_OPTIONS_NONEMPTY_SETS is a list of names of sets of options. At least one option from each set must be selected. The options in each set are listed in PKG_OPTIONS_SET.*setname*. Options from the sets will be automatically added to PKG_SUPPORTED_OPTIONS. Building the package will fail if no option from the set is selected.
6. PKG_SUGGESTED_OPTIONS is a list of build options which are enabled by default.
7. PKG_OPTIONS_LEGACY_VARS is a list of "*USE_VARIABLE*:*option*" pairs that map legacy mk.conf variables to their option counterparts. Pairs should be added with "+=" to keep the listing of global legacy variables. A warning will be issued if the user uses a legacy variable.
8. PKG_OPTIONS_LEGACY_OPTS is a list of "*old-option*:*new-option*" pairs that map options that have been renamed to their new counterparts. Pairs should be added with "+=" to keep the listing of global legacy options. A warning will be issued if the user uses a legacy option.
9. PKG_LEGACY_OPTIONS is a list of options implied by deprecated variables used. This can be used for cases that neither PKG_OPTIONS_LEGACY_VARS nor PKG_OPTIONS_LEGACY_OPTS can handle, e. g. when PKG_OPTIONS_VAR is renamed.
10. PKG_OPTIONS_DEPRECATED_WARNINGS is a list of warnings about deprecated variables or options used, and what to use instead.

A package should never modify PKG_DEFAULT_OPTIONS or the variable named in PKG_OPTIONS_VAR. These are strictly user-settable. To suggest a default set of options, use PKG_SUGGESTED_OPTIONS.

PKG_OPTIONS_VAR must be defined before including bsd.options.mk. If none of PKG_SUPPORTED_OPTIONS, PKG_OPTIONS_OPTIONAL_GROUPS, and PKG_OPTIONS_REQUIRED_GROUPS are defined (as can happen with platform-specific options if none of them is supported on the current platform), PKG_OPTIONS is set to the empty list and the package is otherwise treated as not using the options framework.

After the inclusion of bsd.options.mk, the variable PKG_OPTIONS contains the list of selected build options, properly filtered to remove unsupported and duplicate options.

The remaining sections contain the logic that is specific to each option. The correct way to check for an option is to check whether it is listed in PKG_OPTIONS:

```
.if !empty(PKG_OPTIONS:M option)
```

16.3. Option Names

Options that enable similar features in different packages (like optional support for a library) should use a common name in all packages that support it (like the name of the library). If another package already has an option with the same meaning, use the same name.

Options that enable features specific to one package, where it's unlikely that another (unrelated) package has the same (or a similar) optional feature, should use a name prefixed with *pkgname-*.

If a group of related packages share an optional feature specific to that group, prefix it with the name of the "main" package (e. g. djbware-errno-hack).

For new options, add a line to mk/defaults/options.description. Lines have two fields, separated by tab. The first field is the option name, the second its description. The description should be a whole sentence (starting with an uppercase letter and ending with a period) that describes what enabling the option does. E. g. "Enable ispell support." The file is sorted by option names.

16.4. Determining the options of dependencies

When writing buildlink3.mk files, it is often necessary to list different dependencies based on the options with which the package was built. For querying these options, the file pkgsrc/mk/pkg-build-options.mk should be used. A typical example looks like this:

```
pkgbase := libpurple
.include "../../mk/pkg-build-options.mk"

.if !empty(PKG_BUILD_OPTIONS.libpurple:Mdbus)
...
.endif
```

Including pkg-build-options.mk here will set the variable PKG_BUILD_OPTIONS.libpurple to the build options of the libpurple package, which can then be queried like PKG_OPTIONS in the options.mk file. See the file pkg-build-options.mk for more details.

Chapter 17. *Tools needed for building or running*

The USE_TOOLS definition is used both internally by pkgsrc and also for individual packages to define what commands are needed for building a package (like TOOL_DEPENDS) or for later run-time of an installed packaged (such as DEPENDS). If the native system provides an adequate tool, then in many cases, a pkgsrc package will not be used.

When building a package, the replacement tools are made available in a directory (as symlinks or wrapper scripts) that is early in the executable search path. Just like the buildlink system, this helps with consistent builds.

A tool may be needed to help build a specific package. For example, perl, GNU make (gmake) or yacc may be needed.

Also a tool may be needed, for example, because the native system's supplied tool may be inefficient for building a package with pkgsrc. For example, a package may need GNU awk, bison (instead of yacc) or a better sed.

The tools used by a package can be listed by running **make show-tools**.

17.1. Tools for pkgsrc builds

The default set of tools used by pkgsrc is defined in bsd.pkg.mk. This includes standard Unix tools, such as: **cat**, **awk**, **chmod**, **test**, and so on. These can be seen by running: **make show-var VARNAME=USE_TOOLS**.

If a package needs a specific program to build then the USE_TOOLS variable can be used to define the tools needed.

17.2. Tools needed by packages

In the following examples, the :run means that it is needed at run-time (and becomes a DEPENDS). The default is a build dependency which can be set with :build. (So in this example, it is the same as gmake:build and pkg-config:build.)

```
USE_TOOLS+=     gmake perl:run pkg-config
```

When using the tools framework, a TOOLS_PATH.foo variable is defined which contains the full path to the appropriate tool. For example, TOOLS_PATH.bash could be "/bin/bash" on Linux systems.

If you always need a pkgsrc version of the tool at run-time, then just use DEPENDS instead.

17.3. Tools provided by platforms

When improving or porting pkgsrc to a new platform, have a look at (or create) the corresponding platform specific make file fragment under `pkgsrc/mk/tools/tools.${OPSYS}.mk` which defines the name of the common tools. For example:

```
.if exists(/usr/bin/bzcat)
TOOLS_PLATFORM.bzcat?=          /usr/bin/bzcat
.elif exists(/usr/bin/bzip2)
TOOLS_PLATFORM.bzcat?=          /usr/bin/bzip2 -cd
.endif

TOOLS_PLATFORM.true?=           true                    # shell builtin
```

Chapter 18.
Buildlink methodology

Buildlink is a framework in pkgsrc that controls what headers and libraries are seen by a package's configure and build processes. This is implemented in a two step process:

1. Symlink headers and libraries for dependencies into `BUILDLINK_DIR`, which by default is a subdirectory of `WRKDIR`.
2. Create wrapper scripts that are used in place of the normal compiler tools that translate `-I${LOCALBASE}/include` and `-L${LOCALBASE}/lib` into references to `BUILDLINK_DIR`. The wrapper scripts also make native compiler on some operating systems look like GCC, so that packages that expect GCC won't require modifications to build with those native compilers.

This normalizes the environment in which a package is built so that the package may be built consistently despite what other software may be installed. Please note that the normal system header and library paths, e.g. `/usr/include`, `/usr/lib`, etc., are always searched -- buildlink3 is designed to insulate the package build from non-system-supplied software.

18.1. Converting packages to use buildlink3

The process of converting packages to use the buildlink3 framework ("bl3ifying") is fairly straightforward. The things to keep in mind are:

1. Ensure that the build always calls the wrapper scripts instead of the actual toolchain. Some packages are tricky, and the only way to know for sure is the check `${WRKDIR}/.work.log` to see if the wrappers are being invoked.
2. Don't override `PREFIX` from within the package Makefile, e.g. Java VMs, standalone shells, etc., because the code to symlink files into `${BUILDLINK_DIR}` looks for files relative to "pkg_info -qp *`pkgname`*".
3. Remember that *only* the `buildlink3.mk` files that you list in a package's Makefile are added as dependencies for that package.

If a dependency on a particular package is required for its libraries and headers, then we replace:

```
DEPENDS+=       foo>=1.1.0:../../category/foo
```

with

```
.include "../../category/foo/buildlink3.mk"
```

The buildlink3.mk files usually define the required dependencies. If you need a newer version of the dependency when using buildlink3.mk files, then you can define it in your Makefile; for example:

```
BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.foo+=   foo>=1.1.0
.include "../../category/foo/buildlink3.mk"
```

There are several buildlink3.mk files in pkgsrc/mk that handle special package issues:

- bdb.buildlink3.mk chooses either the native or a pkgsrc Berkeley DB implementation based on the values of BDB_ACCEPTED and BDB_DEFAULT.
- curses.buildlink3.mk: If the system comes with neither Curses nor NCurses, this will take care to install the devel/ncurses package.
- krb5.buildlink3.mk uses the value of KRB5_ACCEPTED to choose between adding a dependency on Heimdal or MIT-krb5 for packages that require a Kerberos 5 implementation.
- motif.buildlink3.mk checks for a system-provided Motif installation or adds a dependency on x11/lesstif or x11/motif. The user can set MOTIF_TYPE to "dt", "lesstif" or "motif" to choose which Motif version will be used.
- readline.buildlink3.mk checks for a system-provided GNU readline or editline (libedit) installation, or adds a dependency on devel/readline, devel/editline. The user can set READLINE_DEFAULT to choose readline implementation. If your package really needs GNU readline library, its Makefile should include devel/readline/buildlink3.mk instead of readline.buildlink3.mk.
- oss.buildlink3.mk defines several variables that may be used by packages that use the Open Sound System (OSS) API.
- pgsql.buildlink3.mk will accept any of the Postgres versions in the variable PGSQL_VERSIONS_ACCEPTED and default to the version PGSQL_VERSION_DEFAULT. See the file for more information.
- pthread.buildlink3.mk uses the value of PTHREAD_OPTS and checks for native pthreads or adds a dependency on devel/pth as needed.
- xaw.buildlink3.mk uses the value of XAW_TYPE to choose a particular Athena widgets library.

The comments in those buildlink3.mk files provide a more complete description of how to use them properly.

18.2. Writing buildlink3.mk files

A package's buildlink3.mk file is included by Makefiles to indicate the need to compile and link against header files and libraries provided by the package. A buildlink3.mk file should always provide enough information to add the correct type of dependency relationship and include any other buildlink3.mk files that it needs to find headers and libraries that it needs in turn.

To generate an initial buildlink3.mk file for further editing, Rene Hexel's pkgtools/createbuildlink package is highly recommended. For most packages, the following command will generate a good starting point for buildlink3.mk files:

```
% cd pkgsrc/category/pkgdir
% createbuildlink >buildlink3.mk
```

18.2.1. Anatomy of a buildlink3.mk file

The following real-life example `buildlink3.mk` is taken from `pkgsrc/graphics/tiff`:

```
BUILDLINK_TREE+=        tiff

.if !defined(TIFF_BUILDLINK3_MK)
TIFF_BUILDLINK3_MK:=

BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.tiff+=    tiff>=3.6.1
BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.tiff+=    tiff>=3.7.2nb1
BUILDLINK_PKGSRCDIR.tiff?=      ../../graphics/tiff

.include "../../devel/zlib/buildlink3.mk"
.include "../../graphics/jpeg/buildlink3.mk"
.endif # TIFF_BUILDLINK3_MK

BUILDLINK_TREE+=        -tiff
```

The header and footer manipulate `BUILDLINK_TREE`, which is common across all `buildlink3.mk` files and is used to track the dependency tree.

The main section is protected from multiple inclusion and controls how the dependency on *`pkg`* is added. Several important variables are set in the section:

- `BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.`*`pkg`* is the dependency version recorded in the installed package; this should always be set using **+=** to ensure that we're appending to any pre-existing list of values. This variable should be set to the last version of the package that had an backwards-incompatible API change.
- `BUILDLINK_PKGSRCDIR.`*`pkg`* is the location of the *`pkg`* pkgsrc directory.
- `BUILDLINK_DEPMETHOD.`*`pkg`* (not shown above) controls whether we use `BUILD_DEPENDS` or `DEPENDS` to add the dependency on *`pkg`*. The build dependency is selected by setting `BUILDLINK_DEPMETHOD.`*`pkg`* to "build". By default, the full dependency is used.
- `BUILDLINK_INCDIRS.`*`pkg`* and `BUILDLINK_LIBDIRS.`*`pkg`* (not shown above) are lists of subdirectories of `${BUILDLINK_PREFIX.`*`pkg`*`}` to add to the header and library search paths. These default to "include" and "lib" respectively.
- `BUILDLINK_CPPFLAGS.`*`pkg`* (not shown above) is the list of preprocessor flags to add to `CPPFLAGS`, which are passed on to the configure and build phases. The "-I" option should be avoided and instead be handled using `BUILDLINK_INCDIRS.`*`pkg`* as above.

The following variables are all optionally defined within this second section (protected against multiple inclusion) and control which package files are symlinked into `${BUILDLINK_DIR}` and how their names are transformed during the symlinking:

- `BUILDLINK_FILES.`*`pkg`* (not shown above) is a shell glob pattern relative to `${BUILDLINK_PREFIX.`*`pkg`*`}` to be symlinked into `${BUILDLINK_DIR}`, e.g. `include/*.h`.
- `BUILDLINK_FILES_CMD.`*`pkg`* (not shown above) is a shell pipeline that outputs to stdout a list of files relative to `${BUILDLINK_PREFIX.`*`pkg`*`}`. The resulting files are to be symlinked into

${BUILDLINK_DIR}. By default, this takes the +CONTENTS of a *pkg* and filters it through ${BUILDLINK_CONTENTS_FILTER.*pkg*}.

- BUILDLINK_CONTENTS_FILTER.*pkg* (not shown above) is a filter command that filters +CONTENTS input into a list of files relative to ${BUILDLINK_PREFIX.*pkg*} on stdout. By default, BUILDLINK_CONTENTS_FILTER.*pkg* outputs the contents of the include and lib directories in the package +CONTENTS.
- BUILDLINK_FNAME_TRANSFORM.*pkg* (not shown above) is a list of sed arguments used to transform the name of the source filename into a destination filename, e.g. **-e "s|/curses.h|/ncurses.h|g"**.

This section can additionally include any buildlink3.mk needed for *pkg*'s library dependencies. Including these buildlink3.mk files means that the headers and libraries for these dependencies are also symlinked into ${BUILDLINK_DIR} whenever the *pkg* buildlink3.mk file is included. Dependencies are only added for directly include buildlink3.mk files.

When providing a buildlink3.mk and including other buildlink3.mk files in it, please only add necessary ones, i.e., those whose libraries or header files are automatically exposed when the package is use.

In particular, if only an executable (bin/foo) is linked against a library, that library does not need to be propagated in the buildlink3.mk file.

The following steps should help you decide if a buildlink3.mk file needs to be included:

- Look at the installed header files: What headers do they include? The packages providing these files must be buildlinked.
- Run ldd on all installed libraries and look against what other libraries they link. Some of the packages providing these probably need to be buildlinked; however, it's not automatic, since e.g. GTK on some systems pulls in the X libraries, so they will show up in the ldd output, while on others (like OS X) it won't. ldd output can thus only be used as a hint.

18.2.2. Updating BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.*pkg* and BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.*pkg* in buildlink3.mk files

Both variables set lower bounds for a version of this package. The two variables differ in that one describes source compatibility (API) and the other binary compatibility (ABI). The difference is that a change in the API breaks compilation of programs while changes in the ABI stop compiled programs from running.

The BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.*pkg* variable in a buildlink3.mk should be changed very rarely. (One possible scenario: If all packages using this package need a higher version than defined in the buildlink3.mk, BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.*pkg* could be updated to that higher version.)

On the other hand, changes to BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.*pkg* are more common. The variable will need to be updated every time the major version of one of its shared libraries is changed, or any other change where a binary built against the previous version of the package will not run against the new version any longer.

In such a case, the package's BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.*pkg* must be increased to require the new package version. Then the PKGREVISION of all packages *foo* that depend on this package need to be increased, and if they have buildlink3.mk files, BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.*foo* in their

buildlink3.mk files must be increased to the new version as well. This is required so that a package will pull in the versions of the packages that use the new ABI and that the packages' PKGREVISIONs uniquely identify the packages built against the new ABI. The pkgtools/revbump package can help with these updates.

See Section 21.1.5 for more information about dependencies on other packages, including the BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS definitions.

Please take careful consideration before adjusting BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.*pkg* or BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.*pkg* in a buildlink3.mk file as we don't want to cause unneeded package deletions and rebuilds. In many cases, new versions of packages work just fine with older dependencies.

Also, it is not needed to set BUILDLINK_ABI_DEPENDS.*pkg* when it is identical to BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.*pkg*.

Note there is also the distinction that users are able to disable enforcement of ABI dependencies using the USE_ABI_DEPENDS variable, but there is no equivalent option for API dependencies.

18.3. Writing builtin.mk files

Some packages in pkgsrc install headers and libraries that coincide with headers and libraries present in the base system. Aside from a buildlink3.mk file, these packages should also include a builtin.mk file that includes the necessary checks to decide whether using the built-in software or the pkgsrc software is appropriate.

The only requirements of a builtin.mk file for *pkg* are:

1. It should set USE_BUILTIN.*pkg* to either "yes" or "no" after it is included.
2. It should *not* override any USE_BUILTIN.*pkg* which is already set before the builtin.mk file is included.
3. It should be written to allow multiple inclusion. This is *very* important and takes careful attention to Makefile coding.

18.3.1. Anatomy of a builtin.mk file

The following is the recommended template for builtin.mk files:

```
.if !defined(IS_BUILTIN.foo)
#
# IS_BUILTIN.foo is set to "yes" or "no" depending on whether "foo"
# genuinely exists in the system or not.
#
IS_BUILTIN.foo?=        no

# BUILTIN_PKG.foo should be set here if "foo" is built-in and its package
# version can be determined.
#
.  if !empty(IS_BUILTIN.foo:M[yY][eE][sS])
BUILTIN_PKG.foo?=       foo-1.0
.  endif
```

```
.endif  # IS_BUILTIN.foo

.if !defined(USE_BUILTIN.foo)
USE_BUILTIN.foo?=       ${IS_BUILTIN.foo}
.  if defined(BUILTIN_PKG.foo)
.    for _depend_ in ${BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.foo}
.      if !empty(USE_BUILTIN.foo:M[yY][eE][sS])
USE_BUILTIN.foo!=                                                       \
        ${PKG_ADMIN} pmatch '${_depend_}' ${BUILTIN_PKG.foo}            \
        && ${ECHO} "yes" || ${ECHO} "no"
.      endif
.    endfor
.  endif
.endif  # USE_BUILTIN.foo

CHECK_BUILTIN.foo?=     no
.if !empty(CHECK_BUILTIN.foo:M[nN][oO])
#
# Here we place code that depends on whether USE_BUILTIN.foo is set to
# "yes" or "no".
#
.endif  # CHECK_BUILTIN.foo
```

The first section sets `IS_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* depending on if *`pkg`* really exists in the base system. This should not be a base system software with similar functionality to *`pkg`*; it should only be "yes" if the actual package is included as part of the base system. This variable is only used internally within the `builtin.mk` file.

The second section sets `BUILTIN_PKG.`*`pkg`* to the version of *`pkg`* in the base system if it exists (if `IS_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* is "yes"). This variable is only used internally within the `builtin.mk` file.

The third section sets `USE_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* and is *required* in all `builtin.mk` files. The code in this section must make the determination whether the built-in software is adequate to satisfy the dependencies listed in `BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.`*`pkg`*. This is typically done by comparing `BUILTIN_PKG.`*`pkg`* against each of the dependencies in `BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.`*`pkg`*. `USE_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* ***must*** be set to the correct value by the end of the `builtin.mk` file. Note that `USE_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* may be "yes" even if `IS_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* is "no" because we may make the determination that the built-in version of the software is similar enough to be used as a replacement.

The last section is guarded by `CHECK_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`*, and includes code that uses the value of `USE_BUILTIN.`*`pkg`* set in the previous section. This typically includes, e.g., adding additional dependency restrictions and listing additional files to symlink into `${BUILDLINK_DIR}` (via `BUILDLINK_FILES.`*`pkg`*).

Chapter 19.
PLIST issues

The PLIST file contains a package's "packing list", i.e. a list of files that belong to the package (relative to the ${PREFIX} directory it's been installed in) plus some additional statements - see the pkg_create(1) man page for a full list. This chapter addresses some issues that need attention when dealing with the PLIST file (or files, see below!).

19.1. RCS ID

Be sure to add a RCS ID line as the first thing in any PLIST file you write:

```
@comment $NetBSD $
```

An artificial space has been added between NetBSD and $, this is a workaround here to prevent CVS expanding to the filename of the guide. When adding the RCS ID the space should be omitted.

19.2. Semi-automatic PLIST generation

You can use the **make print-PLIST** command to output a PLIST that matches any new files since the package was extracted. See Section 13.17 for more information on this target.

19.3. Tweaking output of make print-PLIST

The PRINT_PLIST_AWK variable takes a set of AWK patterns and actions that are used to filter the output of print-PLIST. You can *append* any chunk of AWK scripting you like to it, but be careful with quoting.

For example, to get all files inside the libdata/foo directory removed from the resulting PLIST:

```
PRINT_PLIST_AWK+=       /^libdata\/foo/ { next; }
```

The PRINT_PLIST_AWK transformations are evaluated after the file list and directory list are sorted. EARLY_PRINT_PLIST_AWK is like PRINT_PLIST_AWK except it operates before the file list and directory list are sorted.

19.4. Variable substitution in PLIST

A number of variables are substituted automatically in PLISTs when a package is installed on a system. This includes the following variables:

`${MACHINE_ARCH}`, `${MACHINE_GNU_ARCH}`

Some packages like emacs and perl embed information about which architecture they were built on into the pathnames where they install their files. To handle this case, PLIST will be preprocessed before actually used, and the symbol "`${MACHINE_ARCH}`" will be replaced by what **uname -p** gives. The same is done if the string `${MACHINE_GNU_ARCH}` is embedded in PLIST somewhere - use this on packages that have GNU autoconf-created configure scripts.

Legacy note: There used to be a symbol "`$ARCH`" that was replaced by the output of **uname -m**, but that's no longer supported and has been removed.

`${OPSYS}`, `${LOWER_OPSYS}`, `${OS_VERSION}`

Some packages want to embed the OS name and version into some paths. To do this, use these variables in the `PLIST`:

- `${OPSYS}` - output of "**uname -s**"
- `${LOWER_OPSYS}` - lowercase common name (eg. "solaris")
- `${OS_VERSION}` - "**uname -r**"

For a list of values which are replaced by default, the output of **make help topic=PLIST_SUBST** as well as searching the `pkgsrc/mk` directory with **grep** for `PLIST_SUBST` should help.

If you want to change other variables not listed above, you can add variables and their expansions to this variable in the following way, similar to `MESSAGE_SUBST` (see Section 12.5):

```
PLIST_SUBST+=   SOMEVAR="somevalue"
```

This replaces all occurrences of "${SOMEVAR}" in the `PLIST` with "somevalue".

The `PLIST_VARS` variable can be used to simplify the common case of conditionally including some `PLIST` entries. It can be done by adding `PLIST_VARS+=foo` and setting the corresponding `PLIST.foo` variable to `yes` if the entry should be included. This will substitute "`${PLIST.foo}`" in the `PLIST` with either "`""`" or "`"@comment "`". For example, in `Makefile`:

```
PLIST_VARS+=    foo
.if condition
PLIST.foo=      yes
.else
```

And then in `PLIST`:

```
@comment $NetBSD $
bin/bar
man/man1/bar.1
${PLIST.foo}bin/foo
${PLIST.foo}man/man1/foo.1
${PLIST.foo}share/bar/foo.data
```

An artificial space has been added between NetBSD and $, this is a workaround here to prevent CVS expanding to the filename of the guide. When adding the RCS ID the space should be omitted.

