

**NAME**

perlfreebsd - Perl version 5 on FreeBSD systems

**DESCRIPTION**

This document describes various features of FreeBSD that will affect how Perl version 5 (hereafter just Perl) is compiled and/or runs.

**FreeBSD core dumps from readdir\_r with ithreads**

When perl is configured to use ithreads, it will use re-entrant library calls in preference to non-re-entrant versions. There is a bug in FreeBSD's "readdir\_r" function in versions 4.5 and earlier that can cause a SEGV when reading large directories. A patch for FreeBSD libc is available (see <http://www.freebsd.org/cgi/query-pr.cgi?pr=misc/30631>) which has been integrated into FreeBSD 4.6.

**\$\_X doesn't always contain a full path in FreeBSD**

perl sets \$\_X where possible to a full path by asking the operating system. On FreeBSD the full path of the perl interpreter is found by using "sysctl" with "KERN\_PROC\_PATHNAME" if that is supported, else by reading the symlink */proc/curproc/file*. FreeBSD 7 and earlier has a bug where either approach sometimes returns an incorrect value (see <http://www.freebsd.org/cgi/query-pr.cgi?pr=35703>). In these cases perl will fall back to the old behaviour of using C's "argv[0]" value for \$\_X.

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Please report any errors, updates, or suggestions to <https://github.com/Perl/perl5/issues>.