

**NAME**

**devfs** - device file system

**SYNOPSIS**

```
devfs    /dev    devfs rw 0 0
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The device file system, or **devfs**, provides access to kernel's device namespace in the global file system namespace. The conventional mount point is */dev*.

The file system includes several directories, links, symbolic links and devices, some of which can also be written. In a chroot'ed environment, devfs(8) can be used to create a new */dev* mount point.

The mknod(8) tool can be used to recover deleted device entries under **devfs**.

The fdescfs(5) filesystem is an alternate means for populating */dev/fd*. The character devices that both **devfs** and fdescfs(5) present in */dev/fd* correspond to the open file descriptors of the process accessing the directory. **devfs** only creates files for the standard file descriptors 0, 1 and 2. fdescfs(5) creates files for all open descriptors.

The options are as follows:

**-o options**

Use the specified mount *options*, as described in mount(8). The following devfs file system-specific options are available:

**ruleset=ruleset**

Set ruleset number *ruleset* as the current ruleset for the mount-point and apply all its rules. If the ruleset number *ruleset* does not exist, an empty ruleset with the number *ruleset* is created. See devfs(8) for more information on working with devfs rulesets.

**FILES**

*/dev*           The normal **devfs** mount point.

**EXAMPLES**

To mount a **devfs** volume located on */mychroot/dev*:

```
mount -t devfs devfs /mychroot/dev
```

**SEE ALSO**

fdescfs(5), devfs(8), mount(8), make\_dev(9)

## HISTORY

The **devfs** file system first appeared in FreeBSD 2.0. It became the preferred method for accessing devices in FreeBSD 5.0 and the only method in FreeBSD 6.0. The **devfs** manual page first appeared in FreeBSD 2.2.

## AUTHORS

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