19.5. Man page compression

Man pages should be installed in compressed form if MANZ is set (in bsd.own.mk), and uncompressed otherwise. To handle this in the PLIST file, the suffix ".gz" is appended/removed automatically for man pages according to MANZ and MANCOMPRESSED being set or not, see above for details. This modification of the PLIST file is done on a copy of it, not PLIST itself.

19.6. Changing PLIST source with PLIST_SRC

To use one or more files as source for the PLIST used in generating the binary package, set the variable PLIST_SRC to the names of that file(s). The files are later concatenated using cat(1), and the order of things is important. The default for PLIST_SRC is ${PKGDIR}/PLIST.

19.7. Platform-specific and differing PLISTs

Some packages decide to install a different set of files based on the operating system being used. These differences can be automatically handled by using the following files:

- PLIST.common
- PLIST.${OPSYS}
- PLIST.${MACHINE_ARCH}
- PLIST.${OPSYS}-${MACHINE_ARCH}
- PLIST.common_end

19.8. Build-specific PLISTs

Some packages decide to generate hard-to-guess file names during installation that are hard to wire down.

In such cases, you can set the GENERATE_PLIST variable to shell code terminated (with a semicolon) that will output PLIST entries which will be appended to the PLIST

You can find one example in editors/xemacs:

```
GENERATE_PLIST+=        ${ECHO} bin/${DISTNAME}-`${WRKSRC}/src/xemacs -sd`.dmp ;
```

which will append something like bin/xemacs-21.4.23-54e8ea71.dmp to the PLIST.

19.9. Sharing directories between packages

A "shared directory" is a directory where multiple (and unrelated) packages install files. These directories were problematic because you had to add special tricks in the PLIST to conditionally remove them, or have some centralized package handle them.

In pkgsrc, it is now easy: Each package should create directories and install files as needed; **pkg_delete** will remove any directories left empty after uninstalling a package.

If a package needs an empty directory to work, create the directory during installation as usual, and also add an entry to the PLIST:

```
@pkgdir path/to/empty/directory
```

or take a look at `MAKE_DIRS` and `OWN_DIRS`.

Chapter 20.
The pkginstall framework

This chapter describes the framework known as `pkginstall`, whose key features are:

- Generic installation and manipulation of directories and files outside the pkgsrc-handled tree, `LOCALBASE`.
- Automatic handling of configuration files during installation, provided that packages are correctly designed.
- Generation and installation of system startup scripts.
- Registration of system users and groups.
- Registration of system shells.
- Automatic updating of fonts databases.

The following sections inspect each of the above points in detail.

You may be thinking that many of the things described here could be easily done with simple code in the package's post-installation target (`post-install`). *This is incorrect*, as the code in them is only executed when building from source. Machines using binary packages could not benefit from it at all (as the code itself could be unavailable). Therefore, the only way to achieve any of the items described above is by means of the installation scripts, which are automatically generated by pkginstall.

20.1. Files and directories outside the installation prefix

As you already know, the `PLIST` file holds a list of files and directories that belong to a package. The names used in it are relative to the installation prefix (`${PREFIX}`), which means that it cannot register files outside this directory (absolute path names are not allowed). Despite this restriction, some packages need to install files outside this location; e.g., under `${VARBASE}` or `${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}`. The only way to achieve this is to create such files during installation time by using installation scripts.

The generic installation scripts are shell scripts that can contain arbitrary code. The list of scripts to execute is taken from the `INSTALL_FILE` variable, which defaults to `INSTALL`. A similar variable exists for package removal (`DEINSTALL_FILE`, whose default is `DEINSTALL`). These scripts can run arbitrary commands, so they have the potential to create and manage files anywhere in the file system.

Using these general installation files is not recommended, but may be needed in some special cases. One reason for avoiding them is that the user has to trust the packager that there is no unwanted or simply erroneous code included in the installation script. Also, previously there were many similar scripts for the same functionality, and fixing a common error involved finding and changing all of them.

The pkginstall framework offers another, standardized way. It provides generic scripts to abstract the manipulation of such files and directories based on variables set in the package's `Makefile`. The rest of this section describes these variables.

20.1.1. Directory manipulation

The following variables can be set to request the creation of directories anywhere in the file system:

- MAKE_DIRS and OWN_DIRS contain a list of directories that should be created and should attempt to be destroyed by the installation scripts. The difference between the two is that the latter prompts the administrator to remove any directories that may be left after deinstallation (because they were not empty), while the former does not. Example:

  ```
  MAKE_DIRS+=             ${VARBASE}/foo/private
  ```

- MAKE_DIRS_PERMS and OWN_DIRS_PERMS contain a list of tuples describing which directories should be created and should attempt to be destroyed by the installation scripts. Each tuple holds the following values, separated by spaces: the directory name, its owner, its group and its numerical mode. For example:

  ```
  MAKE_DIRS_PERMS+=       ${VARBASE}/foo/private \
                          ${REAL_ROOT_USER} ${REAL_ROOT_GROUP} 0700
  ```

  The difference between the two is exactly the same as their non-PERMS counterparts.

20.1.2. File manipulation

Creating non-empty files outside the installation prefix is tricky because the PLIST forces all files to be inside it. To overcome this problem, the only solution is to extract the file in a known place (i.e., inside the installation prefix) and copy it to the appropriate location during installation (done by the installation scripts generated by pkginstall). We will call the former the *reference file* in the following paragraphs, which describe the variables that can be used to automatically and consistently handle files outside the installation prefix:

- REQD_FILES is a list of pairs of reference and target files. At installation time, the reference file is copied to the target if and only if the latter does not exist. Upon deinstallation, the reference file is removed provided that it was not modified by the installation.
- REQD_FILES_PERMS contains tuples describing reference files and targets, including owner, group, and numeric permissions that should be set. For example:

  ```
  REQD_FILES_PERMS+=      ${PREFIX}/share/somefile ${VARBASE}/somefile \
                          ${REAL_ROOT_USER} ${REAL_ROOT_GROUP} 0700
  ```

- CONF_FILES and CONF_FILES_PERMS have the same syntax as REQD_FILES and REQD_FILES_PERMS respectively. The difference is that these variables are specifically intended for handling configuration files, for which additional conventions and constraints apply. See Section 20.2 for further discussion. Note in particular that while handling of configuration files can be disabled by the user (see Section 20.2.5), this setting does not affect REQD_FILES and REQD_FILES_PERMS.

To install an empty file, one can use these macros and /dev/null as the reference file.

20.2. Configuration files

There are two principles that govern the handling of configuration files in pkgsrc: first, the user's configuration must not be lost or overwritten by upgrades or reinstallations; and second, the default configuration should always be available for reference. To that end, pkgsrc has a framework specifically for handling configuration files. In general, configuration files are installed into `${PREFIX}/share/examples`, and copied from there to the pertinent `etc` directory as a separate step and only as needed.

To make this work, there are three things that need to happen, any of which may require patching. First, the package must be told to read its configuration from the correct place at runtime; this place is `${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}` (or possibly a subdirectory of it) which is often but not always `${PREFIX}/etc`. Second, the package must be taught to install its default configuration files in `${PREFIX}/share/examples/${PKGBASE}`; this is the point at which patching often becomes required because it is not the same place as the runtime location. Third, the configuration files need to be declared in the package makefile; this is the easy part.

With those elements in place, the right things will happen: the package install phase and resulting binary package will not touch `${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}`, and the default configuration will be copied into place by the pkgsrc framework only if not already present. Similarly, upon deinstall the configuration will not be removed if it has been modified. (This means that in the case of reinstallation and upgrades, unmodified configuration files are updated but modifications are never discarded.)

The following sections describe how to make these things happen and document other relevant knobs available in the pkgsrc infrastructure.

20.2.1. How `PKG_SYSCONFDIR` is set

As said before, the `PKG_SYSCONFDIR` variable specifies where configuration files shall be installed. Its contents are set based upon the following variables:

- `PKG_SYSCONFBASE`: The configuration's root directory. Defaults to `${PREFIX}/etc` although it may be overridden by the user to point to their preferred location (e.g., `/etc`, `/etc/pkg`, etc.). Packages must not use it directly.
- `PKG_SYSCONFSUBDIR`: A subdirectory of `PKG_SYSCONFBASE` under which the configuration files for the package being built shall be installed. The definition of this variable only makes sense in the package's `Makefile` (i.e., it is not user-customizable).

  As an example, consider the Apache package, `www/apache24`, which places its configuration files under the `httpd/` subdirectory of `PKG_SYSCONFBASE`. This should be set in the package Makefile.
- `PKG_SYSCONFVAR`: Specifies the name of the variable that holds this package's configuration directory (if different from `PKG_SYSCONFBASE`). It defaults to `PKGBASE`'s value, and is always prefixed with `PKG_SYSCONFDIR`.
- `PKG_SYSCONFDIR.${PKG_SYSCONFVAR}`: Holds the directory where the configuration files for the package identified by `PKG_SYSCONFVAR`'s shall be placed.

Based on the above variables, pkginstall determines the value of `PKG_SYSCONFDIR`, which is the *only* variable that may be used within a package to refer to its configuration directory. The algorithm used to set its value is basically the following:

1. If PKG_SYSCONFDIR.${PKG_SYSCONFVAR} is set, its value is used.
2. If the previous variable is not defined but PKG_SYSCONFSUBDIR is set in the package's Makefile, the resulting value is ${PKG_SYSCONFBASE}/${PKG_SYSCONFSUBDIR}.
3. Otherwise, it is set to ${PKG_SYSCONFBASE}.

It is worth mentioning that ${PKG_SYSCONFDIR} is automatically added to OWN_DIRS. This causes it to be automatically created if needed. See Section 20.1.1 for further details. This does not apply to subdirectories of ${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}; they must be manually created with OWN_DIRS or MAKE_DIRS.

20.2.2. Telling the software where configuration files are

Given that pkgsrc (and users!) expect configuration files to be in a known place, you need to teach each package where to install its files. In some cases you will have to patch the package Makefiles to achieve it. If you are lucky, though, it may be as easy as passing an extra flag to the configuration script. This is the case for packages using GNU autoconf:

```
CONFIGURE_ARGS+= --sysconfdir=${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}
```

Note that this specifies where the package has to *look for* its configuration files, not where they will be installed. Fortunately, there is a different way to specify the latter, as seen in the next section, although the combination is rather confusing at first glance.

20.2.3. Patching installation

As discussed above, **packages themselves must not touch the contents of ${PKG_SYSCONFDIR} directly**. Bad news is that many software installation scripts will, out of the box, mess with the contents of that directory. So what is the correct procedure to fix this issue?

You must teach the package (usually by manually patching it) to install any configuration files under the examples hierarchy, share/examples/${PKGBASE}/. This way, the PLIST registers them and the administrator always has the original copies available.

It turns out that for packages using GNU autoconf it is possible to create the desired effect by setting sysconfdir on the make command line at install time. Consider this example taken from mail/mutt:

```
EGDIR=                  ${PREFIX}/share/examples/mutt
INSTALL_MAKE_FLAGS=     ${MAKE_FLAGS} sysconfdir=${EGDIR}
```

Note that the EGDIR variable, though commonly used for this purpose, is local to that package and has no meaning outside it.

20.2.4. Declaring configuration files

Once the required configuration files are in place (i.e., under the examples hierarchy), the pkginstall framework can use them as reference copies during the package installation to update what is in ${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}. To achieve this, the variables CONF_FILES and CONF_FILES_PERMS are used. Check out Section 20.1.2 for further information about their syntax and their purpose. Here is an example, taken from the mail/mutt package:

```
EGDIR=                  ${PREFIX}/share/examples/mutt
CONF_FILES=             ${EGDIR}/Muttrc ${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}/Muttrc
```

Note that (as in the previous section's example) the `EGDIR` variable is specific to the package and has no meaning outside it.

For reference, the complete example from Mutt is as follows:

```
CONFIGURE_ARGS+=        --sysconfdir=${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}
EGDIR=                  ${PREFIX}/share/examples/mutt
CONF_FILES=             ${EGDIR}/Muttrc ${PKG_SYSCONFDIR}/Muttrc
INSTALLATION_DIRS+=     ${EGDIR}
INSTALL_MAKE_FLAGS=     ${MAKE_FLAGS} sysconfdir=${EGDIR}
```

20.2.5. Disabling handling of configuration files

The automatic copying of config files can be toggled by setting the environment variable `PKG_CONFIG` prior to package installation.

20.3. System startup scripts

System startup scripts are special files because they must be installed in a place known by the underlying OS, usually outside the installation prefix. Therefore, the same rules described in Section 20.1 apply, and the same solutions can be used. However, pkginstall provides a special mechanism to handle these files.

In order to provide system startup scripts, the package has to:

1. Store the script inside `${FILESDIR}`, with the `.sh` suffix appended. Considering the `print/cups-base` package as an example, it has a `cupsd.sh` in its files directory.
2. Tell pkginstall to handle it, appending the name of the script, without its extension, to the `RCD_SCRIPTS` variable. Continuing the previous example:

   ```
   RCD_SCRIPTS+=   cupsd
   ```

Once this is done, pkginstall will do the following steps for each script in an automated fashion:

1. Process the file found in the files directory applying all the substitutions described in the `FILES_SUBST` variable.
2. Copy the script from the files directory to the examples hierarchy, `${PREFIX}/share/examples/rc.d/`. Note that this reference file must be explicitly registered in the `PLIST`.
3. Add code to the installation scripts to copy the startup script from the examples hierarchy into the system-wide startup scripts directory.

20.3.1. Disabling handling of system startup scripts

The automatic copying of config files can be toggled by setting the environment variable PKG_RCD_SCRIPTS prior to package installation. Note that the scripts will be always copied inside the examples hierarchy, ${PREFIX}/share/examples/rc.d/, no matter what the value of this variable is.

20.4. System users and groups

If a package needs to create special users and/or groups during installation, it can do so by using the pkginstall framework.

Users can be created by adding entries to the PKG_USERS variable. Each entry has the following syntax:

```
user:group
```

Further specification of user details may be done by setting per-user variables. PKG_UID.*user* is the numeric UID for the user. PKG_GECOS.*user* is the user's description or comment. PKG_HOME.*user* is the user's home directory, and defaults to /nonexistent if not specified. PKG_SHELL.*user* is the user's shell, and defaults to /sbin/nologin if not specified.

Similarly, groups can be created by adding entries to the PKG_GROUPS variable, whose syntax is:

```
group
```

The numeric GID of the group may be set by defining PKG_GID.*group*.

If a package needs to create the users and groups at an earlier stage, then it can set USERGROUP_PHASE to either configure,build, or pre-install to indicate the phase before which the users and groups are created. In this case, the numeric UIDs and GIDs of the created users and groups are automatically hardcoded into the final installation scripts.

20.5. System shells

Packages that install system shells should register them in the shell database, /etc/shells, to make things easier to the administrator. This must be done from the installation scripts to keep binary packages working on any system. pkginstall provides an easy way to accomplish this task.

When a package provides a shell interpreter, it has to set the PKG_SHELL variable to its absolute file name. This will add some hooks to the installation scripts to handle it. Consider the following example, taken from shells/zsh:

```
PKG_SHELL=      ${PREFIX}/bin/zsh
```

20.5.1. Disabling shell registration

The automatic registration of shell interpreters can be disabled by the administrator by setting the PKG_REGISTER_SHELLS environment variable to NO.

20.6. Fonts

Packages that install X11 fonts should update the database files that index the fonts within each fonts directory. This can easily be accomplished within the pkginstall framework.

When a package installs X11 fonts, it must list the directories in which fonts are installed in the `FONTS_DIRS.`*`type`* variables, where *`type`* can be one of “ttf”, “type1” or “x11”. This will add hooks to the installation scripts to run the appropriate commands to update the fonts database files within each of those directories. For convenience, if the directory path is relative, it is taken to be relative to the package’s installation prefix. Consider the following example, taken from `fonts/dbz-ttf`:

```
FONTS_DIRS.ttf= ${PREFIX}/share/fonts/X11/TTF
```

20.6.1. Disabling automatic update of the fonts databases

The automatic update of fonts databases can be disabled by the administrator by setting the `PKG_UPDATE_FONTS_DB` environment variable to `NO`.

Chapter 21.
Making your package work

21.1. General operation

One appealing feature of pkgsrc is that it runs on many different platforms. As a result, it is important to ensure, where possible, that packages in pkgsrc are portable. This chapter mentions some particular details you should pay attention to while working on pkgsrc.

21.1.1. How to pull in user-settable variables from `mk.conf`

The pkgsrc user can configure pkgsrc by overriding several variables in the file pointed to by `MAKECONF`, which is `mk.conf` by default. When you want to use those variables in the preprocessor directives of make(1) (for example `.if` or `.for`), you need to include the file `../../mk/bsd.prefs.mk` before, which in turn loads the user preferences.

But note that some variables may not be completely defined after `../../mk/bsd.prefs.mk` has been included, as they may contain references to variables that are not yet defined. In shell commands (the lines in `Makefile` that are indented with a tab) this is no problem, since variables are only expanded when they are used. But in the preprocessor directives mentioned above and in dependency lines (of the form `target: dependencies`) the variables are expanded at load time.

Note: To check whether a variable can be used at load time, run **pkglint -Wall** on your package.

21.1.2. User interaction

Occasionally, packages require interaction from the user, and this can be in a number of ways:

- When fetching the distfiles, some packages require user interaction such as entering username/password or accepting a license on a web page.
- When extracting the distfiles, some packages may ask for passwords.
- help to configure the package before it is built
- help during the build process
- help during the installation of a package

A package can set the `INTERACTIVE_STAGE` variable to define which stages need interaction. This should be done in the package's `Makefile`, e.g.:

```
INTERACTIVE_STAGE=      configure install
```

The user can then decide to skip this package by setting the BATCH variable. Packages that require interaction are also excluded from bulk builds.

21.1.3. Handling licenses

Authors of software can choose the licence under which software can be copied. The Free Software Foundation has declared some licenses "Free", and the Open Source Initiative has a definition of "Open Source".

By default, pkgsrc allows packages with Free or Open Source licenses to be built. To allow packages with other licenses to be built as well, the pkgsrc user needs to add these licenses to the ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES variable in mk.conf. Note that this variable only affects which packages may be *built*, while the license terms often also restrict the actual use of the package and its redistribution.

One might want to only install packages with a BSD license, or the GPL, and not the other. The free licenses are added to the default ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES variable. The pkgsrc user can override the default by setting the ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES variable with "=" instead of "+=". The licenses accepted by default are defined in the DEFAULT_ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES variable in the file pkgsrc/mk/license.mk.

The license tag mechanism is intended to address copyright-related issues surrounding building, installing and using a package, and not to address redistribution issues (see RESTRICTED and NO_SRC_ON_FTP, etc.). Packages with redistribution restrictions should set these tags.

Denoting that a package may be copied according to a particular license is done by placing the license in pkgsrc/licenses and setting the LICENSE variable to a string identifying the license, e.g. in graphics/xv:

```
LICENSE=        xv-license
```

When trying to build, the user will get a notice that the package is covered by a license which has not been placed in the ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES variable:

```
% make
===> xv-3.10anb9 has an unacceptable license: xv-license.
===>     To view the license, enter "/usr/bin/make show-license".
===>     To indicate acceptance, add this line to your /etc/mk.conf:
===>     ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES+=xv-license
*** Error code 1
```

The license can be viewed with **make show-license**, and if the user so chooses, the line printed above can be added to mk.conf to convey to pkgsrc that it should not in the future fail because of that license:

```
ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES+=xv-license
```

The use of LICENSE=shareware, LICENSE=no-commercial-use, and similar language is deprecated because it does not crisply refer to a particular license text. Another problem with such usage is that it does not enable a user to tell pkgsrc to proceed for a single package without also telling pkgsrc to proceed for all packages with that tag.

21.1.3.1. Adding a package with a new license

When adding a package with a new license, the following steps are required:

1. Check whether the license qualifies as Free or Open Source by referencing Various Licenses and Comments about Them (https://www.gnu.org/licenses/license-list.en.html) and Licenses by Name | Open Source Initiative (https://opensource.org/licenses/alphabetical). If this is the case, the filename in `pkgsrc/licenses/` does not need the `-license` suffix, and the license name should be added to:
   - DEFAULT_ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES in `pkgsrc/mk/license.mk`
   - default_acceptable_licenses in `pkgsrc/pkgtools/pkg_install/files/lib/license.c`
2. The license text should be added to `pkgsrc/licenses` for displaying. A list of known licenses can be seen in this directory.

21.1.3.2. Change to the license

When the license changes (in a way other than formatting), make sure that the new license has a different name (e.g., append the version number if it exists, or the date). Just because a user told pkgsrc to build programs under a previous version of a license does not mean that pkgsrc should build programs under the new licenses. The higher-level point is that pkgsrc does not evaluate licenses for reasonableness; the only test is a mechanistic test of whether a particular text has been approved by either of two bodies (FSF or OSI).

21.1.4. Restricted packages

Some licenses restrict how software may be re-distributed. By declaring the restrictions, package tools can automatically refrain from e.g. placing binary packages on FTP sites.

There are four possible restrictions, which are the cross product of sources (distfiles) and binaries not being placed on FTP sites and CD-ROMs. Because this is rarely the exact language in any license, and because non-Free licenses tend to be different from each other, pkgsrc adopts a definition of FTP and CD-ROM. "FTP" means making the source or binary file available over the Internet at no charge. "CD-ROM" means making the source or binary available on some kind of media, together with other source and binary packages, which is sold for a distribution charge.

In order to encode these restrictions, the package system defines five make variables that can be set to note these restrictions:

- `RESTRICTED`

  This variable should be set whenever a restriction exists (regardless of its kind). Set this variable to a string containing the reason for the restriction. It should be understood that those wanting to understand the restriction will have to read the license, and perhaps seek advice of counsel.

- `NO_BIN_ON_CDROM`

Binaries may not be placed on CD-ROM containing other binary packages, for which a distribution charge may be made. In this case, set this variable to `${RESTRICTED}`.

- `NO_BIN_ON_FTP`

  Binaries may not made available on the Internet without charge. In this case, set this variable to `${RESTRICTED}`. If this variable is set, binary packages will not be included on ftp.NetBSD.org.

- `NO_SRC_ON_CDROM`

  Distfiles may not be placed on CD-ROM, together with other distfiles, for which a fee may be charged. In this case, set this variable to `${RESTRICTED}`.

- `NO_SRC_ON_FTP`

  Distfiles may not made available via FTP at no charge. In this case, set this variable to `${RESTRICTED}`. If this variable is set, the distfile(s) will not be mirrored on ftp.NetBSD.org.

Please note that packages will be removed from pkgsrc when the distfiles are not distributable and cannot be obtained for a period of one full quarter branch. Packages with manual/interactive fetch must have a maintainer and it is his/her responsibility to ensure this.

21.1.5. Handling dependencies

Your package may depend on some other package being present, and there are various ways of expressing this dependency. pkgsrc supports the `DEPENDS`, `BUILD_DEPENDS`, `TOOL_DEPENDS`, and `TEST_DEPENDS` definitions, the `USE_TOOLS` definition, as well as dependencies via `buildlink3.mk`, which is the preferred way to handle dependencies, and which uses the variables named above. See Chapter 18 for more information.

The basic difference is that the `DEPENDS` definition registers that pre-requisite in the binary package so it will be pulled in when the binary package is later installed, whilst the `BUILD_DEPENDS`, `TOOL_DEPENDS`, and `TEST_DEPENDS` definitions do not, marking a dependency that is only needed for building or testing the resulting package. See also Chapter 14 for more information.

This means that if you only need a package present whilst you are building or testing, it should be noted as a `TOOL_DEPENDS`, `BUILD_DEPENDS`, or `TEST_DEPENDS`. When cross-compiling, `TOOL_DEPENDS` are *native* packages, i.e. packages for the architecture where the package is built; `BUILD_DEPENDS` are *target* packages, i.e., packages for the architecture for which the package is built.

The format for a `DEPENDS`, `BUILD_DEPENDS`, `TOOL_DEPENDS`, and `TEST_DEPENDS` definition is:

```
<pre-req-package-name>:../../<category>/<pre-req-package>
```

Please note that the “pre-req-package-name” may include any of the wildcard version numbers recognized by pkg_info(1).

1. If your package needs another package’s binaries or libraries to build and run, and if that package has a `buildlink3.mk` file available, use it:

   ```
   .include "../../graphics/jpeg/buildlink3.mk"
   ```

2. If your package needs another package’s binaries or libraries only for building, and if that package has a `buildlink3.mk` file available, use it:

   ```
   .include "../../graphics/jpeg/buildlink3.mk"
   ```

but set BUILDLINK_DEPMETHOD.*jpeg*?=build to make it a build dependency only. This case is rather rare.

3. If your package needs binaries from another package to build, use the TOOL_DEPENDS definition:

   ```
   TOOL_DEPENDS+= itstool-[0-9]*:../../textproc/itstool
   ```

4. If your package needs static libraries to link against, header files to include, etc. from another package to build, use the BUILD_DEPENDS definition.

5. If your package needs a library with which to link and there is no buildlink3.mk file available, create one. Using DEPENDS won't be sufficient because the include files and libraries will be hidden from the compiler.

6. If your package needs some executable to be able to run correctly and if there's no buildlink3.mk file, this is specified using the DEPENDS variable. The print/lyx package needs to be able to execute the latex binary from the tex-latex-bin package when it runs, and that is specified:

   ```
   DEPENDS+=       tex-latex-bin-[0-9]*:../../print/tex-latex-bin
   ```

7. If your package includes a test suite that has extra dependencies only required for this purpose (frequently this can be run as a "make test" target), use the TEST_DEPENDS variable.

8. You can use wildcards in package dependencies. Note that such wildcard dependencies are retained when creating binary packages. The dependency is checked when installing the binary package and any package which matches the pattern will be used. Wildcard dependencies should be used with care.

   The "-[0-9]*" should be used instead of "-*" to avoid potentially ambiguous matches such as "tk-postgresql" matching a "tk-*" DEPENDS.

   Wildcards can also be used to specify that a package will only build against a certain minimum version of a pre-requisite:

   ```
   DEPENDS+=       ImageMagick>=6.0:../../graphics/ImageMagick
   ```

   This means that the package will build using version 6.0 of ImageMagick or newer. Such a dependency may be warranted if, for example, the command line options of an executable have changed.

   If you need to depend on minimum versions of libraries, set BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.*pkg* to the appropriate pattern before including its buildlink3.mk file, e.g.

   ```
   BUILDLINK_API_DEPENDS.jpeg+=    jpeg>=9.0
   .include "../../graphics/jpeg/buildlink3.mk"
   ```

   For security fixes, please update the package vulnerabilities file. See Section 21.1.9 for more information.

If your package needs files from another package to build, add the relevant distribution files to DISTFILES, so they will be extracted automatically. See the print/ghostscript package for an example. (It relies on the jpeg sources being present in source form during the build.)

21.1.6. Handling conflicts with other packages

Your package may conflict with other packages users might already have installed on their system, e.g., if your package installs the same set of files as another package in the pkgsrc tree.

For example, x11/libXaw3d and x11/Xaw-Xpm install the same shared library, thus you set in pkgsrc/x11/libXaw3d/Makefile:

```
CONFLICTS=      Xaw-Xpm-[0-9]*
```

and in pkgsrc/x11/Xaw-Xpm/Makefile:

```
CONFLICTS=      libXaw3d-[0-9]*
```

pkg_add(1) is able to detect attempts to install packages that conflict with existing packages and abort. However, in many situations this is too late in the process. Binary package managers will not know about the conflict until they attempt to install the package after already downloading it and all its dependencies. Users may also waste time building a package and its dependencies only to find out at the end that it conflicts with another package they have installed.

To avoid these issues CONFLICTS entries should be added in all cases where it is known that packages conflict with each other. These CONFLICTS entries are exported in pkg_summary(5) files and consumed by binary package managers to inform users that packages cannot be installed onto the target system.

21.1.7. Packages that cannot or should not be built

There are several reasons why a package might be instructed to not build under certain circumstances. If the package builds and runs on most platforms, the exceptions should be noted with BROKEN_ON_PLATFORM. If the package builds and runs on a small handful of platforms, set BROKEN_EXCEPT_ON_PLATFORM instead. Both BROKEN_ON_PLATFORM and BROKEN_EXCEPT_ON_PLATFORM are OS triples (OS-version-platform) that can use glob-style wildcards.

If a package is not appropriate for some platforms (as opposed to merely broken), a different set of variables should be used as this affects failure reporting and statistics. If the package is appropriate for most platforms, the exceptions should be noted with NOT_FOR_PLATFORM. If the package is appropriate for only a small handful of platforms (often exactly one), set ONLY_FOR_PLATFORM instead. Both ONLY_FOR_PLATFORM and NOT_FOR_PLATFORM are OS triples (OS-version-platform) that can use glob-style wildcards.

Some packages are tightly bound to a specific version of an operating system, e.g. LKMs or sysutils/lsof. Such binary packages are not backwards compatible with other versions of the OS, and should be uploaded to a version specific directory on the FTP server. Mark these packages by setting OSVERSION_SPECIFIC to “yes”. This variable is not currently used by any of the package system internals, but may be used in the future.

If the package should be skipped (for example, because it provides functionality already provided by the system), set PKG_SKIP_REASON to a descriptive message. If the package should fail because some preconditions are not met, set PKG_FAIL_REASON to a descriptive message.

21.1.8. Packages which should not be deleted, once installed

To ensure that a package may not be deleted, once it has been installed, the PKG_PRESERVE definition should be set in the package Makefile. This will be carried into any binary package that is made from this pkgsrc entry. A “preserved” package will not be deleted using pkg_delete(1) unless the “-f” option is used.

21.1.9. Handling packages with security problems

When a vulnerability is found, this should be noted in `pkgsrc/doc/pkg-vulnerabilities`. Entries in that file consist of three parts:

- package version pattern
- type of vulnerability (please cut'n'paste an existing one where possible)
- URL providing additional information about the issue

For the package version pattern please always use '<' to mark an upper bound (not '<='!). This will avoid possible problems due unrelated `PKGREVISION` bumps not related to security fixes. Lower bounds can be added too, using '>' or '>='. For example, "`foo>=1<1.2`" would mark versions 1.0 (included) to 1.2 (excluded) of "`foo`" as affected by the security issue.

Entries should always be added at the bottom of the file.

When fixing packages, please modify the upper bound of the corresponding entry. To continue the previous example, if a fix was backported to version 1.1nb2, change the previous pattern to "`foo>=1<1.1nb2`".

To locally test a package version pattern against a `PKGNAME` you can use the **pkg_admin pmatch** command.

The URL should be as permanent as possible and provide as much information about the issue as possible. CVE entries are preferred.

After committing that file, ask pkgsrc-security@NetBSD.org to update the file on ftp.NetBSD.org.

After fixing the vulnerability by a patch, its `PKGREVISION` should be increased (this is of course not necessary if the problem is fixed by using a newer release of the software), and the pattern in the pkg-vulnerabilities file must be updated.

Also, if the fix should be applied to the stable pkgsrc branch, be sure to submit a pullup request!

Binary packages already on ftp.NetBSD.org will be handled semi-automatically by a weekly cron job.

In case a security issue is disputed, please contact pkgsrc-security@NetBSD.org.

21.1.10. How to handle incrementing versions when fixing an existing package

When making fixes to an existing package it can be useful to change the version number in `PKGNAME`. To avoid conflicting with future versions by the original author, a "nb1", "nb2", ... suffix can be used on package versions by setting `PKGREVISION=1` (2, ...). The "nb" is treated like a "." by the package tools. e.g.

```
DISTNAME=       foo-17.42
PKGREVISION=    9
```

will result in a `PKGNAME` of "foo-17.42nb9". If you want to use the original value of `PKGNAME` without the "nbX" suffix, e.g. for setting `DIST_SUBDIR`, use `PKGNAME_NOREV`.

When a new release of the package is released, the `PKGREVISION` should be removed, e.g. on a new minor release of the above package, things should be like:

```
DISTNAME=       foo-17.43
```

PKGREVISION should be incremented for any non-trivial change in the resulting binary package. Without a PKGREVISION bump, someone with the previous version installed has no way of knowing that their package is out of date. Thus, changes without increasing PKGREVISION are essentially labeled "this is so trivial that no reasonable person would want to upgrade", and this is the rough test for when increasing PKGREVISION is appropriate. Examples of changes that do not merit increasing PKGREVISION are:

- Changing HOMEPAGE, MAINTAINER, OWNER, or comments in Makefile.
- Changing build variables if the resulting binary package is the same.
- Changing DESCR.
- Adding PKG_OPTIONS if the default options don't change.

Examples of changes that do merit an increase to PKGREVISION include:

- Security fixes
- Changes or additions to a patch file
- Changes to the PLIST
- A dependency is changed or renamed.

PKGREVISION must also be incremented when dependencies have ABI changes.

21.1.11. Substituting variable text in the package files (the SUBST framework)

When you want to replace the same text in multiple files, or multiple times in the same file, it is cumbersome to maintain a patch file for this. This is where the SUBST framework steps in. It provides an easy-to-use interface for replacing text in files. It just needs the following information:

- In which phase of the package build cycle should the replacement happen?
- In which files should the replacement happen?
- Which text should be replaced with what?

This information is encoded in a block of SUBST variables. A minimal example is:

```
SUBST_CLASSES+=         paths
SUBST_STAGE.paths=      pre-configure
SUBST_FILES.paths=      src/*.c
SUBST_SED.paths=        -e 's,/usr/local,${PREFIX},g'
```

Translated into English, it means: In the pre-configure stage (that is, after applying the patches from the patches/ directory and before running the configure script and the portability check), replace the text /usr/local with the content of the variable PREFIX.

Each SUBST block starts by appending an identifier to SUBST_CLASSES (note the +=). This identifier can be chosen freely by the package. If there should ever be duplicate identifiers, the pkgsrc infrastructure will catch this and fail early, so don't worry about name collisions.

Except for SUBST_CLASSES, all variables in a SUBST block are parameterized using this identifier. In the remainder of this section, these parameterized variables are written as SUBST_STAGE.*.

```
SUBST_CLASSES+=         paths
SUBST_STAGE.paths=      pre-configure
SUBST_MESSAGE.paths=    Fixing absolute paths.
SUBST_FILES.paths=      src/*.c
SUBST_FILES.paths+=     scripts/*.sh
SUBST_SED.paths=        -e 's,"/usr/local,"${PREFIX},g'
SUBST_SED.paths+=       -e 's,"/var/log,"${VARBASE}/log,g'
SUBST_VARS.paths=       LOCALBASE PREFIX PKGVERSION
```

To get a complete picture about the SUBST substitutions, run **bmake show-all-subst**. If something doesn't work as expected, run pkglint on the package, which detects several typical mistakes surrounding the SUBST blocks. For any questions that might remain after this, have a look at mk/subst.mk.

21.1.11.1. Choosing the time where the substitutions happen

The SUBST_STAGE.* is one of {pre,do,post}-{extract,patch,configure,build,test,install}. Of these, pre-configure is used most often, by far. The most popular stages are, in chronological order:

post-extract

> The substitutions are applied immediately after the distfiles are extracted. Running **bmake extract** on the package will leave no traces of the original files.
>
> When the substitution applies to files for which there is also a patch in the patches/ directory, this means that the patches will be computed based on the result of the substitution. When these patches are sent to the upstream maintainer later, to be fixed in the upstream package, these patches may no longer match what the upstream author is used to. Because of this, pre-configure is often a better choice.

pre-configure

> The substitutions are applied after the patches from the patches/ directory. This makes it possible to run **bmake patch** on the package, after which the patches can be edited using the tools pkgvi and mkpatches from the pkgtools/pkgdiff package.
>
> When updating the patches, it is helpful to explicitly separate the **bmake patch** from the **bmake configure**, and to only edit the patches between these commands. Otherwise the substitutions from the SUBST block will end up in the patch file. When this happens in really obvious ways, pkglint will complain about patches that contain a hard-coded /usr/pkg instead of the correct and intended @PREFIX@, but it can only detect these really obvious cases.

do-configure

> This stage should only be used if the package defines a pre-configure action itself, and the substitution must happen after that. Typical examples are packages that use the pre-configure stage to regenerate the GNU configure script from configure.ac.

post-configure

> This stage is used to fix up any mistakes by the configure stage.

pre-build

This stage should only be used for substitutions that are clearly related to building the package, not for fixing the configuration. Substitutions for pathnames (such as replacing /usr/local with ${PREFIX}) or user names (such as replacing @MY_USER@ with the actual username) belong in pre-configure or post-configure instead.

post-build

Just as with pre-build, this stage should only be used for substitutions that are clearly related to building the package, not for fixing the configuration. Substitutions for pathnames (such as replacing /usr/local with ${PREFIX}) or user names (such as replacing @MY_USER@ with the actual username) belong in pre-configure or post-configure instead.

A typical use is to update pkg-config files to include the rpath compiler options.

pre-install

In general, the install phase should be as simple as possible. As with the pre-build and post-build stages, it should not be used to fix pathnames or user names, these belong in pre-configure instead. There are only few legitimate use cases for applying substitutions in this stage.

21.1.11.2. Choosing the files where the substitutions happen

The SUBST_FILES.* variable contains a list of filename patterns. These patterns are relative to WRKSRC since that is where most substitutions happen. A typical example is:

```
SUBST_FILES.path=       Makefile */Makefile */*/Makefile *.[ch]
```

The above patterns, especially the last, are quite broad. The SUBST implementation checks that each filename pattern that is mentioned here has an effect. For example, if none of the */*/Makefile files contains the patterns to be found and substituted, that filename pattern is redundant and should be left out. By default, the SUBST framework will complain with an error message. If the text to be substituted occurs in some of the files from a single pattern, but not in all of them, that is totally ok, and the SUBST framework will only print an INFO message for those files.

If there is a good reason for having redundant filename patterns, set SUBST_NOOP_OK.* to yes.

Another popular way of choosing the files for the substitutions is via a shell command, like this:

```
C_FILES_CMD=            cd ${WRKSRC} && ${FIND} . -name '*.c'
SUBST_FILES.path=       ${C_FILES_CMD:sh}
```

The variable name C_FILES_CMD in this example is freely chosen and independent of the SUBST framework.

In this variant, the SUBST_FILES.* variable lists each file individually. Thereby chances are higher that there are filename patterns in which no substitution happens. Since the SUBST framework cannot know whether the filename patterns in SUBST_FILES.* have been explicitly listed in the Makefile (where any redundant filename pattern would be suspicious) or been generated by a shell command (in which redundant filename patterns are more likely and to be expected), it will complain about these redundant filename patterns. Therefore, SUBST blocks that use a shell command to generate the list of filename patterns often need to set SUBST_NOOP_OK.* to yes.

21.1.11.3. Choosing what to substitute

In most cases, the substitutions are given using one or more sed(1) commands, like this:

```
SUBST_SED.path=         -e 's|/usr/local|${PREFIX}|g'
```

Each of the sed commands needs to be preceded by the `-e` option and should be specified on a line of its own, to avoid hiding short sed commands at the end of a line.

Since the sed commands often contain shell metacharacters as the separator (the `|` in the above example), it is common to enclose them in single quotes.

A common substitution is to replace placeholders of the form `@VARNAME@` with their pkgsrc counterpart variable `${VARNAME}`. A typical example is:

```
SUBST_VARS.path=        PREFIX
```

This type of substitutions is typically done by the GNU configure scripts during the do-configure stage, but in some cases these need to be overridden. The same pattern is also used when a package defines patches that replace previously hard-coded paths like `/usr/local` with a `@PREFIX@` placeholder first, which then gets substituted by the actual `${PREFIX}` in the pre-configure stage. In many of these cases, it works equally well to just use the SUBST framework to directly replace `/usr/local` with `${PREFIX}`, thereby omitting the intermediate patch file.

If the above is not flexible enough, it is possible to not use sed at all for the substitution but to specify an entirely different command, like this:

```
SUBST_FILTER_CMD.path=  LC_ALL=C ${TR} -d '\r'
```

This is used for the few remaining packages in which the distributed files use Windows-style line endings that need to be converted to UNIX-style line endings.

21.1.11.4. Other SUBST variables

When a SUBST block is applied during a package build, a message is logged. The default message is fine for most purposes but can be overridden by setting `SUBST_MESSAGE.*` to an individual message.

21.2. The *fetch* phase

21.2.1. Packages whose distfiles aren't available for plain downloading

If you need to download from a dynamic URL you can set `DYNAMIC_MASTER_SITES` and a **make fetch** will call `files/getsite.sh` with the name of each file to download as an argument, expecting it to output the URL of the directory from which to download it. `graphics/ns-cult3d` is an example of this usage.

If the download can't be automated, because the user must submit personal information to apply for a password, or must pay for the source, or whatever, you can set `FETCH_MESSAGE` to a list of lines that are displayed to the user before aborting the build. Example:

```
FETCH_MESSAGE=  "Please download the files"
FETCH_MESSAGE+= "    "${DISTFILES:Q}
FETCH_MESSAGE+= "manually from "${MASTER_SITES:Q}"."
```

21.2.2. How to handle modified distfiles with the 'old' name

Sometimes authors of a software package make some modifications after the software was released, and they put up a new distfile without changing the package's version number. If a package is already in pkgsrc at that time, the checksum will no longer match. The contents of the new distfile should be compared against the old one before changing anything, to make sure the distfile was really updated on purpose, and that no trojan horse or so crept in. Please mention that the distfiles were compared and what was found in your commit message.

Then, the correct way to work around this is to set `DIST_SUBDIR` to a unique directory name, usually based on `PKGNAME_NOREV` (but take care with python or ruby packages, where `PKGNAME` includes a variable prefix). All `DISTFILES` and `PATCHFILES` for this package will be put in that subdirectory of the local distfiles directory. (See Section 21.1.10 for more details.) In case this happens more often, `PKGNAME` can be used (thus including the `nbX` suffix) or a date stamp can be appended, like `${PKGNAME_NOREV}-YYYYMMDD`.

`DIST_SUBDIR` is also used when a distfile's name does not contain a version and the distfile is apt to change. In cases where the likelihood of this is very small, `DIST_SUBDIR` might not be required. Additionally, `DIST_SUBDIR` must not be removed unless the distfile name changes, even if a package is being moved or renamed.

Do not forget regenerating the `distinfo` file after that, since it contains the `DIST_SUBDIR` path in the filenames. Also, increase the PKGREVISION if the installed package is different. Furthermore, a mail to the package's authors seems appropriate telling them that changing distfiles after releases without changing the file names is not good practice.

21.2.3. Packages hosted on github.com

Helper methods exist for packages hosted on github.com which will often have distfile names that clash with other packages, for example `1.0.tar.gz`. Use one of the three recipes from below:

21.2.3.1. Fetch based on a tagged release

If your distfile URL looks similar to `https://github.com/username/example/archive/v1.0.zip`, then you are packaging a tagged release.

```
DISTNAME=       example-1.0
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_GITHUB:=username/}
#GITHUB_PROJECT= example    # can be omitted if same as DISTNAME
GITHUB_TAG=     v${PKGVERSION_NOREV}
EXTRACT_SUFX=   .zip
```

Here, DISTNAME combined with use of GITHUB_TAG leads the file fetching infrastructure to save the resulting file locally as `example-1.0.zip`.

21.2.3.2. Fetch based on a specific commit before the first release

If your distfile looks similar to
`https://github.com/username/example/archive/988881adc9fc3655077dc2d4d757d480b5ea0e11`
and is from a commit before the first release, then set the package version to 0.0.0.N, where N is the number of commits to the repository, and set GITHUB_TAG to the commit hash. This will (almost) ensure that the first tagged release will have a version greater than this one so that package upgrades will function properly.

```
DISTNAME=       example-0.0.0.347
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_GITHUB:=username/}
#GITHUB_PROJECT= example    # can be omitted if same as DISTNAME
GITHUB_TAG=     988881adc9fc3655077dc2d4d757d480b5ea0e11
```

21.2.3.3. Fetch based on a specific commit after a release

If your distfile looks similar to
`https://github.com/username/example/archive/988881adc9fc3655077dc2d4d757d480b5ea0e11`
and is from a commit after a release, then include the last release version and the commit count since that release in the package version and set GITHUB_TAG to the commit hash. The latest release and commit count are shown in the output of "git describe --tags":

```
# git clone https://github.com/username/example
# cd example
# git describe --tags
1.2.3-5-g988881a
```

```
DISTNAME=       example-1.2.3.5
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_GITHUB:=username/}
#GITHUB_PROJECT= example    # can be omitted if same as DISTNAME
GITHUB_TAG=     988881adc9fc3655077dc2d4d757d480b5ea0e11
```

21.2.3.4. Fetch based on release

If your distfile URL looks similar to
`https://github.com/username/example/releases/download/rel-1.6/offensive-1.6.zip`,
then you are packaging a release.

```
DISTNAME=       offensive-1.6
PKGNAME=        ${DISTNAME:S/offensive/proper/}
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_GITHUB:=username/}
GITHUB_PROJECT= example
GITHUB_RELEASE= rel-${PKGVERSION_NOREV} # usually just set this to ${DISTNAME}
EXTRACT_SUFX=   .zip
```

21.3. The *configure* phase

21.3.1. Shared libraries - libtool

pkgsrc supports many different machines, with different object formats like a.out and ELF, and varying abilities to do shared library and dynamic loading at all. To accompany this, varying commands and options have to be passed to the compiler, linker, etc. to get the Right Thing, which can be pretty annoying especially if you don't have all the machines at your hand to test things. The `devel/libtool` pkg can help here, as it just "knows" how to build both static and dynamic libraries from a set of source files, thus being platform-independent.

Here's how to use libtool in a package in seven simple steps:

1. Add `USE_LIBTOOL=yes` to the package Makefile.
2. For library objects, use "${LIBTOOL} --mode=compile ${CC}" in place of "${CC}". You could even add it to the definition of `CC`, if only libraries are being built in a given Makefile. This one command will build both PIC and non-PIC library objects, so you need not have separate shared and non-shared library rules.
3. For the linking of the library, remove any "ar", "ranlib", and "ld -Bshareable" commands, and instead use:

   ```
   ${LIBTOOL} --mode=link \
       ${CC} -o ${.TARGET:.a=.la} \
           ${OBJS:.o=.lo} \
           -rpath ${PREFIX}/lib \
           -version-info major:minor
   ```

   Note that the library is changed to have a `.la` extension, and the objects are changed to have a `.lo` extension. Change `OBJS` as necessary. This automatically creates all of the `.a`, `.so.major.minor`, and ELF symlinks (if necessary) in the build directory. Be sure to include "-version-info", especially when major and minor are zero, as libtool will otherwise strip off the shared library version.

   From the libtool manual:

   ```
   So, libtool library versions are described by three integers:

   CURRENT
   The most recent interface number that this library implements.

   REVISION
   The implementation number of the CURRENT interface.

   AGE
   The difference between the newest and oldest interfaces that
   this library implements.  In other words, the library implements
   all the interface numbers in the range from number 'CURRENT -
   AGE' to 'CURRENT'.

   If two libraries have identical CURRENT and AGE numbers, then the
   dynamic linker chooses the library with the greater REVISION number.
   ```

The "-release" option will produce different results for a.out and ELF (excluding symlinks) in only one case. An ELF library of the form "libfoo-release.so.*x*.*y*" will have a symlink of "libfoo.so.*x*.*y*" on an a.out platform. This is handled automatically.

The "-rpath argument" is the install directory of the library being built.

In the `PLIST`, include only the `.la` file, the other files will be added automatically.

4. When linking shared object (`.so`) files, i.e. files that are loaded via dlopen(3), NOT shared libraries, use "-module -avoid-version" to prevent them getting version tacked on.

   The `PLIST` file gets the `foo.so` entry.

5. When linking programs that depend on these libraries *before* they are installed, preface the cc(1) or ld(1) line with "${LIBTOOL} --mode=link", and it will find the correct libraries (static or shared), but please be aware that libtool will not allow you to specify a relative path in -L (such as "-L../somelib"), because it expects you to change that argument to be the `.la` file. e.g.

   ```
   ${LIBTOOL} --mode=link ${CC} -o someprog -L../somelib -lsomelib
   ```

   should be changed to:

   ```
   ${LIBTOOL} --mode=link ${CC} -o someprog ../somelib/somelib.la
   ```

   and it will do the right thing with the libraries.

6. When installing libraries, preface the install(1) or cp(1) command with "${LIBTOOL} --mode=install", and change the library name to `.la`. e.g.

   ```
   ${LIBTOOL} --mode=install ${BSD_INSTALL_LIB} ${SOMELIB:.a=.la} ${PREFIX}/lib
   ```

   This will install the static `.a`, shared library, any needed symlinks, and run ldconfig(8).

7. In your `PLIST`, include only the `.la` file (this is a change from previous behaviour).

21.3.2. Using libtool on GNU packages that already support libtool

Add `USE_LIBTOOL=yes` to the package Makefile. This will override the package's own libtool in most cases. For older libtool using packages, libtool is made by ltconfig script during the do-configure step; you can check the libtool script location by doing **make configure; find work*/ -name libtool**.

`LIBTOOL_OVERRIDE` specifies which libtool scripts, relative to `WRKSRC`, to override. By default, it is set to "libtool */libtool */*/libtool". If this does not match the location of the package's libtool script(s), set it as appropriate.

If you do not need `*.a` static libraries built and installed, then use `SHLIBTOOL_OVERRIDE` instead.

If your package makes use of the platform-independent library for loading dynamic shared objects, that comes with libtool (libltdl), you should include devel/libltdl/buildlink3.mk.

Some packages use libtool incorrectly so that the package may not work or build in some circumstances. Some of the more common errors are:

- The inclusion of a shared object (-module) as a dependent library in an executable or library. This in itself isn't a problem if one of two things has been done:

  1. The shared object is named correctly, i.e. `libfoo.la`, not `foo.la`

  2. The -dlopen option is used when linking an executable.

- The use of libltdl without the correct calls to initialisation routines. The function lt_dlinit() should be called and the macro LTDL_SET_PRELOADED_SYMBOLS included in executables.

21.3.3. GNU Autoconf/Automake

If a package needs GNU autoconf or automake to be executed to regenerate the configure script and Makefile.in makefile templates from configure.ac and Makefile.am, then they should be executed in a pre-configure target:

```
USE_TOOLS+= autoconf automake autoreconf
GNU_CONFIGURE= yes
...

pre-configure:
        set -e; cd ${WRKSRC} && autoreconf -fi
...
```

Packages which use GNU Automake will sometimes require GNU Make (gmake in USE_TOOLS), but not always. Note that autoreconf only needs to be executed if configure.ac or Makefiles are modified, or configure is not present.

There are times when the configure process makes additional changes to the generated files, which then causes the build process to try to re-execute the automake sequence. This is prevented by touching various files in the configure stage. If this causes problems with your package you can set AUTOMAKE_OVERRIDE=NO in the package Makefile.

21.3.4. Meson / ninja

Packages using Meson to configure need to include:

```
.include "../../devel/meson/build.mk"
```

In nearly all cases (any program with dependencies), pkg-config needs to be added to USE_TOOLS. If the package installs translation files for non-English languages, also add msgfmt and xgettext:

```
USE_TOOLS+= pkg-config msgfmt xgettext
```

If any options need to be passed to Meson, use MESON_ARGS instead of CONFIGURE_ARGS:

```
MESON_ARGS+= -Dx11=false
```

21.4. Programming languages

21.4.1. C, C++, and Fortran

Compilers for the C and C++ languages come with the NetBSD base system. By default, pkgsrc assumes that a package is written in C and will hide all other compilers (via the wrapper framework, see Chapter 18).

To declare which languages should be made available through pkgsrc's compiler wrappers, use the `USE_LANGUAGES` variable. Allowed values currently are:

```
c, c++, fortran, fortran77, java, objc, obj-c++, and ada.
```

(and any combination). The default is "c". Packages using GNU configure scripts, even if written in C++, usually need a C compiler for the configure phase.

To declare which features a package requires from the compiler, set either `USE_CC_FEATURES` or `USE_CXX_FEATURES`. Allowed values for `USE_CC_FEATURES` are currently:

```
c11, c99, has_include
```

Allowed values for `USE_CXX_FEATURES` are currently:

```
c++11, c++14, c++17, c++20, has_include, regex, filesystem,
charconv, parallelism_ts, unique_ptr, put_time,
is_trivially_copy_constructible
```

Note at present these variables only affect use of GCC, not other compilers.

Language variants like `gnu99` and `c++11` can be specified in `FORCE_C_STD` and `FORCE_CXX_STD` if the package does not explicitly set `-std=...` when compiling (i.e. the package assumes the compiler defaults to C++11 or some other standard). This is a common bug in upstream build systems.

Allowed values for `FORCE_C_STD` are currently:

```
c90, c99, c11, gnu90, gnu99, gnu11
```

Allowed values for `FORCE_CXX_STD` are currently:

```
c++03, c++11, c++14, c++17, c++20,
gnu++03, gnu++11, gnu++14, gnu++17, gnu++20
```

Note at present these variables only affect use of GCC and Clang.

21.4.2. Java

If a program is written in Java, use the Java framework in pkgsrc. The package must include `../../mk/java-vm.mk`. This Makefile fragment provides the following variables:

- `USE_JAVA` defines if a build dependency on the JDK is added. If `USE_JAVA` is set to "run", then there is only a runtime dependency on the JDK. The default is "yes", which also adds a build dependency on the JDK.

- Set USE_JAVA2 to declare that a package needs a Java2 implementation. The supported values are "yes", "1.4", and "1.5". "yes" accepts any Java2 implementation, "1.4" insists on versions 1.4 or above, and "1.5" only accepts versions 1.5 or above. This variable is not set by default.
- PKG_JAVA_HOME is automatically set to the runtime location of the used Java implementation dependency. It may be used to set JAVA_HOME to a good value if the program needs this variable to be defined.

21.4.3. Go

If a program is written in Go and has any dependencies on other Go modules, have the package include ../../lang/go/go-module.mk.

1. Generate a list of those dependencies with **make clean && make patch && make show-go-modules > go-modules.mk**.
2. Prepend .include "go-modules.mk" to any other .includes.
3. Incorporate these modules in distinfo with **make makesum**.

21.4.4. Rust

If a program is written in Rust and uses Cargo to build, have the package include ../../lang/rust/cargo.mk.

1. Generate a list of those dependencies with **make CARGO_ARGS="build --release" build && make print-cargo-depends > cargo-depends.mk**.
2. Prepend .include "cargo-depends.mk" to any other .includes.
3. Incorporate these modules in distinfo with **make makesum**.

21.4.5. Packages containing Perl scripts

If your package contains interpreted Perl scripts, add "perl" to the USE_TOOLS variable and set REPLACE_PERL to ensure that the proper interpreter path is set. REPLACE_PERL should contain a list of scripts, relative to WRKSRC, that you want adjusted. Every occurrence of */bin/perl in a she-bang line will be replaced with the full path to the Perl executable.

If a particular version of Perl is needed, set the PERL5_REQD variable to the version number. The default is "5.0".

See Section 21.6.6 for information about handling Perl modules.

There is also the REPLACE_PERL6 variable for the language now known as Raku.

21.4.6. Packages containing shell scripts

REPLACE_SH, REPLACE_BASH, REPLACE_CSH, and REPLACE_KSH can be used to replace shell she-bangs in files. Please use the appropriate one, preferring REPLACE_SH when this shell is sufficient.

Each should contain a list of scripts, relative to WRKSRC, that you want adjusted. Every occurrence of the matching shell in a she-bang line will be replaced with the full path to the shell executable. When using REPLACE_BASH, don't forget to add bash to USE_TOOLS.

21.4.7. Other programming languages

There are further similar REPLACE variables available, e.g., REPLACE_AWK for packages containing awk scripts, and REPLACE_R for R. These two, like the others noted above, have their actions defined centrally in mk/configure/replace-interpreter.mk. Other languages define the actions of these variables within their own dedicated part of the tree, e.g., REPLACE_PHP is actioned in lang/php/replace.mk, and REPLACE_PYTHON is actioned in lang/python/application.mk. For other languages, consult the mk files found within their specific directories (the naming convention varies), or check the list found in Appendix E.

Currently, special handling for other languages varies in pkgsrc. If a compiler package provides a buildlink3.mk file, include that, otherwise just add a (build) dependency on the appropriate compiler package.

21.5. The *build* phase

The most common failures when building a package are that some platforms do not provide certain header files, functions or libraries, or they provide the functions in a library that the original package author didn't know. To work around this, you can rewrite the source code in most cases so that it does not use the missing functions or provides a replacement function.

21.5.1. Compiling C and C++ code conditionally

If a package already comes with a GNU configure script, the preferred way to fix the build failure is to change the configure script, not the code. In the other cases, you can utilize the C preprocessor, which defines certain macros depending on the operating system and hardware architecture it compiles for. These macros can be queried using for example #if defined(__i386). Almost every operating system, hardware architecture and compiler has its own macro. For example, if the macros __GNUC__, __i386__ and __NetBSD__ are all defined, you know that you are using NetBSD on an i386 compatible CPU, and your compiler is GCC.

The list of the following macros for hardware and operating system depends on the compiler that is used. For example, if you want to conditionally compile code on Solaris, don't use __sun__, as the SunPro compiler does not define it. Use __sun instead.

21.5.1.1. C preprocessor macros to identify the operating system

To distinguish between specific NetBSD versions, you should use the following code.

```
#ifdef __NetBSD__
#include <sys/param.h>
#if __NetBSD_Prereq__(9,99,17)
/* use a newer feature */
#else
```

```
/* older code */
#endif
#endif

#ifndef _WIN32
/* Unix-like specific code */
#endif
```

To distinguish between 4.4 BSD-derived systems and the rest of the world, you should use the following code.

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#if (defined(BSD) && BSD >= 199306)
/* BSD-specific code goes here */
#else
/* non-BSD-specific code goes here */
#endif
```

You can also test for the following macros:

```
Cygwin      __CYGWIN__
DragonFly   __DragonFly__
FreeBSD     __FreeBSD__
Haiku       __HAIKU__
Interix     __INTERIX
IRIX        __sgi (TODO: get a definite source for this)
Linux       __linux
Mac OS X    __APPLE__
MirBSD      __MirBSD__ (__OpenBSD__ is also defined)
Minix3      __minix
NetBSD      __NetBSD__
OpenBSD     __OpenBSD__
Solaris     sun, __sun
```

21.5.1.2. C preprocessor macros to identify the hardware architecture

```
i386        i386, __i386, __i386__
x86-64      __amd64__, __x86_64__
ARM         __arm__
MIPS        __mips
SPARC       sparc, __sparc
PowerPC     __powerpc
```

21.5.1.3. C preprocessor macros to identify the compiler

```
GCC         __GNUC__ (major version), __GNUC_MINOR__
MIPSpro     _COMPILER_VERSION (0x741 for MIPSpro 7.41)
SunPro      __SUNPRO_C (0x570 for Sun C 5.7)
SunPro C++  __SUNPRO_CC (0x580 for Sun C++ 5.8)
```

21.5.2. How to handle compiler bugs

Some source files trigger bugs in the compiler, based on combinations of compiler version and architecture and almost always relation to optimisation being enabled. Common symptoms are gcc internal errors or never finishing compiling a file.

Typically, a workaround involves testing the MACHINE_ARCH and compiler version, disabling optimisation for that combination of file, MACHINE_ARCH and compiler.

This used to be a big problem in the past, but is rarely needed now as compiler technology has matured. If you still need to add a compiler specific workaround, please do so in the file hacks.mk and describe the symptom and compiler version as detailed as possible.

21.5.3. No such file or directory

Compilation sometimes fails with an error message like this:

```
.../x11/gtk3/work/gtk+-3.24.12/gdk/gdktypes.h:35:10:
    fatal error: pango/pango.h: No such file or directory
```

The proper way to fix this problem depends on the type of the header, which is described in the following sections.

21.5.3.1. Headers from other packages

If the header name looks like it comes from a different package, that other package should be included via the buildlink3 framework.

First, look whether the header is somewhere in the buildlink3 directory below WRKDIR. In the above case of the missing Pango header:

```
$ find work/.buildlink/ -print | grep -F pango/pango.h
```

In the case of Pango, the output is:

```
work/.buildlink/include/pango-1.0/pango/pango.h
```

If the pango/pango.h file were placed directly in the .buildlink directory, it would have been found automatically. There is an extra pango-1.0 path component though, which means that the compiler command line must contain an option of the form -I${BUILDLINK3_PREFIX.pango}/include/pango-1.0. In most cases this option is generated by the configure script, which can be examined using:

```
$ $ grep -o '[-]I[^[:space:]]*/pango[^[:space:]]*' work/*/Makefile
-I/usr/pkg/include/pango-1.0
-I/usr/pkg/include/pango-1.0
-I/usr/pkg/include/pango-1.0
-I/usr/pkg/include/pango-1.0
-I/usr/pkg/include/pango-1.0
```

This looks good. These options are transformed by the buildlink wrapper to refer to the correct path inside work/.buildlink.

Since the compilation fails though, examine the compiler command lines in `work/.work.log` to see whether the `-I` option is included in the particular command line.

To further analyze the situation, run **bmake build-env**, which sets up an interactive, realistic environment including all the pkgsrc wrapper commands and environment variables. From there, try to compile some simple example programs that use the header.

21.5.3.2. Headers generated during the build

If the name of the header seems to come from the package itself, and if the build is run with parallel jobs, the package may have some undeclared dependencies between the `.c` and the `.h` files, and a C file is compiled before its required header is generated.

To see whether the build runs with parallel jobs, run **bmake show-all-build | grep JOBS**. Its output looks like this:

```
usr   MAKE_JOBS=              7
pkg   MAKE_JOBS_SAFE          # undefined
def   _MAKE_JOBS_N=           7
```

In this case the pkgsrc user has asked pkgsrc to build packages with 7 jobs in parallel (`MAKE_JOBS`). The package could have disabled parallel builds by setting `MAKE_JOBS_SAFE` to `no`, but in this case it hasn't.

To see whether the build failure is caused by parallel builds, first save the exact error message and a bit of context, maybe you need it later for reporting a bug. Next, run:

```
MAKE_JOBS_SAFE=no bmake clean build
```

If that succeeds, file a bug report (https://www.NetBSD.org/cgi-bin/sendpr.cgi?gndb=netbsd) against the pkgsrc package, including the exact error message and the contents of your `mk.conf` file.

21.5.3.3. Symlinks

Pkgsrc does not work reliably if any of `LOCALBASE`, `VARBASE` or `WRKDIR` contains a symlink. Since 2019Q2, the pkgsrc bootstrap program prevents installing pkgsrc in symlink-based directories. Existing pkgsrc installations are not checked for symlinks though.

The "No such file or directory" error messages are a typical symptom of symlinks, and it's quite difficult to find out that this is the actual cause.

21.5.3.4. Stale working directories

When building a hierarchy of packages, it may happen that one package is built and then pkgsrc is updated. This situation can provoke various hard to diagnose build errors. To clean up the situation:

```
$ (cd ../../ && cat mk/bsd.pkg.mk >/dev/null && rm -rf */*/work)
```

(The only purpose of the `bsd.pkg.mk` is to prevent running this command in the wrong directory.)

If you have set `WRKOBJDIR` in `mk.conf`, remove that directory as well.

21.5.3.5. Other possible reasons

On platforms other than BSD, third-party packages are installed in `/usr/include`, together with the base system. This means that pkgsrc cannot distinguish between headers provided by the base system (which it needs) and headers from third-party packages (which are often included in pkgsrc as well). This can lead to subtle version mismatches.

In pkgsrc installations that have been active for several years, it may happen that some files are manually deleted. To exclude this unlikely reason, run **pkg_admin check**.

It may help to run **pkg_admin rebuild-tree** to check/fix dependencies.

If all of the above doesn't help, see Chapter 2 for contact information. Be prepared to describe what you have tried so far and what any error messages were.

21.5.4. Undefined reference to "..."

This error message often means that a package did not link to a shared library it needs. The following functions are known to cause this error message over and over.

Function	Library	Affected platforms
accept, bind, connect	-lsocket	Solaris
crypt	-lcrypt	DragonFly, NetBSD
dlopen, dlsym	-ldl	Linux
gethost*	-lnsl	Solaris
inet_aton	-lresolv	Solaris
nanosleep, sem_*, timer_*	-lrt	Solaris
openpty	-lutil	Linux

To fix these linker errors, it is often sufficient to add `LIBS.`*`OperatingSystem`*`+= -l`*`foo`* to the package `Makefile` and then run **bmake clean; bmake**.

21.5.4.1. The SunPro compiler and inline functions

When you are using the SunPro compiler, there is another possibility. That compiler cannot handle the following code:

```
extern int extern_func(int);

static inline int
inline_func(int x)
{
        return extern_func(x);
}

int main(void)
{
        return 0;
}
```

It generates the code for `inline_func` even if that function is never used. This code then refers to `extern_func`, which can usually not be resolved. To solve this problem you can try to tell the package to disable inlining of functions.

21.5.4.2. Missing atomic functions

When building for older machine architectures (e.g., i386, PowerPC), builds may fail because the package expects modern 64-bit atomic functions which the underlying hardware either doesn't support, or will only support with specific compiler flags. This is generally handled via inclusion of mk/atomic64.mk.

21.5.5. Running out of memory

Sometimes packages fail to build because the compiler runs into an operating system specific soft limit. With the `UNLIMIT_RESOURCES` variable pkgsrc can be told to unlimit the resources. The allowed values are any combination of "cputime", "datasize", "memorysize", "stacksize" and "virtualsize". Setting this variable is similar to running the shell builtin **ulimit** command to raise the maximum data segment size or maximum stack size of a process, respectively, to their hard limits.

21.6. The *install* phase

21.6.1. Creating needed directories

The BSD-compatible **install** supplied with some operating systems cannot create more than one directory at a time. As such, you should call `${INSTALL_*_DIR}` like this:

```
${INSTALL_DATA_DIR} ${PREFIX}/dir1
${INSTALL_DATA_DIR} ${PREFIX}/dir2
```

Instead of running the **install** commands directly, you can also append "`dir1 dir2`" to the `INSTALLATION_DIRS` variable, which will automatically do the right thing.

21.6.2. Where to install documentation

In general, documentation should be installed into `${PREFIX}/share/doc/${PKGBASE}` or `${PREFIX}/share/doc/${PKGNAME_NOREV}` (the latter includes the version number of the package).

Many modern packages using GNU autoconf allow to set the directory where HTML documentation is installed with the "--with-html-dir" option. Sometimes using this flag is needed because otherwise the documentation ends up in `${PREFIX}/share/doc/html` or other places. In pkgsrc, the HTML documentation should go into the package-specific directory, just like any other documentation.

An exception to the above is that library API documentation generated with the `textproc/gtk-doc` tools, for use by special browsers (devhelp) should be left at their default location, which is `${PREFIX}/share/gtk-doc`. Such documentation can be recognized from files ending in `.devhelp`

or .devhelp2. (It is also acceptable to install such files in ${PREFIX}/share/doc/${PKGBASE} or ${PREFIX}/share/doc/${PKGNAME}; the .devhelp* file must be directly in that directory then, no additional subdirectory level is allowed in this case. This is usually achieved by using "--with-html-dir=${PREFIX}/share/doc". ${PREFIX}/share/gtk-doc is preferred though.)

21.6.3. Installing highscore files

Certain packages, most of them in the games category, install a score file that allows all users on the system to record their highscores. In order for this to work, the binaries need to be installed setgid and the score files owned by the appropriate group and/or owner (traditionally the "games" user/group). Set USE_GAMESGROUP to yes to support this. The following variables, documented in more detail in mk/defaults/mk.conf, control this behaviour: GAMEDATAMODE, GAMEDIRMODE, GAMES_GROUP, GAMEMODE, GAME_USER. Other useful variables are: GAMEDIR_PERMS, GAMEDATA_PERMS and SETGID_GAMES_PERMS.

An example that illustrates some of the variables described above is games/moon-buggy. OWN_DIRS_PERMS is used to properly set directory permissions of the directory where the scorefile is saved, REQD_FILES_PERMS is used to create a dummy scorefile (mbscore) with the proper permissions and SPECIAL_PERMS is used to install setgid the game binary:

```
USE_GAMESGROUP=         yes

BUILD_DEFS+=            VARBASE

OWN_DIRS_PERMS+=        ${VARBASE}/games/moon-buggy ${GAMEDIR_PERMS}
REQD_FILES_PERMS+=      /dev/null ${VARBASE}/games/moon-buggy/mbscore ${GAMEDATA_PERMS}
SPECIAL_PERMS+=         ${PREFIX}/bin/moon-buggy ${SETGID_GAMES_PERMS}
```

Various INSTALL_* variables are also available: INSTALL_GAME to install setgid game binaries, INSTALL_GAME_DIR to install game directories that are needed to be accessed by setgid games and INSTALL_GAME_DATA to install scorefiles.

A package should therefore never hard code file ownership or access permissions but rely on *_PERMS as described above or alternatively on INSTALL_GAME, INSTALL_GAME_DATA and INSTALL_GAME_DIR to set these correctly.

21.6.4. Adding DESTDIR support to packages

DESTDIR support means that a package installs into a staging directory, not the final location of the files. Then a binary package is created which can be used for installation as usual. There are two ways: Either the package must install as root ("destdir") or the package can install as non-root user ("user-destdir").

- PKG_DESTDIR_SUPPORT has to be set to "destdir" or "user-destdir". By default PKG_DESTDIR_SUPPORT is set to "user-destdir" to help catching more potential packaging problems. If bsd.prefs.mk is included in the Makefile, PKG_DESTDIR_SUPPORT needs to be set before the inclusion.
- All installation operations have to be prefixed with ${DESTDIR}.

- automake gets this DESTDIR mostly right automatically. Many manual rules and pre/post-install often are incorrect; fix them.
- If files are installed with special owner/group use SPECIAL_PERMS.
- In general, packages should support UNPRIVILEGED to be able to use DESTDIR.

21.6.5. Packages with hardcoded paths to other interpreters

Your package may also contain scripts with hardcoded paths to other interpreters besides (or as well as) Perl. To correct the full pathname to the script interpreter, you need to set the following definitions in your Makefile (we shall use **tclsh** in this example):

```
REPLACE_INTERPRETER+=   tcl
REPLACE.tcl.old=        .*/bin/tclsh
REPLACE.tcl.new=        ${PREFIX}/bin/tclsh
REPLACE_FILES.tcl=      # list of tcl scripts which need to be fixed,
# relative to ${WRKSRC}, just as in REPLACE_PERL
```

21.6.6. Packages installing Perl modules

Makefiles of packages providing perl5 modules should include the Makefile fragment ../../lang/perl5/module.mk. It provides a **do-configure** target for the standard perl configuration for such modules as well as various hooks to tune this configuration. See comments in this file for details.

Perl5 modules will install into different places depending on the version of perl used during the build process. To address this, pkgsrc will append lines to the PLIST corresponding to the files listed in the installed .packlist file generated by most perl5 modules. This is invoked by defining PERL5_PACKLIST to a space-separated list of packlist files relative to PERL5_PACKLIST_DIR (PERL5_INSTALLVENDORARCH by default), e.g.:

```
PERL5_PACKLIST= auto/Pg/.packlist
```

The perl5 config variables installarchlib, installscript, installvendorbin, installvendorscript, installvendorarch, installvendorlib, installvendorman1dir, and installvendorman3dir represent those locations in which components of perl5 modules may be installed, provided as variable with uppercase and prefixed with PERL5_, e.g. PERL5_INSTALLARCHLIB and may be used by perl5 packages that don't have a packlist. These variables are also substituted for in the PLIST as uppercase prefixed with PERL5_SUB_.

21.6.7. Packages installing pkg-config files

Some packages, usually those providing libraries, install pkg-config files so that their headers and libraries can easily be found. The file names end with .pc.

Most of the time, these files only provide the linker flags for the library, but do not include the flags for setting the rpath so the libraries can also be found at runtime. Since this is so common, pkgsrc provides PKGCONFIG_OVERRIDE for this. Many packages generate the .pc from .pc.in, in that case add those files to the PKGCONFIG_OVERRIDE variable:

```
PKGCONFIG_OVERRIDE+=   foo.pc.in
```

For packages using meson, the files are generated during build and you also need to change the phase in which the replacement is done. For example:

```
PKGCONFIG_OVERRIDE+=            output/meson-private/foo.pc
PKGCONFIG_OVERRIDE_STAGE=       post-build
```

21.6.8. Packages installing info files

Some packages install info files or use the "makeinfo" or "install-info" commands. INFO_FILES should be defined in the package Makefile so that INSTALL and DEINSTALL scripts will be generated to handle registration of the info files in the Info directory file. The "install-info" command used for the info files registration is either provided by the system, or by a special purpose package automatically added as dependency if needed.

PKGINFODIR is the directory under ${PREFIX} where info files are primarily located. PKGINFODIR defaults to "info" and can be overridden by the user.

The info files for the package should be listed in the package PLIST; however any split info files need not be listed.

A package which needs the "makeinfo" command at build time must add "makeinfo" to USE_TOOLS in its Makefile. If a minimum version of the "makeinfo" command is needed it should be noted with the TEXINFO_REQD variable in the package Makefile. By default, a minimum version of 3.12 is required. If the system does not provide a **makeinfo** command or if it does not match the required minimum, a build dependency on the devel/gtexinfo package will be added automatically.

The build and installation process of the software provided by the package should not use the **install-info** command as the registration of info files is the task of the package INSTALL script, and it must use the appropriate **makeinfo** command.

To achieve this goal, the pkgsrc infrastructure creates overriding scripts for the **install-info** and **makeinfo** commands in a directory listed early in PATH.

The script overriding **install-info** has no effect except the logging of a message. The script overriding **makeinfo** logs a message and according to the value of TEXINFO_REQD either runs the appropriate **makeinfo** command or exit on error.

21.6.9. Packages installing man pages

All packages that install manual pages should install them into the same directory, so that there is one common place to look for them. In pkgsrc, this place is ${PREFIX}/${PKGMANDIR}, and this expression should be used in packages. The default for PKGMANDIR is "man". Another often-used value is "share/man".

> **Note:** The support for a custom PKGMANDIR is far from complete.

The PLIST files can just use man/ as the top level directory for the man page file entries, and the pkgsrc framework will convert as needed. In all other places, the correct PKGMANDIR must be used.

Packages that are configured with GNU_CONFIGURE set as "yes", by default will use the ./configure --mandir switch to set where the man pages should be installed. The path is GNU_CONFIGURE_MANDIR which defaults to ${PREFIX}/${PKGMANDIR}.

Packages that use GNU_CONFIGURE but do not use --mandir, can set CONFIGURE_HAS_MANDIR to "no". Or if the ./configure script uses a non-standard use of --mandir, you can set GNU_CONFIGURE_MANDIR as needed.

See Section 19.5 for information on installation of compressed manual pages.

21.6.10. Packages installing X11 fonts

If a package installs font files, you will need to rebuild the fonts database in the directory where they get installed at installation and deinstallation time. This can be automatically done by using the pkginstall framework.

You can list the directories where fonts are installed in the FONTS_DIRS.*type* variables, where *type* can be one of "ttf", "type1" or "x11". Also make sure that the database file fonts.dir is not listed in the PLIST.

Note that you should not create new directories for fonts; instead use the standard ones to avoid that the user needs to manually configure his X server to find them.

21.6.11. Packages installing SGML or XML data

If a package installs SGML or XML data files that need to be registered in system-wide catalogs (like DTDs, sub-catalogs, etc.), you need to take some extra steps:

1. Include ../../textproc/xmlcatmgr/catalogs.mk in your Makefile, which takes care of registering those files in system-wide catalogs at installation and deinstallation time.
2. Set SGML_CATALOGS to the full path of any SGML catalogs installed by the package.
3. Set XML_CATALOGS to the full path of any XML catalogs installed by the package.
4. Set SGML_ENTRIES to individual entries to be added to the SGML catalog. These come in groups of three strings; see xmlcatmgr(1) for more information (specifically, arguments recognized by the 'add' action). Note that you will normally not use this variable.
5. Set XML_ENTRIES to individual entries to be added to the XML catalog. These come in groups of three strings; see xmlcatmgr(1) for more information (specifically, arguments recognized by the 'add' action). Note that you will normally not use this variable.

21.6.12. Packages installing extensions to the MIME database

If a package provides extensions to the MIME database by installing .xml files inside ${PREFIX}/share/mime/packages, you need to take some extra steps to ensure that the database is kept consistent with respect to these new files:

1. Include `../../databases/shared-mime-info/mimedb.mk` (avoid using the `buildlink3.mk` file from this same directory, which is reserved for inclusion from other `buildlink3.mk` files). It takes care of rebuilding the MIME database at installation and deinstallation time, and disallows any access to it directly from the package.
2. Check the PLIST and remove any entries under the `share/mime` directory, *except* for files saved under `share/mime/packages`. The former are handled automatically by the update-mime-database program, but the latter are package-dependent and must be removed by the package that installed them in the first place.
3. Remove any `share/mime/*` directories from the PLIST. They will be handled by the shared-mime-info package.

21.6.13. Packages using intltool

If a package uses intltool during its build, add `intltool` to the `USE_TOOLS`, which forces it to use the intltool package provided by pkgsrc, instead of the one bundled with the distribution file.

This tracks intltool's build-time dependencies and uses the latest available version; this way, the package benefits of any bug fixes that may have appeared since it was released.

21.6.14. Packages installing startup scripts

If a package contains a rc.d script, it won't be copied into the startup directory by default, but you can enable it, by adding the option `PKG_RCD_SCRIPTS=YES` in `mk.conf`. This option will copy the scripts into `/etc/rc.d` when a package is installed, and it will automatically remove the scripts when the package is deinstalled.

21.6.15. Packages installing TeX modules

If a package installs TeX packages into the texmf tree, the `ls-R` database of the tree needs to be updated.

Note: Except the main TeX packages such as kpathsea, packages should install files into `${PREFIX}/share/texmf-dist`, not `${PREFIX}/share/texmf`.

1. Include `../../print/kpathsea/texmf.mk`. This takes care of rebuilding the `ls-R` database at installation and deinstallation time.
2. If your package installs files into a texmf tree other than the one at `${PREFIX}/share/texmf-dist`, set `TEX_TEXMF_DIRS` to the list of all texmf trees that need database update.

   If your package also installs font map files that need to be registered using **updmap**, include `../../print/tex-tetex/map.mk` and set `TEX_MAP_FILES` and/or `TEX_MIXEDMAP_FILES` to the list of all such font map files. Then **updmap** will be run automatically at installation/deinstallation to enable/disable font map files for TeX output drivers.

3. Make sure that none of `ls-R` databases are included in `PLIST`, as they will be removed only by the kpathsea package.

21.6.16. Packages supporting running binaries in emulation

There are some packages that provide libraries and executables for running binaries from a one operating system on a different one (if the latter supports it). One example is running Linux binaries on NetBSD.

The `pkgtools/rpm2pkg` helps in extracting and packaging Linux rpm packages.

The `CHECK_SHLIBS` can be set to no to avoid the **check-shlibs** target, which tests if all libraries for each installed executable can be found by the dynamic linker. Since the standard dynamic linker is run, this fails for emulation packages, because the libraries used by the emulation are not in the standard directories.

21.6.17. Packages installing hicolor icons

If a package installs images under the `share/icons/hicolor` and/or updates the `share/icons/hicolor/icon-theme.cache` database, you need to take some extra steps to make sure that the shared theme directory is handled appropriately and that the cache database is rebuilt:

1. Include `../../graphics/hicolor-icon-theme/buildlink3.mk`.
2. Check the `PLIST` and remove the entry that refers to the theme cache.
3. Ensure that the PLIST does not remove the shared icon directories from the `share/icons/hicolor` hierarchy because they will be handled automatically.

The best way to verify that the PLIST is correct with respect to the last two points is to regenerate it using **make print-PLIST**.

21.6.18. Packages installing desktop files

If a package installs `.desktop` files under `share/applications` and these include MIME information (MimeType key), you need to take extra steps to ensure that they are registered into the MIME database:

1. Include `../../sysutils/desktop-file-utils/desktopdb.mk`.
2. Check the PLIST and remove the entry that refers to the `share/applications/mimeinfo.cache` file. It will be handled automatically.

The best way to verify that the PLIST is correct with respect to the last point is to regenerate it using **make print-PLIST**.

21.7. Marking packages as having problems

In some cases one does not have the time to solve a problem immediately. In this case, one can plainly mark a package as broken. For this, one just sets the variable `BROKEN` to the reason why the package is

broken (similar to the PKG_FAIL_REASON variable). A user trying to build the package will immediately be shown this message, and the build will not be even tried.

BROKEN packages are removed from pkgsrc in irregular intervals.

Chapter 22.
GNOME packaging and porting

Quoting GNOME's web site (https://www.gnome.org/):

> The GNOME project provides two things: The GNOME desktop environment, an intuitive and attractive desktop for users, and the GNOME development platform, an extensive framework for building applications that integrate into the rest of the desktop.

pkgsrc provides a seamless way to automatically build and install a complete GNOME environment *under many different platforms*. We can say with confidence that pkgsrc is one of the most advanced build and packaging systems for GNOME due to its included technologies buildlink3, the wrappers and tools framework and automatic configuration file management. Lots of efforts are put into achieving a completely clean deinstallation of installed software components.

Given that pkgsrc is NetBSD (https://www.NetBSD.org/)'s official packaging system, the above also means that great efforts are put into making GNOME work under this operating system.

This chapter is aimed at pkgsrc developers and other people interested in helping our GNOME porting and packaging efforts. It provides instructions on how to manage the existing packages and some important information regarding their internals.

22.1. Meta packages

pkgsrc includes three GNOME-related meta packages:

- `meta-pkgs/gnome-base`: Provides the core GNOME desktop environment. It only includes the necessary bits to get it to boot correctly, although it may lack important functionality for daily operation. The idea behind this package is to let end users build their own configurations on top of this one, first installing this meta package to achieve a functional setup and then adding individual applications.
- `meta-pkgs/gnome`: Provides a complete installation of the GNOME platform and desktop as defined by the GNOME project; this is based on the components distributed in the `platform/x.y/x.y.z/sources` and `desktop/x.y/x.y.z/sources` directories of the official FTP server. Developer-only tools found in those directories are not installed unless required by some other component to work properly. Similarly, packages from the bindings set (`bindings/x.y/x.y.z/sources`) are not pulled in unless required as a dependency for an end-user component. This package "extends" `meta-pkgs/gnome-base`.
- `meta-pkgs/gnome-devel`: Installs all the tools required to build a GNOME component when fetched from the CVS repository. These are required to let the **autogen.sh** scripts work appropriately.

In all these packages, the `DEPENDS` lines are sorted in a way that eases updates: a package may depend on other packages listed before it but not on any listed after it. It is very important to keep this order to ease updates so... *do not change it to alphabetical sorting!*

22.2. Packaging a GNOME application

Almost all GNOME applications are written in C and use a common set of tools as their build system. Things get different with the new bindings to other languages (such as Python), but the following will give you a general idea on the minimum required tools:

- Almost all GNOME applications use the GNU Autotools as their build system. As a general rule you will need to tell this to your package:

  ```
  GNU_CONFIGURE=  yes
  USE_LIBTOOL=    yes
  USE_TOOLS+=     gmake
  ```

- If the package uses pkg-config to detect dependencies, add this tool to the list of required utilities:

  ```
  USE_TOOLS+=     pkg-config
  ```

  Also use `pkgtools/verifypc` at the end of the build process to ensure that you did not miss to specify any dependency in your package and that the version requirements are all correct.

- If the package uses intltool, be sure to add `intltool` to the `USE_TOOLS` to handle dependencies and to force the package to use the latest available version.

- If the package uses gtk-doc (a documentation generation utility), do *not* add a dependency on it. The tool is rather big and the distfile should come with pregenerated documentation anyway; if it does not, it is a bug that you ought to report. For such packages you should disable gtk-doc (unless it is the default):

  ```
  CONFIGURE_ARGS+=        --disable-gtk-doc
  ```

  The default location of installed HTML files (`share/gtk-doc/<package-name>`) is correct and should not be changed unless the package insists on installing them somewhere else. Otherwise programs as **devhelp** will not be able to open them. You can do that with an entry similar to:

  ```
  CONFIGURE_ARGS+=        --with-html-dir=${PREFIX}/share/gtk-doc/...
  ```

GNOME uses multiple *shared* directories and files under the installation prefix to maintain databases. In this context, shared means that those exact same directories and files are used among several different packages, leading to conflicts in the `PLIST`. pkgsrc currently includes functionality to handle the most common cases, so you have to forget about using `@unexec ${RMDIR}` lines in your file lists and omitting shared files from them. If you find yourself doing those, *your package is most likely incorrect*.

The following table lists the common situations that result in using shared directories or files. For each of them, the appropriate solution is given. After applying the solution be sure to *regenerate the package's file list* with **make print-PLIST** and ensure it is correct.

Table 22-1. PLIST handling for GNOME packages

If the package...	Then...
Installs icons under the `share/icons/hicolor` hierarchy or updates `share/icons/hicolor/icon-theme.cache`.	See Section 21.6.17.
Installs files under `share/mime/packages`.	See Section 21.6.12.

If the package...	Then...
Installs `.desktop` files under `share/applications` and these include MIME information.	See Section 21.6.18.

22.3. Updating GNOME to a newer version

When seeing GNOME as a whole, there are two kinds of updates:

Major update

Given that there is still a very long way for GNOME 3 (if it ever appears), we consider a major update one that goes from a `2.X` version to a `2.Y` one, where `Y` is even and greater than `X`. These are hard to achieve because they introduce lots of changes in the components' code and almost all GNOME distfiles are updated to newer versions. Some of them can even break API and ABI compatibility with the previous major version series. As a result, the update needs to be done all at once to minimize breakage.

A major update typically consists of around 80 package updates and the addition of some new ones.

Minor update

We consider a minor update one that goes from a `2.A.X` version to a `2.A.Y` one where `Y` is greater than `X`. These are easy to achieve because they do not update all GNOME components, can be done in an incremental way and do not break API nor ABI compatibility.

A minor update typically consists of around 50 package updates, although the numbers here may vary a lot.

In order to update the GNOME components in pkgsrc to a new stable release (either major or minor), the following steps should be followed:

1. Get a list of all the tarballs that form the new release by using the following commands. These will leave the full list of the components' distfiles into the `list.txt` file:

```
% echo ls "*.tar.bz2" | \
    ftp -V ftp://ftp.gnome.org/pub/gnome/platform/x.y/x.y.z/sources/ | \
    awk '{ print $9 }' >list.txt
% echo ls "*.tar.bz2" | \
    ftp -V ftp://ftp.gnome.org/pub/gnome/desktop/x.y/x.y.z/sources/ | \
    awk '{ print $9 }' >>list.txt
```

2. Open each meta package's `Makefile` and bump their version to the release you are updating them to. The three meta packages should be always consistent with versioning. Obviously remove any `PKGREVISION`s that might be in them.

3. For each meta package, update all its `DEPENDS` lines to match the latest versions as shown by the above commands. Do *not* list any newer version (even if found in the FTP) because the meta packages are supposed to list the exact versions that form a specific GNOME release. Exceptions are permitted here if a newer version solves a serious issue in the overall desktop experience; these typically come in the form of a revision bump in pkgsrc, not in newer versions from the developers.

Packages not listed in the `list.txt` file should be updated to the latest version available (if found in pkgsrc). This is the case, for example, of the dependencies on the GNU Autotools in the `meta-pkgs/gnome-devel` meta package.

4. Generate a patch from the modified meta packages and extract the list of "new" lines. This will provide you an outline on what packages need to be updated in pkgsrc and in what order:

```
% cvs diff -u gnome-devel gnome-base gnome | grep '^+D' >todo.txt
```

5. For major desktop updates it is recommended to zap all your installed packages and start over from scratch at this point.

6. Now comes the longest step by far: iterate over the contents of `todo.txt` and update the packages listed in it in order. For major desktop updates none of these should be committed until the entire set is completed because there are chances of breaking not-yet-updated packages.

7. Once the packages are up to date and working, commit them to the tree one by one with appropriate log messages. At the end, commit the three meta package updates and all the corresponding changes to the `doc/CHANGES-<YEAR>` and `pkgsrc/doc/TODO` files.

22.4. Patching guidelines

GNOME is a very big component in pkgsrc which approaches 100 packages. Please, it is very important that you always, always, **always** feed back any portability fixes you do to a GNOME package to the mainstream developers (see Section 12.3.5). This is the only way to get their attention on portability issues and to ensure that future versions can be built out-of-the box on NetBSD. The less custom patches in pkgsrc, the easier further updates are. Those developers in charge of issuing major GNOME updates will be grateful if you do that.

The most common places to report bugs are the GNOME's GitLab (https://gitlab.gnome.org/GNOME) and the freedesktop.org's GitLab (https://gitlab.freedesktop.org/explore/groups). Not all components use these to track bugs, but most of them do. Do not be short on your reports: always provide detailed explanations of the current failure, how it can be improved to achieve maximum portability and, if at all possible, provide a patch against the main Git branch. The more verbose you are, the higher chances of your patch being accepted.

Also, please avoid using preprocessor magic to fix portability issues. While the FreeBSD GNOME people are doing a great job in porting GNOME to their operating system, the official GNOME sources are now plagued by conditionals that check for `__FreeBSD__` and similar macros. This hurts portability. Please see our patching guidelines (Section 12.3.4) for more details.

Chapter 23.
Submitting and Committing

23.1. Submitting binary packages

Our policy is that we accept binaries only from pkgsrc developers to guarantee that the packages don't contain any trojan horses etc. This is not to annoy anyone but rather to protect our users! You're still free to put up your home-made binary packages and tell the world where to get them. NetBSD developers doing bulk builds and wanting to upload them please see Chapter 8.

23.2. Submitting source packages (for non-NetBSD-developers)

Firstly, you can import new packages into pkgsrc-wip ("pkgsrc work-in-progress"); see the homepage at https://pkgsrc.org/wip/ for details.

Next, check that your package is complete, compiles and runs well; see Chapter 14 and the rest of this document. Run the `pkgtools/pkglint` tool and fix any errors that appear.

Finally, send a report to the pkgsrc bug tracking system, either with the send-pr(1) command, or if you don't have that, go to the web page https://www.NetBSD.org/support/send-pr.html, which contains some instructions and a link to a form where you can submit packages. The `sysutils/gtk-send-pr` package is also available as a substitute for either of the above two tools.

In the form of the problem report, the category should be "pkg", the synopsis should include the package name and version number, and the description field should contain a short description of your package (contents of the COMMENT variable or DESCR file are OK).

23.3. General notes when adding, updating, or removing packages

Please note all package additions, updates, moves, and removals in `pkgsrc/doc/CHANGES-`*`YYYY`*. It's very important to keep this file up to date and conforming to the existing format, because it will be used by scripts to automatically update pages on www.NetBSD.org (https://www.NetBSD.org/) and other sites. Additionally, check the `pkgsrc/doc/TODO` file and remove the entry for the package you updated or removed, in case it was mentioned there.

When the `PKGREVISION` of a package is bumped, the change should appear in `pkgsrc/doc/CHANGES-`*`YYYY`* if it is security related or otherwise relevant. Mass bumps that result from a dependency being updated should not be mentioned. In all other cases it's the developer's decision.

There is a make target that helps in creating proper `CHANGES-`*`YYYY`* entries: **make changes-entry**. It uses the optional `CTYPE` and `NETBSD_LOGIN_NAME` variables. The general usage is to first make sure that your `CHANGES-`*`YYYY`* file is up-to-date (to avoid having to resolve conflicts later-on) and then to **cd** to the package directory. For package updates, **make changes-entry** is enough. For new packages, or package

moves or removals, set the CTYPE variable on the command line to "Added", "Moved", or "Removed". You can set NETBSD_LOGIN_NAME in mk.conf if your local login name is not the same as your NetBSD login name. The target also automatically removes possibly existing entries for the package in the TODO file. Don't forget to commit the changes, e.g. by using **make commit-changes-entry**! If you are not using a checkout directly from cvs.NetBSD.org, but e.g. a local copy of the repository, you can set USE_NETBSD_REPO=yes. This makes the cvs commands use the main repository.

23.4. Commit Messages

For several years, there have been mirrors of pkgsrc in fossil, git, and hg. Standard practise when using these tools is to make the first line of a commit message function as a summary that can be read without the rest, such as is commonly done with "git log --oneline". For this reason, we have the following guidelines for pkgsrc commit messages:

- Start the commit message with a line that explains the big picture in 65 characters or less. When a commit is for one package, include the name of the package. For updates, include the version to which it is updated.
- Leave the next line empty.
- Then come the details for the commit (changes in that package, reason for a change) and any relevant PRs. Wrap this section.

Here is an example:

```
libxslt: update to 1.0.30

Changes since 1.0.29:
...
```

Here is another example:

```
mk/bsd.pkg.mk: enable SSP by default on NetBSD

(rationale)
```

Commit messages are final: no "cvs admin" is allowed on the pkgsrc repository to change commit messages.

23.5. Committing: Adding a package to CVS

This section is only of interest for pkgsrc developers with write access to the pkgsrc repository.

When the package is finished, "cvs add" the files. Start by adding the directory and then files in the directory. Don't forget to add the new package to the category's Makefile. Make sure you don't forget any files; you can check by running "cvs status". An example:

```
$ cd .../pkgsrc/category
$ cvs add pkgname
```

```
$ cd pkgname
$ cvs add DESCR Makefile PLIST distinfo buildlink3.mk patches
$ cvs add patches/p*
$ cvs status | less
$ cvs commit
$ cd ..
$ vi Makefile # add SUBDIR+=pkgname line
$ cvs commit Makefile
$ cd pkgname
$ make CTYPE=Added commit-changes-entry
```

The commit message of the initial import should include part of the DESCR file, so people reading the mailing lists know what the package is/does.

Also mention the new package in pkgsrc/doc/CHANGES-20xx.

Previously, “cvs import” was suggested, but it was much easier to get wrong than “cvs add”.

23.6. Updating a package to a newer version

Please always put a concise, appropriate and relevant summary of the changes between old and new versions into the commit log when updating a package. There are various reasons for this:

- A URL is volatile, and can change over time. It may go away completely or its information may be overwritten by newer information.
- Having the change information between old and new versions in our CVS repository is very useful for people who use either cvs or anoncvs.
- Having the change information between old and new versions in our CVS repository is very useful for people who read the pkgsrc-changes mailing list, so that they can make tactical decisions about when to upgrade the package.

Please also recognize that, just because a new version of a package has been released, it should not automatically be upgraded in the CVS repository. We prefer to be conservative in the packages that are included in pkgsrc - development or beta packages are not really the best thing for most places in which pkgsrc is used. Please use your judgement about what should go into pkgsrc, and bear in mind that stability is to be preferred above new and possibly untested features.

23.7. Renaming a package in pkgsrc

Renaming packages is not recommended.

When renaming packages, be sure to fix any references to the old name in other Makefiles, options, buildlink files, etc.

Also, when renaming a package, please add the package name and version pattern(s) of the previous package to SUPERSEDES. This may be repeated for multiple renames. The new package would be an exact replacement. Example:

```
SUPERSEDES+=    p5-IO-Compress-Zlib<2.017
```

```
SUPERSEDES+=    optcomp-[0-9]*
```

Note that "successor" in the CHANGES-*YYYY* file doesn't necessarily mean that it *supersedes*, as that successor may not be an exact replacement but is a suggestion for the replaced functionality.

23.8. Moving a package in pkgsrc

It is preferred that packages are not renamed or moved, but if needed please follow these steps.

1. Make a copy of the directory somewhere else.
2. Remove all CVS dirs.

   Alternatively to the first two steps you can also do:

   ```
   % cvs -d user@cvs.NetBSD.org:/cvsroot export -D today pkgsrc/category/package
   ```

   and use that for further work.
3. Fix CATEGORIES and any DEPENDS paths that just did "../package" instead of "../../category/package".
4. In the modified package's Makefile, consider setting PREV_PKGPATH to the previous category/package pathname. The PREV_PKGPATH can be used by tools for doing an update using pkgsrc building; for example, it can search the pkg_summary(5) database for PREV_PKGPATH (if no SUPERSEDES) and then use the corresponding new PKGPATH for that moved package. Note that it may have multiple matches, so the tool should also check on the PKGBASE too. The PREV_PKGPATH probably has no value unless SUPERSEDES is not set, i.e. PKGBASE stays the same.
5. **cvs add** the modified package in the new place.
6. Check if any package depends on it:

   ```
   % cd /usr/pkgsrc
   % grep /package */*/Makefile* */*/buildlink*
   ```
7. Fix paths in packages from step 5 to point to new location.
8. **cvs rm (-f)** the package at the old location.
9. Remove from oldcategory/Makefile.
10. Add to newcategory/Makefile.
11. Commit the changed and removed files:

    ```
    % cvs commit oldcategory/package oldcategory/Makefile newcategory/Makefile
    ```

    (and any packages from step 5, of course).

Chapter 24.
Frequently Asked Questions

This section contains the answers to questions that may arise when you are writing a package. If you don't find your question answered here, first have a look in the other chapters, and if you still don't have the answer, ask on the pkgsrc-users mailing list.

1. What is the difference between MAKEFLAGS, .MAKEFLAGS and MAKE_FLAGS?

MAKEFLAGS are the flags passed to the pkgsrc-internal invocations of make(1).

MAKE_FLAGS are the flags that are passed to the MAKE_PROGRAM when building the package.

.MAKEFLAGS is an internal variable of **bmake** and should not be used by packages.

2. What is the difference between MAKE, GMAKE and MAKE_PROGRAM?

MAKE is the path to the make(1) program that is used in the pkgsrc infrastructure.

GMAKE is the path to GNU Make, but you need to say USE_TOOLS+=gmake to use that.

MAKE_PROGRAM is the path to the Make program that is used for building the package.

3. What is the difference between CC, PKG_CC and PKGSRC_COMPILER?

CC is the path to the real C compiler, which can be configured by the pkgsrc user.

PKG_CC is the path to the compiler wrapper.

PKGSRC_COMPILER is *not* a path to a compiler, but the type of compiler that should be used. See mk/compiler.mk for more information about the latter variable.

4. Why does **make show-var VARNAME=BUILDLINK_PREFIX.*foo*** say it's empty?

For optimization reasons, some variables are only available in the "wrapper" phase and later. To "simulate" the wrapper phase, append **PKG_PHASE=wrapper** to the above command.

5. What does ${MASTER_SITE_SOURCEFORGE:=package/} mean? I don't understand the := inside it.

The := is not an assignment operator, even though it may look like one. Instead, it is a degenerate form of ${LIST:*old_string=new_string*}, which is documented in the make(1) man page and which is commonly used in the form ${SRCS:.c=.o}. In the case of MASTER_SITE_*, *old_string* is the empty string and *new_string* is package/. That's where the : and the = fall together.

6. Which mailing lists are there for package developers?

tech-pkg (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/index.html#tech-pkg)

> This is a list for technical discussions related to pkgsrc development, e.g. soliciting feedback for changes to pkgsrc infrastructure, proposed new features, questions related to porting pkgsrc to a new platform, advice for maintaining a package, patches that affect many packages, help requests moved from pkgsrc-users when an infrastructure bug is found, etc.

pkgsrc-bugs (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/index.html#pkgsrc-bugs)

> All bug reports in category "pkg" sent with send-pr(1) appear here. Please do not report your bugs here directly; use one of the other mailing lists.

7. Where is the pkgsrc documentation?

There are many places where you can find documentation about pkgsrc:

- The pkgsrc guide (this document) is a collection of chapters that explain large parts of pkgsrc, but some chapters tend to be outdated. Which ones they are is hard to say.
- On the mailing list archives (see https://mail-index.NetBSD.org/), you can find discussions about certain features, announcements of new parts of the pkgsrc infrastructure and sometimes even announcements that a certain feature has been marked as obsolete. The benefit here is that each message has a date appended to it.
- Many of the files in the `mk/` directory start with a comment that describes the purpose of the file and how it can be used by the pkgsrc user and package authors. An easy way to find this documentation is to run **bmake help**.
- The CVS log messages are a rich source of information, but they tend to be highly abbreviated, especially for actions that occur often. Some contain a detailed description of what has changed, but they are geared towards the other pkgsrc developers, not towards an average pkgsrc user. They also only document *changes*, so if you don't know what has been before, these messages may not be worth too much to you.
- Some parts of pkgsrc are only "implicitly documented", that is the documentation exists only in the mind of the developer who wrote the code. To get this information, use the **cvs annotate** command to see who has written it and ask on the `tech-pkg` mailing list, so that others can find your questions later (see above). To be sure that the developer in charge reads the mail, you may CC him or her.

8. I have a little time to kill. What shall I do?

This is not really an FAQ yet, but here's the answer anyway.

- Run **pkg_chk -N** (from the `pkgtools/pkg_chk` package). It will tell you about newer versions of installed packages that are available, but not yet updated in pkgsrc.
- Browse `pkgsrc/doc/TODO` — it contains a list of suggested new packages and a list of cleanups and enhancements for pkgsrc that would be nice to have.
- Review packages for which review was requested on the tech-pkg (https://www.NetBSD.org/mailinglists/index.html#tech-pkg) mailing list.

III. The pkgsrc infrastructure internals

This part of the guide deals with everything from the infrastructure that is behind the interfaces described in the developer's guide. A casual package maintainer should not need anything from this part.

Chapter 25. *Design of the pkgsrc infrastructure*

The pkgsrc infrastructure consists of many small Makefile fragments. Each such fragment needs a properly specified interface. This chapter explains how such an interface looks like.

25.1. The meaning of variable definitions

Whenever a variable is defined in the pkgsrc infrastructure, the location and the way of definition provide much information about the intended use of that variable. Additionally, more documentation may be found in a header comment or in this pkgsrc guide.

A special file is `mk/defaults/mk.conf`, which lists all variables that are intended to be user-defined. They are either defined using the `?=` operator or they are left undefined because defining them to anything would effectively mean "yes". All these variables may be overridden by the pkgsrc user in the `MAKECONF` file.

Outside this file, the following conventions apply: Variables that are defined using the `?=` operator may be overridden by a package.

Variables that are defined using the = operator may be used read-only at run-time.

Variables whose name starts with an underscore must not be accessed outside the pkgsrc infrastructure at all. They may change without further notice.

Note: These conventions are currently not applied consistently to the complete pkgsrc infrastructure.

25.2. Avoiding problems before they arise

All variables that contain lists of things should default to being empty. Two examples that do not follow this rule are `USE_LANGUAGES` and `DISTFILES`. These variables cannot simply be modified using the `+=` operator in package `Makefile`s (or other files included by them), since there is no guarantee whether the variable is already set or not, and what its value is. In the case of `DISTFILES`, the packages "know" the default value and just define it as in the following example.

```
DISTFILES=      ${DISTNAME}${EXTRACT_SUFX} additional-files.tar.gz
```

Because of the selection of this default value, the same value appears in many package Makefiles. Similarly for `USE_LANGUAGES`, but in this case the default value ("`c`") is so short that it doesn't stand out. Nevertheless it is mentioned in many files.

25.3. Variable evaluation

25.3.1. At load time

Variable evaluation takes place either at load time or at runtime, depending on the context in which they occur. The contexts where variables are evaluated at load time are:

- The right hand side of the `:=` and `!=` operators,
- Make directives like `.if` or `.for`,
- Dependency lines.

A special exception are references to the iteration variables of `.for` loops, which are expanded inline, no matter in which context they appear.

As the values of variables may change during load time, care must be taken not to evaluate them by accident. Typical examples for variables that should not be evaluated at load time are `DEPENDS` and `CONFIGURE_ARGS`. To make the effect more clear, here is an example:

```
CONFIGURE_ARGS=         # none
CFLAGS=                 -O
CONFIGURE_ARGS+=        CFLAGS=${CFLAGS:Q}

CONFIGURE_ARGS:=        ${CONFIGURE_ARGS}

CFLAGS+=                -Wall
```

This code shows how the use of the `:=` operator can quickly lead to unexpected results. The first paragraph is fairly common code. The second paragraph evaluates the `CONFIGURE_ARGS` variable, which results in `CFLAGS=-O`. In the third paragraph, the `-Wall` is appended to the `CFLAGS`, but this addition will not appear in `CONFIGURE_ARGS`. In actual code, the three paragraphs from above typically occur in completely unrelated files.

25.3.2. At runtime

After all the files have been loaded, the values of the variables cannot be changed anymore. Variables that are used in the shell commands are expanded at this point.

25.4. How can variables be specified?

There are many ways in which the definition and use of a variable can be restricted in order to detect bugs and violations of the (mostly unwritten) policies. A package can be checked with `pkglint -Wall` to see whether it meets these rules.

25.5. Designing interfaces for Makefile fragments

Most of the .mk files fall into one of the following classes. Cases where a file falls into more than one class should be avoided as it often leads to subtle bugs.

25.5.1. Procedures with parameters

In a traditional imperative programming language some of the .mk files could be described as procedures. They take some input parameters and—after inclusion—provide a result in output parameters. Since all variables in Makefiles have global scope care must be taken not to use parameter names that have already another meaning. For example, PKGNAME is a bad choice for a parameter name.

Procedures are completely evaluated at preprocessing time. That is, when calling a procedure all input parameters must be completely resolvable. For example, CONFIGURE_ARGS should never be an input parameter since it is very likely that further text will be added after calling the procedure, which would effectively apply the procedure to only a part of the variable. Also, references to other variables will be modified after calling the procedure.

A procedure can declare its output parameters either as suitable for use in preprocessing directives or as only available at runtime. The latter alternative is for variables that contain references to other runtime variables.

Procedures shall be written such that it is possible to call the procedure more than once. That is, the file must not contain multiple-inclusion guards.

Examples for procedures are mk/bsd.options.mk and mk/buildlink3/bsd.builtin.mk. To express that the parameters are evaluated at load time, they should be assigned using the := operator, which should be used only for this purpose.

25.5.2. Actions taken on behalf of parameters

Action files take some input parameters and may define runtime variables. They shall not define loadtime variables. There are action files that are included implicitly by the pkgsrc infrastructure, while other must be included explicitly.

An example for action files is mk/subst.mk.

25.6. The order in which files are loaded

Package Makefiles usually consist of a set of variable definitions, and include the file ../../mk/bsd.pkg.mk in the very last line. Before that, they may also include various other *.mk files if they need to query the availability of certain features like the type of compiler or the X11 implementation. Due to the heavy use of preprocessor directives like .if and .for, the order in which the files are loaded matters.

This section describes at which point the various files are loaded and gives reasons for that order.

25.6.1. The order in `bsd.prefs.mk`

The very first action in `bsd.prefs.mk` is to define some essential variables like `OPSYS`, `OS_VERSION` and `MACHINE_ARCH`.

Then, the user settings are loaded from the file specified in `MAKECONF`, which is usually `mk.conf`. After that, those variables that have not been overridden by the user are loaded from `mk/defaults/mk.conf`.

After the user settings, the system settings and platform settings are loaded, which may override the user settings.

Then, the tool definitions are loaded. The tool wrappers are not yet in effect. This only happens when building a package, so the proper variables must be used instead of the direct tool names.

As the last steps, some essential variables from the wrapper and the package system flavor are loaded, as well as the variables that have been cached in earlier phases of a package build.

25.6.2. The order in `bsd.pkg.mk`

First, `bsd.prefs.mk` is loaded.

Then, the various `*-vars.mk` files are loaded, which fill default values for those variables that have not been defined by the package. These variables may later be used even in unrelated files.

Then, the file `bsd.pkg.error.mk` provides the target `error-check` that is added as a special dependency to all other targets that use `DELAYED_ERROR_MSG` or `DELAYED_WARNING_MSG`.

Then, the package-specific hacks from `hacks.mk` are included.

Then, various other files follow. Most of them don't have any dependencies on what they need to have included before or after them, though some do.

The code to check `PKG_FAIL_REASON` and `PKG_SKIP_REASON` is then executed, which restricts the use of these variables to all the files that have been included before. Appearances in later files will be silently ignored.

Then, the files for the main targets are included, in the order of later execution, though the actual order should not matter.

At last, some more files are included that don't set any interesting variables but rather just define make targets to be executed.

Chapter 26.
Regression tests

The pkgsrc infrastructure consists of a large codebase, and there are many corners where every little bit of a file is well thought out, making pkgsrc likely to fail as soon as anything is changed near those parts. To prevent most changes from breaking anything, a suite of regression tests should go along with every important part of the pkgsrc infrastructure. This chapter describes how regression tests work in pkgsrc and how you can add new tests.

26.1. Running the regression tests

You first need to install the `pkgtools/pkg_regress` package, which provides the **pkg_regress** command. Then you can simply run that command, which will run all tests in the `regress/` directory.

26.2. Adding a new regression test

Every directory in the `regress/` directory that contains a file called `spec` is considered a regression test. This file is a shell program that is included by the **pkg_regress** command. The following functions can be overridden to suit your needs.

26.2.1. Overridable functions

These functions do not take any parameters. Although they are called in "set -e" mode, they don't stop at the first failing command. See this Stack Overflow question (https://stackoverflow.com/q/4072984) for details.

`do_setup`

This function prepares the environment for the test. By default it does nothing.

`do_test`

This function runs the actual test. By default, it calls `TEST_MAKE` with the arguments `MAKEARGS_TEST` and writes its output including error messages into the file `TEST_OUTFILE`.

When defining this function, make sure that all output that needs to be checked is written to the correct output file. Example:

```
do_test() {
        echo "Example output"
} 1>$TEST_OUTFILE 2>&1
```

`check_result`

This function is run after the test and is typically used to compare the actual output from the one that is expected. It can make use of the various helper functions from the next section. Example:

```
check_result() {
        exit_status 0
        output_require "Example"
        output_require "^[[:alpha:]+[[:space:]][[:alpha:]]{6}$"
        output_prohibit "no such file or directory"
        regress_fail "expected $expected but got $actual for input $input"
}
```

`do_cleanup`

This function cleans everything up after the test has been run. By default it does nothing.

26.2.2. Helper functions

`regress_fail` *`message...`*

This function makes the test fail with the given error message.

`exit_status expected`

This function compares the exitcode of the **do_test** function with its first parameter. If they differ, the test will fail.

`output_require regex...`

This function checks for each of its parameters if the output from **do_test** matches the extended regular expression. If it does not, the test will fail. Example:

```
output_require "looks fine"
output_require "^[[:alpha:]+[[:space:]][[:alpha:]]{6}$"
```

`output_prohibit regex...`

This function checks for each of its parameters if the output from **do_test()** does *not* match the extended regular expression. If any of the regular expressions matches, the test will fail.

Chapter 27.
Porting pkgsrc

The pkgsrc system has already been ported to many operating systems, hardware architectures and compilers. This chapter explains the necessary steps to make pkgsrc even more portable.

27.1. Porting pkgsrc to a new operating system

To port pkgsrc to a new operating system (called `MyOS` in this example), you need to touch the following files:

`pkgtools/bootstrap-mk-files/files/mods/`*`MyOS`*`.sys.mk`

This file contains some basic definitions, for example the name of the C compiler.

`mk/bsd.prefs.mk`

Insert code that defines the variables `OPSYS`, `OS_VERSION`, `OPSYS_VERSION`, `LOWER_VENDOR`, `MACHINE_ARCH`, `OBJECT_FMT`, `APPEND_ELF`, and the other variables that appear in this file.

`mk/platform/`*`MyOS`*`.mk`

This file contains the platform-specific definitions that are used by pkgsrc. Start by copying one of the other files and edit it to your needs.

`mk/tools/tools.`*`MyOS`*`.mk`

This file defines the paths to all the tools that are needed by one or the other package in pkgsrc, as well as by pkgsrc itself. Find out where these tools are on your platform and add them.

Now, you should be able to build some basic packages, like `lang/perl5`, `shells/bash`.

Appendix A.
A simple example package: bison

We checked to find a piece of software that wasn't in the packages collection, and picked GNU bison. Quite why someone would want to have **bison** when Berkeley **yacc** is already present in the tree is beyond us, but it's useful for the purposes of this exercise.

A.1. files

A.1.1. Makefile

```
# $NetBSD: pkgsrc.ps,v 1.255 2024/05/10 12:32:07 wiz Exp $
#

DISTNAME=       bison-1.25
CATEGORIES=     devel
MASTER_SITES=   ${MASTER_SITE_GNU:=bison/}

MAINTAINER=     pkgsrc-users@NetBSD.org
HOMEPAGE=       https://www.gnu.org/software/bison/bison.html
COMMENT=        GNU yacc clone

GNU_CONFIGURE=  yes
INFO_FILES=     yes

.include "../../mk/bsd.pkg.mk"
```

A.1.2. DESCR

```
GNU version of yacc.  Can make re-entrant parsers, and numerous other
improvements.  Why you would want this when Berkeley yacc(1) is part
of the NetBSD source tree is beyond me.
```

A.1.3. PLIST

```
@comment $NetBSD: pkgsrc.ps,v 1.255 2024/05/10 12:32:07 wiz Exp $
bin/bison
man/man1/bison.1.gz
```

```
share/bison.simple
share/bison.hairy
```

A.1.4. Checking a package with pkglint

The NetBSD package system comes with `pkgtools/pkglint` which helps to check the contents of these files. After installation it is quite easy to use, just change to the directory of the package you wish to examine and run **pkglint**:

```
$ pkglint
ERROR: Makefile: Each package must define its LICENSE.
WARN: Makefile:9: HOMEPAGE should migrate from http to https.
NOTE: PLIST:3: The .gz extension is unnecessary for manual pages.
WARN: PLIST:5: "share/bison.hairy" should be sorted before "share/bison.simple".
1 error, 2 warnings and 1 note found.
(Run "pkglint -e" to show explanations.)
(Run "pkglint -fs" to show what can be fixed automatically.)
(Run "pkglint -F" to automatically fix some issues.)
```

Depending on the supplied command line arguments (see pkglint(1)), more checks will be performed. Use e.g. **pkglint -Wall** for a very thorough check.

A.2. Steps for building, installing, packaging

Create the directory where the package lives, plus any auxiliary directories:

```
# cd /usr/pkgsrc/lang
# mkdir bison
# cd bison
# mkdir patches
```

Create `Makefile`, `DESCR` and `PLIST` (see Chapter 12) then continue with fetching the distfile:

```
# make fetch
>> bison-1.25.tar.gz doesn't seem to exist on this system.
>> Attempting to fetch from ftp://prep.ai.mit.edu/pub/gnu//.
Requesting ftp://prep.ai.mit.edu/pub/gnu//bison-1.25.tar.gz (via ftp://orpheus.amdahl.com:80
ftp: Error retrieving file: 500 Internal error

>> Attempting to fetch from ftp://wuarchive.wustl.edu/systems/gnu//.
Requesting ftp://wuarchive.wustl.edu/systems/gnu//bison-1.25.tar.gz (via ftp://orpheus.amdah
ftp: Error retrieving file: 500 Internal error

>> Attempting to fetch from ftp://ftp.freebsd.org/pub/FreeBSD/distfiles//.
Requesting ftp://ftp.freebsd.org/pub/FreeBSD/distfiles//bison-1.25.tar.gz (via ftp://orpheus
Successfully retrieved file.
```

Generate the checksum of the distfile into `distinfo`:

```
# make makedistinfo
```

Now compile:

```
# make
>> Checksum OK for bison-1.25.tar.gz.
===>  Extracting for bison-1.25
===>  Patching for bison-1.25
===>   Ignoring empty patch directory
===>  Configuring for bison-1.25
creating cache ./config.cache
checking for gcc... cc
checking whether we are using GNU C... yes
checking for a BSD compatible install... /usr/bin/install -c -o bin -g bin
checking how to run the C preprocessor... cc -E
checking for minix/config.h... no
checking for POSIXized ISC... no
checking whether cross-compiling... no
checking for ANSI C header files... yes
checking for string.h... yes
checking for stdlib.h... yes
checking for memory.h... yes
checking for working const... yes
checking for working alloca.h... no
checking for alloca... yes
checking for strerror... yes
updating cache ./config.cache
creating ./config.status
creating Makefile
===>  Building for bison-1.25
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DXPFILE=\"/usr/pkg/share/bison.simple\"  -DXPFILE1=\"/usr/pkg/share/bison.hairy\" -DS
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc -c -DSTDC_HEADERS=1 -DHAVE_STRING_H=1 -DHAVE_STDLIB_H=1 -DHAVE_MEMORY_H=1 -DHAVE_ALLOCA=1
cc  -g -o bison LR0.o allocate.o closure.o conflicts.o derives.o files.o         getargs.o g
./files.c:240: warning: mktemp() possibly used unsafely, consider using mkstemp()
```

```
rm -f bison.s1
sed -e "/^#line/ s|bison|/usr/pkg/share/bison|" < ./bison.simple > bison.s1
```

Everything seems OK, so install the files:

```
# make install
>> Checksum OK for bison-1.25.tar.gz.
===>  Installing for bison-1.25
sh ./mkinstalldirs /usr/pkg/bin /usr/pkg/share  /usr/pkg/info /usr/pkg/man/man1
rm -f /usr/pkg/bin/bison
cd /usr/pkg/share; rm -f bison.simple bison.hairy
rm -f /usr/pkg/man/man1/bison.1 /usr/pkg/info/bison.info*
install -c  -o bin -g bin -m 555 bison /usr/pkg/bin/bison
/usr/bin/install -c -o bin -g bin -m 644 bison.s1 /usr/pkg/share/bison.simple
/usr/bin/install -c -o bin -g bin -m 644 ./bison.hairy /usr/pkg/share/bison.hairy
cd .; for f in bison.info*;  do /usr/bin/install -c -o bin -g bin -m 644 $f /usr/pkg/info/$f
/usr/bin/install -c -o bin -g bin -m 644 ./bison.1 /usr/pkg/man/man1/bison.1
===>  Registering installation for bison-1.25
```

You can now use bison, and also - if you decide so - remove it with **pkg_delete bison**. Should you decide that you want a binary package, do this now:

```
# make package
>> Checksum OK for bison-1.25.tar.gz.
===>  Building package for bison-1.25
Creating package bison-1.25.tgz
Registering depends:.
Creating gzip'd tar ball in '/u/pkgsrc/lang/bison/bison-1.25.tgz'
```

Now that you don't need the source and object files any more, clean up:

```
# make clean
===>  Cleaning for bison-1.25
```

Appendix B.
Security hardening

A number of mechanisms are available in pkgsrc to improve the security of the resulting system. This page describes the mechanisms, and gives hints about detecting and fixing problems.

Mechanisms can be enabled individually in `mk.conf`, and are individually described below.

Typically, a feature will cause some programs to fail to build or work when first enabled. This can be due to latent problems in the program, and can be due to other reasons. After enough testing to have confidence that user problems will be quite rare, individual mechanisms will be enabled by default.

For each mechanism, see the Caveats section below for an explanation of what might go wrong at compile time and at run time, and how to notice and address these problems.

B.1. Mechanisms

B.1.1. Enabled by default

B.1.1.1. PKGSRC_USE_FORTIFY

This allows substitute wrappers to be used for some commonly used library functions that do not have built-in bounds checking - but could in some cases.

Two mitigation levels are available:

- "weak" only enables checks at compile-time.
- "strong" enables checks at compile-time and runtime.

"strong" has been enabled by default since pkgsrc-2017Q3.

B.1.1.2. PKGSRC_USE_SSP

This enables a stack-smashing protection mitigation. It is done by adding a guard variable to functions with vulnerable objects. The guards are initialized when a function is entered and then checked when the function exits. The guard check will fail and the program forcibly exited if the variable was modified in the meantime. This can happen in case of buffer overflows or memory corruption, and therefore exposing these bugs.

Different mitigation levels are available:

- "yes", which will only protect functions considered vulnerable by the compiler;
- "all", which will protect every function;

- "strong", the default, which will apply a better balance between the two settings above.

This mitigation is supported by both GCC and clang. It may be supported in additional compilers, possibly under a different name. It is particularly useful for unsafe programming languages, such as C/C++.

- "yes" is enabled by default where known supported since pkgsrc-2017Q3.
- "strong" is enabled by default where known supported since pkgsrc-2021Q4.

More details can be found here:

- Buffer overflow protection on Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffer_overflow_protection)

B.1.1.3. PKGSRC_MKPIE

This requests the creation of PIE (Position Independent Executables) for all executables. The PIE mechanism is normally used for shared libraries, so that they can be loaded at differing addresses at runtime. PIE itself does not have useful security properties; however, it is necessary to fully leverage some, such as ASLR. Some operating systems support Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR), which causes different addresses to be used each time a program is run. This makes it more difficult for an attacker to guess addresses and thus makes exploits harder to construct. With PIE, ASLR can really be applied to the entire program, instead of the stack and heap only.

PIE executables will only be built for toolchains that are known to support PIE. Currently, this means NetBSD on x86, ARM, SPARC64, m68k, and MIPS.

`PKGSRC_MKPIE` was enabled by default after the pkgsrc-2021Q3 branch.

B.1.1.4. PKGSRC_USE_RELRO

This also makes the exploitation of some security vulnerabilities more difficult in some cases.

Two different mitigation levels are available:

- partial (the default): the ELF sections are reordered so that internal data sections precede the program's own data sections, and non-PLT GOT is read-only;
- full: in addition to partial RELRO, every relocation is performed immediately when starting the program, allowing the entire GOT to be read-only. This can greatly slow down startup of large programs.

This is currently supported by GCC. Many software distributions now enable this feature by default, at the "partial" level.

More details can be found here:

- Hardening ELF binaries using Relocation Read-Only (RELRO) (https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/hardening-elf-binaries-using-relocation-read-only-relro)

B.1.2. Not enabled by default

B.1.2.1. PKGSRC_MKREPRO

With this option, pkgsrc will try to build packages reproducibly. This allows packages built from the same tree and with the same options, to produce identical results bit by bit. This option should be combined with ASLR and `PKGSRC_MKPIE` to avoid predictable address offsets for attackers attempting to exploit security vulnerabilities.

More details can be found here:

- Reproducible Builds - a set of software development practices that create an independently-verifiable path from source to binary code (https://reproducible-builds.org/)

More work likely needs to be done before pkgsrc is fully reproducible.

B.1.2.2. PKGSRC_USE_STACK_CHECK

This uses `-fstack-check` with GCC for another stack protection mitigation.

It asks the compiler to generate code verifying that it does not corrupt the stack. According to GCC's manual page, this is really only useful for multi-threaded programs.

B.2. Caveats

B.2.1. Problems with PKGSRC_MKPIE

B.2.1.1. Packages failing to build

A number of packages may fail to build with this option enabled. The failures are often related to the absence of the `-fPIC` compilation flag when building libraries or executables (or ideally `-fPIE` in the latter case). This flag is added to the `CFLAGS` already, but requires the package to actually support it.

B.2.1.1.1. How to fix

These instructions are meant as a reference only; they likely need to be adapted for many packages individually.

For packages using `Makefiles`:

```
MAKE_FLAGS+= CFLAGS=${CFLAGS:Q}
MAKE_FLAGS+= LDFLAGS=${LDFLAGS:Q}
```

For packages using `Imakefiles`:

```
MAKE_FLAGS+= CCOPTIONS=${CFLAGS:Q}
MAKE_FLAGS+= LOCAL_LDFLAGS=${LDFLAGS:Q}
```

B.2.1.2. Run-time crashes

Some programs may fail to run, or crash at random times once built as PIE. Two scenarios are essentially possible. This is nearly always due to a bug in the program being exposed due to ASLR.

B.2.1.3. Disabling PKGSRC_MKPIE on a per-package basis

Ideally, packages should be fixed for compatibility with MKPIE. However, in some cases this is very difficult, due to complex build systems, packages using non-standard toolchains, or programming languages with odd bootstrapping mechanisms.

To disable `PKGSRC_MKPIE` on a per-package basis, set `MKPIE_SUPPORTED= no` in the package's Makefile before `bsd.prefs.mk` is included.

B.2.2. Problems with PKGSRC_USE_FORTIFY

B.2.2.1. Packages failing to build

This feature makes use of pre-processing directives to look for hardened, alternative implementations of essential library calls. Some programs may fail to build as a result; this usually happens for those trying too hard to be portable, or otherwise abusing definitions in the standard library.

B.2.2.2. Run-time crashes

This feature may cause some programs to crash, usually indicating an actual bug in the program. The fix will typically involve patching the original program's source code.

B.2.2.3. Optimization is required

At least in the case of GCC, FORTIFY will only be applied if optimization is applied while compiling. This means that the `CFLAGS` should also contain `-O`, `-O2` or another optimization level. This cannot easily be applied globally, as some packages may require specific optimization levels.

B.2.2.4. Disabling FORTIFY on a per-package basis

> **Note:** FORTIFY should not be disabled to work around runtime crashes in the program! This is a very bad idea and will expose you to security vulnerabilities.

To disable FORTIFY on a per-package basis, set the following in the package's `Makefile` before `bsd.prefs.mk` is included:

```
FORTIFY_SUPPORTED= no
```

B.2.3. Problems with PKGSRC_USE_RELRO

B.2.3.1. Performance impact

For better protection, full RELRO requires every symbol to be resolved when the program starts, rather than simply when required at run-time. This will have more impact on programs using a lot of symbols, or linked to libraries exposing a lot of symbols. Therefore, daemons or programs otherwise running in background are affected only when started. Programs loading plug-ins at run-time are affected when loading the plug-ins.

The impact is not expected to be noticeable on modern hardware, except in some cases for big programs.

B.2.3.2. Run-time crashes

Some programs handle plug-ins and dependencies in a way that conflicts with RELRO: for instance, with an initialization routine listing any other plug-in required. With full RELRO, the missing symbols are resolved before the initialization routine can run, and the dynamic loader will not be able to find them directly and abort as a result. Unfortunately, this is how Xorg loads its drivers. Partial RELRO can be applied instead in this case.

B.2.3.3. Disabling RELRO on a per-package basis

To disable RELRO on a per-package basis, set the following in the package's `Makefile` before `bsd.prefs.mk` is included:

```
RELRO_SUPPORTED= no
```

It is also possible to at most enable partial RELRO, by setting `RELRO_SUPPORTED` to `partial`.

B.2.4. Problems with PKGSRC_USE_SSP

B.2.4.1. Packages failing to build

The stack-smashing protection provided by this option does not work for some programs. The most common situation in which this happens is when the program allocates variables on the stack, with the size determined at run-time.

B.2.4.2. Run-time crashes

Again, this feature may cause some programs to crash via a `SIGABRT`, usually indicating an actual bug in the program.

On NetBSD `LOG_CRIT` level syslog messages are sent and - by default - appended to `/var/log/messages`, e.g.:

```
Jan  6 15:42:51 hostname -: hostname program - - - buffer overflow detected; terminated
```

(where `hostname` is the hostname(1) and `program` is the basename(1) of the program crashed).

Patching the original program is then required.

Rebuilding the package via:

```
% env CFLAGS=-g INSTALL_UNSTRIPPED=yes make replace
```

and inspecting the backtrace of the coredump via the debugger should point out the problematic call by inspecting the frame calling the _chk() (SSP) function.

B.2.4.3. Performance impact

The compiler emits extra code when using this feature: a check for buffer overflows is performed when entering and exiting functions, requiring an extra variable on the stack. The level of protection can otherwise be adjusted to affect only those functions considered more sensitive by the compiler (with -fstack-protector instead of -fstack-protector-all).

The impact is not expected to be noticeable on modern hardware. However, programs with a hard requirement to run at the fastest possible speed should avoid using this feature, or using libraries built with this feature.

B.2.4.4. Disabling SSP on a per-package basis

> **Note:** SSP should not be disabled to work around runtime crashes in the program! This is a very bad idea and will expose you to security vulnerabilities.

To disable SSP on a per-package basis, set the following in the package's `Makefile` before `bsd.prefs.mk` is included:

```
SSP_SUPPORTED= no
```

B.3. Auditing the system

The illusion of security is worse than having no security at all. This section lists a number of ways to ensure the security features requested are actually effective.

These instructions were obtained and tested on a system derived from NetBSD 7 (amd64). YMMV.

B.3.1. Checking for PIE

The ELF executable type in use changes for binaries built as PIE; without:

```
$ file /path/to/bin/ary
/path/to/bin/ary: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked (u
```

as opposed to the following binary, built as PIE:

```
$ file /path/to/pie/bin/ary
```

```
/path/to/pie/bin/ary: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically li
```

The latter result is then what is expected.

B.3.2. Checking for partial RELRO

The following command should list a section called RELRO:

```
$ objdump -p /path/to/bin/ary

/path/to/bin/ary:     file format elf64-x86-64

Program Header:
[...]
   RELRO off    0x0000000000000d78 vaddr 0x0000000000600d78 paddr 0x0000000000600d78 align 2
```

This check is now performed automatically if `PKG_DEVELOPER` is set and RELRO is enabled.

B.3.3. Checking for full RELRO

The dynamic loader will apply RELRO immediately when detecting the presence of the `BIND_NOW` flag:

```
$ objdump -x /path/to/bin/ary

/path/to/bin/ary:     file format elf64-x86-64

Dynamic Section:
[...]
  BIND_NOW              0x0000000000000000
```

This has to be combined with partial RELRO (see above) to be fully efficient.

This check is now performed automatically (where supported) if `PKG_DEVELOPER` is set.

B.3.4. Checking for SSP

> **Note:** Checking for SSP using this method only works where the operating system uses `libssp`. `libssp` is not used on recent NetBSD/FreeBSD/Linux versions.

Building objects, binaries and libraries with SSP will affect the presence of additional symbols in the resulting file:

```
$ nm /path/to/bin/ary
[...]
                 U __stack_chk_fail
0000000000600ea0 B __stack_chk_guard
```

This is an indicator that the program was indeed built with support for SSP.

This check is now performed automatically (where supported) if `PKG_DEVELOPER` is set and SSP is enabled.

Appendix C.
Build logs

C.1. Building figlet

```
# make
===> Checking for vulnerabilities in figlet-2.2.1nb2
=> figlet221.tar.gz doesn't seem to exist on this system.
=> Attempting to fetch figlet221.tar.gz from ftp://ftp.figlet.org/pub/figlet/program/unix/.
=> [172219 bytes]
Connected to ftp.plig.net.
220 ftp.plig.org NcFTPd Server (licensed copy) ready.
331 Guest login ok, send your complete e-mail address as password.
230-You are user #5 of 500 simultaneous users allowed.
230-
230-  ___ _              _ _
230- |  _| |_ ___   ___| |_|___   ___ ___ ___
230- |  _|  _| . |_| . | | | . |_| . |  _| . |
230- |_| |_| |  _|_|  _|_|_|_  |_|___|_| |_  |
230-         |_|   |_|     |___|         |___|
230-
230-** Welcome to ftp.plig.org **
230-
230-Please note that all transfers from this FTP site are logged. If you
230-do not like this, please disconnect now.
230-
230-This archive is available via
230-
230-HTTP:  http://ftp.plig.org/
230-FTP:   ftp://ftp.plig.org/     (max 500 connections)
230-RSYNC: rsync://ftp.plig.org/   (max  30 connections)
230-
230-Please email comments, bug reports and requests for packages to be
230-mirrored to ftp-admin@plig.org.
230-
230-
230 Logged in anonymously.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
200 Type okay.
250 "/pub" is new cwd.
250-"/pub/figlet" is new cwd.
250-
250-Welcome to the figlet archive at ftp.figlet.org
250-
250- ftp://ftp.figlet.org/pub/figlet/
```

```
250-
250-The official FIGlet web page is:
250- http://www.figlet.org/
250-
250-If you have questions, please mailto:info@figlet.org. If you want to
250-contribute a font or something else, you can email us.
250
250 "/pub/figlet/program" is new cwd.
250 "/pub/figlet/program/unix" is new cwd.
local: figlet221.tar.gz remote: figlet221.tar.gz
502 Unimplemented command.
227 Entering Passive Mode (195,40,6,41,246,104)
150 Data connection accepted from 84.128.86.72:65131; transfer starting for figlet221.tar.gz
38% |**************                         | 65800      64.16 KB/s    00:01 ETA
226 Transfer completed.
172219 bytes received in 00:02 (75.99 KB/s)
221 Goodbye.
=> Checksum OK for figlet221.tar.gz.
===> Extracting for figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Required installed package ccache-[0-9]*: ccache-2.3nb1 found
===> Patching for figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Applying pkgsrc patches for figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Overriding tools for figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Creating toolchain wrappers for figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Configuring for figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Building for figlet-2.2.1nb2
gcc -O2 -DDEFAULTFONTDIR=\"/usr/pkg/share/figlet\"  -DDEFAULTFONTFILE=\"standard.flf\"  figl
chmod a+x figlet
gcc -O2 -o chkfont chkfont.c
=> Unwrapping files-to-be-installed.
#
# make install
===> Checking for vulnerabilities in figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Installing for figlet-2.2.1nb2
install -d -o root -g wheel -m 755 /usr/pkg/bin
install -d -o root -g wheel -m 755 /usr/pkg/man/man6
mkdir -p /usr/pkg/share/figlet
cp figlet /usr/pkg/bin
cp chkfont /usr/pkg/bin
chmod 555 figlist showfigfonts
cp figlist /usr/pkg/bin
cp showfigfonts /usr/pkg/bin
cp fonts/*.flf /usr/pkg/share/figlet
cp fonts/*.flc /usr/pkg/share/figlet
cp figlet.6 /usr/pkg/man/man6
===> Registering installation for figlet-2.2.1nb2
#
```

C.2. Packaging figlet

```
# make package
===> Checking for vulnerabilities in figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Packaging figlet-2.2.1nb2
===> Building binary package for figlet-2.2.1nb2
Creating package /home/cvs/pkgsrc/packages/i386/All/figlet-2.2.1nb2.tgz
Using SrcDir value of /usr/pkg
Registering depends:.
#
```

Appendix D. *Directory layout of the pkgsrc FTP server*

As in other big projects, the directory layout of pkgsrc is quite complex for newbies. This chapter explains where you find things on the FTP server. The base directory on `ftp.NetBSD.org` is `/pub/pkgsrc/` (ftp://ftp.NetBSD.org/pub/pkgsrc/). On other servers it may be different, but inside this directory, everything should look the same, no matter on which server you are. This directory contains some subdirectories, which are explained below.

D.1. `distfiles`: The distributed source files

The directory `distfiles` contains lots of archive files from all pkgsrc packages, which are mirrored here. The subdirectories are called after their package names and are used when the distributed files have names that don't explicitly contain a version number or are otherwise too generic (for example `release.tar.gz`).

D.2. `misc`: Miscellaneous things

This directory contains things that individual pkgsrc developers find worth publishing.

D.3. `packages`: Binary packages

This directory contains binary packages for the various platforms that are supported by pkgsrc. Each subdirectory is of the form *`OPSYS`*/*`ARCH`*/*`OSVERSION_TAG`*. The meaning of these variables is:

- `OPSYS` is the name of the operating system for which the packages have been built. The name is taken from the output of the **uname** command, so it may differ from the one you are used to hear.
- `ARCH` is the hardware architecture of the platform for which the packages have been built. It also includes the `ABI` (Application Binary Interface) for platforms that have several of them.
- `OSVERSION` is the version of the operating system. Typically it is the version defining an ABI, e.g. 9.0.
- `TAG` is either `20`*`YYQN`* for a stable branch, or `current` for packages built from the HEAD branch. The latter should only be used when the packages are updated on a regular basis.

The rationale for this scheme is that users can first search by OPSYS and ARCH, since these are more or less unchangeable. After that, there is a management set of directories with OSVERSION and TAG.

See also `README.md` in `packages` for more details, including about symlinks.

In each of these directories, there is a whole binary packages collection for a specific platform. It has a directory called `All` which contains all binary packages.

D.4. `reports`: Bulk build reports

Here are the reports from bulk builds, for those who want to fix packages that didn't build on some of the platforms. The structure of subdirectories should look like the one in Section D.3.

D.5. `current`, `stable`, `pkgsrc-20`*`xx`*`Q`*`y`*: source packages

These directories contain the "real" pkgsrc, that is the files that define how to create binary packages from source archives.

Each of the `current`, `stable` and `pkgsrc-20`*`xx`*`Q`*`y`* directories share the same structure. They each contain a `pkgsrc` directory and `pkgsrc.tar.{bz,gz,xz}` file.

The directory `pkgsrc` contains a snapshot of the CVS repository, which is updated regularly. The file `pkgsrc.tar.{bz,gz,xz}` contains the same as the directory, ready to be downloaded as a whole.

The `current` directory contains files related to the HEAD branch of the CVS repository. In this directory there is an additional file called `pkgsrc-readmes.tar.{bz,gz,xz}` that contains all pkgsrc `README`s with information about categories and packages.

The `stable` directory is a symlink to the latest `pkgsrc-20`*`xx`*`Q`*`y`*.

The `pkgsrc-20`*`xx`*`Q`*`y`*. directories contain files related to the `-20`*`xx`*`Q`*`y`* stable branch of the CVS repository. In these directories there is an additional file called `pkgsrc-20`*`xx`*`Q`*`y`*`.tar.{bz,gz,xz}`, which contains the state of pkgsrc when it was branched.

Appendix E.
Help topics

The following list contains all help topics that are available when running **bmake help topic=:index**.

#!
32bit
ABI
ACROREAD_FONTPATH
AFAIK
ALLOW_NETWORK_ACCESS
ALLOW_VULNERABLE_PACKAGES
ALSA_PC
AMANDA_TMP
AMANDA_VAR
APACHE_MODULE_NAME
APACHE_MODULE_SRCDIR
APACHE_SUEXEC_CONFIGURE_ARGS
APACHE_USER
AUDIT_PACKAGES_FLAGS
AUTOMAKE_OVERRIDE
AUTO_MKDIRS
BDB185_DEFAULT
BDB_ACCEPTED
BDB_LIBS
BINCIMAP_GROUP
BINCIMAP_USER
BIND_GROUP
BINOWN
BIN_INSTALL_FLAGS
BLAS
BLAS_C_INTERFACE
BLAS_INDEX64
BLAS_PC
BOOTSTRAP_DEPENDS
BROKEN_EXCEPT_ON_PLATFORM
BSDSRCDIR
BSD_MAKE_ENV
BUILDLINK_AUTO_VARS
BUILDLINK_CONTENTS_FILTER
BUILDLINK_DEPMETHOD
BUILDLINK_FILES_CMD
BUILDLINK_LDFLAGS
BUILDLINK_OPSYS_SUPPORT_PTHREAD
BUILDLINK_PREFIX
BUILDLINK_TREE
BUILD_DEFS_EFFECTS
BUILD_DIRS
BUILD_MAKE_CMD
BUILD_TARGET
BUILTIN_FIND_FILES_VAR
BUILTIN_FIND_HEADERS
BUILTIN_FIND_PKGCONFIG
-lintl
64bit
ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES
ADDITIONAL
AIX
ALLOW_NEWER_COMPILER
ALL_ENV
ALTERNATIVES_SRC
AMANDA_USER
APACHE_GROUP
APACHE_MODULE_SRC
APACHE_PKG_PREFIX
APACHE_SUEXEC_DOCROOT
ARLA_CACHE
AUTOCONF_REQD
AUTOMAKE_REQD
AUX
BDBBASE
BDB_DEFAULT
BDB_TYPE
BINCIMAP_LOG_USER
BIND_DIR
BIND_USER
BINPKG_SITES
BISON_PKGDATADIR
BLAS_ACCEPTED
BLAS_INCLUDES
BLAS_LIBS
BLAS_TYPE
BROKEN
BROKEN_ON_PLATFORM
BSDXSRCDIR
BUILDLINK_AUTO_DIRS
BUILDLINK_CFLAGS
BUILDLINK_CPPFLAGS
BUILDLINK_FILES
BUILDLINK_FNAME_TRANSFORM
BUILDLINK_LIBS
BUILDLINK_PKGNAME
BUILDLINK_RPATHDIRS
BUILD_DEFS
BUILD_DEPENDS
BUILD_ENV_SHELL
BUILD_MAKE_FLAGS
BUILTIN_FIND_FILES
BUILTIN_FIND_GREP
BUILTIN_FIND_HEADERS_VAR
BUILTIN_FIND_PKGCONFIG_VAR

BUILTIN_PKG
BUILTIN_TEST_CURSES_FUNCS
BUILTIN_X11_TYPE
CACTI_GROUP
CANNA_GROUP
CAT
CBLAS_PC
CCACHE_DIR
CC_VERSION
CDRECORD_CONF
CDROM_PKG_URL_HOST
CHECKOUT_DATE
CHECK_FAKEHOME
CHECK_FILES_ONLY_PREFIX
CHECK_FILES_STRICT
CHECK_HEADERS_SKIP
CHECK_INTERPRETER_SKIP
CHECK_PERMS_AUTOFIX
CHECK_PIE
CHECK_PIE_SUPPORTED
CHECK_PORTABILITY_EXPERIMENTAL
CHECK_RELRO
CHECK_RELRO_SUPPORTED
CHECK_SHLIBS_SKIP
CHECK_SHLIBS_TOXIC
CHECK_SSP_SKIP
CHECK_STRIPPED
CHECK_WRKREF
CHECK_WRKREF_SKIP
CLAMAV_GROUP
CLANGBASE
CLT
CMAKE_INSTALL_NAME_DIR
CMAKE_MODULE_PATH_OVERRIDE
CMAKE_PREFIX_PATH
COMMON_LISP_DOCFILES
COMMON_LISP_EXTRAFILES
COMMON_LISP_SYSTEM
COMPILER_USE_SYMLINKS
CONFIGURE_DIRS
CONFIGURE_ENV_SHELL
CONFIGURE_HAS_MANDIR
CONFIG_SHELL
CONF_FILES
CONF_FILES_PERMS
CONSERVER_DEFAULTPORT
CPE
CPE_LANG
CPE_PART
CPE_SW_EDITION
CPE_TARGET_SW
CPE_URI
CPE_VERSION
CPP_PRECOMP_FLAGS
CROSSBASE
CTF_FILES_SKIP
CTYPE
CUPS_SYSTEM_GROUPS
CURSES_DEFAULT
CVS_EXTRACTDIR
CVS_PROJECT
BUILTIN_TEST_CURSES_DEFINES
BUILTIN_VERSION_SCRIPT
BUILTIN_X11_VERSION
CACTI_USER
CANNA_USER
CBLAS_LIBS
CCACHE_BASE
CCACHE_LOGFILE
CC_VERSION_STRING
CDROM_PKG_URL_DIR
CHANGES
CHECK_COMPILER
CHECK_FILES
CHECK_FILES_SKIP
CHECK_HEADERS
CHECK_INTERPRETER
CHECK_PERMS
CHECK_PERMS_SKIP
CHECK_PIE_SKIP
CHECK_PORTABILITY
CHECK_PORTABILITY_SKIP
CHECK_RELRO_SKIP
CHECK_SHLIBS
CHECK_SHLIBS_SUPPORTED
CHECK_SSP
CHECK_SSP_SUPPORTED
CHECK_STRIPPED_SKIP
CHECK_WRKREF_EXTRA_DIRS
CLAMAV_DBDIR
CLAMAV_USER
CLEANDEPENDS
CMAKE_DEPENDENCIES_REWRITE
CMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX
CMAKE_PKGSRC_BUILD_FLAGS
CMAKE_USE_GNU_INSTALL_DIRS
COMMON_LISP_EXAMPLES
COMMON_LISP_PACKAGES
COMPILER_RPATH_FLAG
CONFIGURE_ARGS
CONFIGURE_ENV
CONFIGURE_HAS_INFODIR
CONFIGURE_SCRIPT
CONFIG_SHELL_FLAGS
CONF_FILES_MODE
CONSERVER_DEFAULTHOST
CP
CPE_EDITION
CPE_OTHER
CPE_PRODUCT
CPE_TARGET_HW
CPE_UPDATE
CPE_VENDOR
CPP
CREATE_WRKDIR_SYMLINK
CTFCONVERT
CTF_SUPPORTED
CUPS_GROUP
CUPS_USER
CURSES_TYPE
CVS_MODULE
CVS_REPOSITORIES

CVS_ROOT
CVS_ROOT_GNU
CVS_ROOT_NONGNU
CVS_ROOT_SOURCEFORGE
CVS_TAG
CXX
CYRUS_GROUP
CYRUS_IDLE
CYRUS_USER
DAEMONTOOLS_GROUP
DAEMONTOOLS_LOG_USER
DARWIN_NO_SYSTEM_LIBS
DARWIN_REQUIRES_FILTER
DBUS_GROUP
DBUS_USER
DEFANG_GROUP
DEFANG_USER
DEFAULT_ACCEPTABLE_LICENSES
DEFAULT_DISTFILES
DEFAULT_IRC_SERVER
DEFAULT_SERIAL_DEVICE
DEF_UMASK
DEINSTALLDEPENDS
DEINSTALL_SRC
DEINSTALL_TEMPLATES
DELAYED_ERROR_MSG
DELAYED_WARNING_MSG
DEPENDS
DEPENDS_TARGET
DEPENDS_TYPE
DESTDIR
DESTDIR_VARNAME
DIALER_GROUP
DIGEST_REQD
DISTDIR
DISTFILES
DISTINFO_FILE
DISTNAME
DIST_PATH
DIST_SUBDIR
DJBDNS_AXFR_USER
DJBDNS_CACHE_USER
DJBDNS_DJBDNS_GROUP
DJBDNS_LOG_USER
DJBDNS_RBL_USER
DJBDNS_TINY_USER
DLOPEN_REQUIRE_PTHREADS
DL_AUTO_VARS
DL_CFLAGS
DL_LDFLAGS
DL_LIBS
DNS
DOCOWN
DOWNLOADED_DISTFILE
DQCACHE_GROUP
DQCACHE_USER
DT_LAYOUT
DYNAMIC_SITES_CMD
DYNAMIC_SITES_SCRIPT
ECHO
ECHO_N
ELK_GUI
EMACS_TYPE
EMULDIR
EMULSUBDIR
EMULSUBDIRSLASH
EMUL_ARCH
EMUL_DISTRO
EMUL_EXEC_FMT
EMUL_IS_NATIVE
EMUL_MODULES
EMUL_OPSYS
EMUL_PKG_FMT
EMUL_PLATFORM
EMUL_PLATFORMS
EMUL_PREFER
EMUL_REQD
EMUL_TYPE
ERROR_MSG
EXIM_GROUP
EXIM_USER
EXPORT_SYMBOLS_LDFLAGS
EXTRACTOR
EXTRACT_CMD
EXTRACT_CMD_DEFAULT
EXTRACT_DIR
EXTRACT_ELEMENTS
EXTRACT_ENV
EXTRACT_ONLY
EXTRACT_OPTS
EXTRACT_SUFX
EXTRACT_USING
FAIL
FAILOVER_FETCH
FAIL_MSG
FAKE_NCURSES
FAM
FAM_ACCEPTED
FAM_DEFAULT
FAM_SERVER
FCPATH
FEATURE_CPPFLAGS
FEATURE_LDFLAGS
FEATURE_LIBS
FETCH_AFTER_ARGS
FETCH_BEFORE_ARGS
FETCH_CMD
FETCH_OUTPUT_ARGS
FETCH_PROXY
FETCH_RESUME_ARGS
FETCH_TIMEOUT
FETCH_USE_IPV4_ONLY
FETCH_USING
FILES_SUBST
FILES_SUBST_SED
FIX_SYSTEM_HEADERS
FONTDIR
FONTS_DIRS
FONTS_VERBOSE
FOO_HACKS_MK
FORCE_CXX_STD
FORCE_C_STD

FOSSIL_EXTRACTDIR
FOSSIL_REPO
FOSSIL_REPOSITORIES
FOSSIL_VERSION
FOX_USE_XUNICODE
FREEWNN_GROUP
FREEWNN_USER
FTP_PKG_URL_DIR
FTP_PKG_URL_HOST
GAMEDATAMODE
GAMEDATA_PERMS
GAMEDIRMODE
GAMEDIR_PERMS
GAMEGRP
GAMEMODE
GAMEOWN
GAMES_GROUP
GAMES_USER
GCC
GCCBASE
GCC_REQD
GCC_VERSION_SUFFIX
GEM_BUILD
GEM_CLEANBUILD
GEM_CLEANBUILD_EXTENSIONS
GEM_DOCDIR
GEM_EXTSDIR
GEM_HOME
GEM_KEEPBUILD
GEM_LIBDIR
GEM_NAME
GEM_PATH
GEM_PLUGINSDIR
GEM_SPECFILE
GENERATE_PLIST
GHC
GHOSTSCRIPT_REQD
GITHUB_PROJECT
GITHUB_RELEASE
GITHUB_SUBMODULES
GITHUB_TAG
GITHUB_TYPE
GITLAB_PROJECT
GITLAB_RELEASE
GITLAB_SUBMODULES
GITLAB_TAG
GITLAB_TYPE
GIT_BRANCH
GIT_ENV
GIT_EXTRACTDIR
GIT_REPO
GIT_REPOSITORIES
GIT_REVISION
GIT_TAG
GNU
GNU_CONFIGURE
GNU_CONFIGURE_INFODIR
GNU_CONFIGURE_MANDIR
GNU_CONFIGURE_QUIET
GNU_CONFIGURE_STRICT
GODEP_REDIRECTS
GO_BUILD_PATTERN
GO_DEPS
GO_DIST_BASE
GO_EXTRA_MOD_DIRS
GO_MODULE_FILES
GO_SRCPATH
GROUP_SPECIFIC_PKGS
GRUB_NETWORK_CARDS
GRUB_PRESET_COMMAND
GRUB_SCAN_ARGS
GZIP
HASKELL_COMPILER
HASKELL_DISABLE_EXECUTABLES
HASKELL_DISABLE_LIBRARIES
HASKELL_ENABLE_DYNAMIC_EXECUTABLE
HASKELL_ENABLE_HADDOCK_DOCUMENTATION
HASKELL_ENABLE_LIBRARY_PROFILING
HASKELL_ENABLE_SHARED_LIBRARY
HASKELL_ENABLE_TESTS
HASKELL_OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL
HASKELL_PKG_NAME
HASKELL_UNRESTRICT_DEPENDENCIES
HEADER_TEMPLATES
HG_REPO
HG_REPOSITORIES
HG_TAG
HOMEPAGE
HOST_PKGTOOLS_ARGS
HOST_SPECIFIC_PKGS
HOWL_GROUP
HOWL_USER
ICCBASE
ICECAST_CHROOTDIR
ICON_THEMES
IDOBASE
IGNORE_CCACHE
IGNORE_INFO_DIRS
IGNORE_INTERACTIVE_FETCH
IMAKE
IMAKEOPTS
IMAKE_MAKE
IMAKE_MANINSTALL
IMAP_UW_CCLIENT_MBOX_FMT
IMDICTDIR
INCOMPAT_CURSES
INFO_DIR
INFO_FILES
INFO_MSG
INIT_SYSTEM
INN_DATA_DIR
INN_GROUP
INN_USER
INSTALLATION_DIRS
INSTALLATION_DIRS_FROM_PLIST
INSTALL_ENV
INSTALL_SH_OVERRIDE
INSTALL_SRC
INSTALL_TEMPLATES
INSTALL_UNSTRIPPED
IRCD_HYBRID_IRC_GROUP
IRCD_HYBRID_IRC_USER

IRCD_HYBRID_MAXCONN
IRCD_HYBRID_NICLEN
IRCD_HYBRID_SYSLOG_EVENTS
IRCD_HYBRID_SYSLOG_FACILITY
IRCD_HYBRID_TOPICLEN
IRIX
IRRD_USE_PGP
JABBERD_GROUP
JABBERD_LOGDIR
JABBERD_PIDDIR
JABBERD_SPOOLDIR
JABBERD_USER
JAVA_APP_PATH
JAVA_APP_TARGETS
JAVA_BINPREFIX
JAVA_CLASSPATH
JAVA_HOME
JAVA_LD_LIBRARY_PATH
JAVA_NAME
JAVA_UNLIMIT
JAVA_WRAPPERS
JPEG_ACCEPTED
JPEG_DEFAULT
KERBEROS
KERMIT_SUID_UUCP
KJS_USE_PCRE
KNEWS_DOMAIN_FILE
KNEWS_DOMAIN_NAME
KRB5_ACCEPTED
KRB5_DEFAULT
LANGUAGES
LAPACKE_LIBS
LAPACKE_PC
LAPACK_LIBS
LAPACK_PC
LATEX2HTML_ICONPATH
LDCONFIG_ADD_CMD
LDCONFIG_REMOVE_CMD
LDD
LEAFNODE_DATA_DIR
LEAFNODE_GROUP
LEAFNODE_USER
LIBDVDCSS_HOMEPAGE
LIBDVDCSS_MASTER_SITES
LIBIMAGEQUANT_TYPE
LIBRSVG_TYPE
LIBTOOL
LIBTOOLIZE_PLIST
LIBTOOL_M4_OVERRIDE
LIBUSB_TYPE
LICENSE
LINKER_RPATH_FLAG
LINK_RPATH_FLAG
LINUX_BASE_NODEPS
LINUX_BASE_PREFERRED
LINUX_BASE_REQUIRED
LINUX_LOCALES
LOCALBASE
LOCALBASE_LOCKTYPE
LOCALPATCHES
LOVE_DATA
LOVE_GAME
LOVE_VERSION
LOWER_OPSYS
LOWER_OPSYS_VERSUFFIX
LOWER_VARIANT_VERSION
LOWER_VENDOR
LP32PLATFORMS
LP64PLATFORMS
LUA_BUSTED_ARGS
LUA_CDIR
LUA_COMPILER
LUA_DOCDIR
LUA_EXAMPLESDIR
LUA_INCDIR
LUA_INTERPRETER
LUA_LDIR
LUA_LINKER_MAGIC
LUA_PKGPREFIX
LUA_SELF_CONFLICT
LUA_USE_BUSTED
LUA_VERSIONS_ACCEPTED
LUA_VERSIONS_INCOMPATIBLE
LUA_VERSION_DEFAULT
LUA_VERSION_REQD
Lua
MACHINE_PLATFORM
MAILAGENT_DOMAIN
MAILAGENT_EMAIL
MAILAGENT_FQDN
MAILAGENT_ORGANIZATION
MAJORDOMO_HOMEDIR
MAJOR_OS_VERSION
MAKEINFO_ARGS
MAKE_DIRS
MAKE_DIRS_PERMS
MAKE_ENV
MAKE_FILE
MAKE_FLAGS
MAKE_JOBS
MAKE_JOBS_SAFE
MAKE_PROGRAM
MANCOMPRESSED_IF_MANZ
MANINSTALL
MANZ
MARIADB_VERSIONS_ALL
MASTER_SITES
MASTER_SITE_BACKUP
MASTER_SITE_LOCAL
MASTER_SITE_MOZILLA
MASTER_SITE_OVERRIDE
MASTER_SITE_PERL_CPAN
MASTER_SORT
MASTER_SORT_RANDOM
MASTER_SORT_REGEX
MECAB_CHARSET
MEDIATOMB_GROUP
MEDIATOMB_USER
MIPSPROBASE
MIREDO_GROUP
MIREDO_USER
MISSING_FEATURES

MKDIR
MKPIE_SUPPORTED
MLDONKEY_GROUP
MLDONKEY_HOME
MLDONKEY_USER
MONOTONE_GROUP
MONOTONE_USER
MOTIFBASE
MOTIF_TYPE
MOTIF_TYPE_DEFAULT
MPI_TYPE
MSGFMT_STRIP_MSGCTXT
MSGFMT_STRIP_MSGID_PLURAL
MTOOLS_ENABLE_FLOPPYD
MUST
MV
MYSQL_CHARSET
MYSQL_DATADIR
MYSQL_EXTRA_CHARSET
MYSQL_GROUP
MYSQL_USER
MYSQL_VERSION
MYSQL_VERSIONS_ACCEPTED
MYSQL_VERSION_DEFAULT
NAGIOSCMD_GROUP
NAGIOSDIR
NAGIOS_GROUP
NAGIOS_USER
NATIVE_EXEC_FMT
NATIVE_LOWER_OPSYS
NATIVE_LOWER_VENDOR
NATIVE_MACHINE_PLATFORM
NATIVE_OPSYS_VERSION
NATIVE_OS_VARIANT
NATIVE_OS_VERSION
NBPAX_PROGRAM_PREFIX
NETBSD_LOGIN_NAME
NMH_EDITOR
NMH_MTA
NMH_PAGER
NODE_VERSIONS_ACCEPTED
NODE_VERSIONS_INCOMPATIBLE
NODE_VERSION_DEFAULT
NODE_VERSION_REQD
NOLOGIN
NOTE
NOT_FOR_PLATFORM
NOT_PAX_ASLR_SAFE
NOT_PAX_MPROTECT_SAFE
NO_BUILD
NO_CHECKSUM
NO_CONFIGURE
NO_SKIP
NS_PREFERRED
NULLMAILER_GROUP
NULLMAILER_USER
OBJECT_FMT
OBJHOSTNAME
OBJMACHINE
OCAML_FINDLIB_DIRS
OCAML_FINDLIB_REGISTER
OCAML_FINDLIB_REGISTER_VERBOSE
OCAML_SITELIBDIR
OMF
ONLY_FOR_COMPILER
ONLY_FOR_PLATFORM
OPENSSH_CHROOT
OPENSSH_GROUP
OPENSSH_USER
OPSYS
OPSYS_EMULDIR
OPSYS_VERSION
OS
OSS_TYPE
OSX
OSX_PATH_TO_M4
OSX_PATH_TO_YACC
OS_HAVE_ALSA
OS_HAVE_RCD
OS_VARIANT
OS_VERSION
OTF_FONTS_DIR
OVERRIDE_DIRDEPTH
OVERRIDE_GEMSPEC
OVERRIDE_GNU_CONFIG_SCRIPTS
OVERRIDE_ROCKSPEC
OWN_DIRS
OWN_DIRS_PERMS
P4GROUP
P4PORT
P4ROOT
P4USER
PACKAGES
PALMOS_DEFAULT_SDK
PAMBASE
PAM_DEFAULT
PAPERSIZE
PASSIVE_FETCH
PATCHDIR
PATCHFILES
PATCH_ARGS
PATCH_DEBUG
PATCH_DIST_ARGS
PATCH_DIST_CAT
PATCH_DIST_STRIP
PATCH_FUZZ_FACTOR
PATCH_STRIP
PATH
PCCBASE
PEAR
PEAR_CHANNEL
PEAR_CHANNEL_ALIAS
PEAR_CHANNEL_VERSION
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Appendix F. *Editing guidelines for the pkgsrc guide*

This section contains information on editing the pkgsrc guide itself.

F.1. Make targets

The pkgsrc guide's source code is stored in `pkgsrc/doc/guide/files`, and several files are created from it:

- `pkgsrc/doc/pkgsrc.txt`
- `pkgsrc/doc/pkgsrc.html`
- https://www.NetBSD.org/docs/pkgsrc/
- https://www.NetBSD.org/docs/pkgsrc/pkgsrc.pdf: The PDF version of the pkgsrc guide.
- https://www.NetBSD.org/docs/pkgsrc/pkgsrc.ps: PostScript version of the pkgsrc guide.

F.2. Procedure

The procedure to edit the pkgsrc guide is:

1. Make sure you have checked out the htdocs repository into a sibling directory of your pkgsrc directory. You will need the ability to commit from both pkgsrc and htdocs.
2. Make sure you have the packages needed to regenerate the pkgsrc guide (and other XML-based NetBSD documentation) installed. These are automatically installed when you install the `meta-pkgs/pkgsrc-guide-tools` package.
3. Run **cd doc/guide** to get to the right directory. All further steps will take place here.
4. Edit the XML file(s) in `files/`.
5. Run **bmake** to check the pkgsrc guide for valid XML and to build the final output files. If you get any errors at this stage, you can just edit the files, as there are only symbolic links in the working directory, pointing to the files in `files/`.
6. **(cd files && cvs commit)**
7. Run **bmake clean && bmake** to regenerate the output files with the proper RCS Ids.
8. Run **bmake regen** to install and commit the files in both `pkgsrc/doc` and `htdocs`.

Note: If you have added, removed or renamed some chapters, you need to synchronize them using **cvs add** or **cvs delete** in the htdocs directory.