

# Simple Mail Transfer Protocol

== See also == 2dd5eabd88 An email alias is different from a contact group, or distribution list. According to Microsoft, a contact group is "a grouping of e-mail addresses collected under one name. A message sent to a contact group goes to all recipients listed in the group." 2dd5eabd88 Connections can be accepted on IPv4 or IPv6 endpoints, or on UNIX-domain sockets. IPv4 and IPv6 are the default. This program is the complement of the smtp-source(1) program. 2dd5eabd88 Tarpit (networking) 2dd5eabd88 == History == 2dd5eabd88 SMTP's origins began in 1980, building on concepts implemented on the ARPANET since 1971. It has been updated, modified and extended multiple times. The protocol version in common use today has extensible structure with various extensions for authentication, encryption, binary data transfer, and internationalized email addresses. SMTP servers commonly use the Transmission Control Protocol on port number 25 (between servers) and 587 (for submission from authenticated clients), both with or without encryption, and 465 with encryption for submission. 2dd5eabd88 This means that the client and server speak normal SMTP at the application layer, but the connection is secured by SSL or TLS. This happens when the TCP connection is established, before any mail data has been exchanged. Since whether or not to use SSL or TLS is not explicitly negotiated by the peers, services that speak SMTPS are usually reachable on a dedicated port of their own. 2dd5eabd88 Usenet was originally designed based on the UUCP network, with most article transfers taking place over direct point-to-point telephone links between news servers, which were powerful time-sharing systems. Readers and posters logged into these computers reading the articles directly from the local disk. 2dd5eabd88 == Features == 2dd5eabd88

SMTPS It is intended to provide authentication of the communication partners, as well as data integrity and confidentiality. It is intended to provide authentication SMTPS (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol Secure) is a method for securing the SMTP using transport layer security. SMTPS (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol Secure) is a method for securing the SMTP using transport layer security 2dd5eabd88

SOAP provides the Messaging Protocol layer of a web services protocol stack for web services. It is an XML-based protocol consisting of three parts: 2dd5eabd88

Message transfer agent In some contexts, the alternative names mail server, mail exchanger, or MX host are used to describe an MTA. In some contexts, the alternative names mail server, mail exchanger, or MX host are used Within the Internet email system, a message transfer agent (MTA), mail transfer agent, or mail relay is software that transfers electronic mail messages from one computer to another using the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol. computer to another using the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol 2dd5eabd88

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol Mail servers and other message transfer agents use SMTP to send and receive mail messages. Mail servers and other message The Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) is an Internet standard communication protocol for electronic mail transmission. The Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) is an Internet standard communication protocol for electronic mail transmission. For retrieving messages, IMAP and POP are widely used, but proprietary servers also often implement proprietary protocols, e. , Exchange ActiveSync. User-level email clients typically use SMTP only for sending messages to a mail server for relaying, and typically submit outgoing email to the mail server on port 465 or 587 per RFC 8314. g 2dd5eabd88

Until the 1990s, mail servers were commonly intentionally configured as open relays; in fact, this was frequently the installation default setting. The traditional store-and-forward method of relaying e-mail to its destination required that messages be passed from computer to computer (through and beyond the Internet) via modems on telephone lines.

For many early networks, such as UUCPNET, FidoNet and BITNET, lists of machines that were open relays were a core part of those networks. Filtering and speed of e-mail delivery were not priorities at that time and in any case the government and educational servers that were initially on the Internet were covered... 2dd5eabd88 The term alias expansion is sometimes used to indicate a specific mode of email forwarding, thereby implying a more generic meaning of the term email alias as an address that is forwarded in a simplistic fashion. 2dd5eabd88

SOAP It uses XML Information Set for its message format, and relies on application layer protocols, most often Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), although some legacy systems communicate over Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP), for message negotiation and transmission. application layer protocols, most often Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), although some legacy systems communicate over Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP), SOAP (originally an acronym for Simple Object Access Protocol) is a messaging protocol specification for exchanging structured information in the implementation of web services in computer networks 2dd5eabd88

Qmail It was written, starting December 1995, by Daniel J. Bernstein as a more secure alternative to the popular Sendmail program. Quick Mail Transport Protocol (QMTTP), an e-mail transmission protocol that is designed to have better performance than Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) qmail is a mail transfer agent (MTA) that runs on Unix 2dd5eabd88

Mail queues are an inherent requisite of SMTP. In situations in which mail queues are not possible, LMTP is desirable, since a mail storage server should manage only its mail store without having to allocate more storage for a mail queue. This is not possible with SMTP when there are multiple recipients for a mail message. SMTP can only indicate successful delivery or failure for all or none of the recipients, creating the need for a separate queue to handle the failed recipients. 2dd5eabd88 As local area networks and Internet participation proliferated, it became desirable to allow newsreaders to be run on personal computers connected to local networks. The resulting protocol was NNTP, which resembled the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) but was tailored for exchanging newsgroup articles. 2dd5eabd88 == History and technology == 2dd5eabd88 == Overview == 2dd5eabd88 == Difference between SMTPS and smtps == 2dd5eabd88

Mail-sink It accepts Simple Mail Transfer Protocol Smtsp-sink is a utility program in the Postfix Mail software package that implements a "black hole" function. It accepts Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) messages from the network and discards them. It listens on the named host (or address) and port. It listens on the named host (or address) and port. The purpose is to support measurement of client performance. Postfix Mail software package that implements a &quot;black hole&quot; function. It is not SMTP protocol compliant 2dd5eabd88

Network News Transfer Protocol connected to local networks. Other contributors included Stan O. The resulting protocol was NNTP, which resembled the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) but was tailored for exchanging newsgroup The Network News Transfer Protocol (NNTP) is an application protocol used for transporting Usenet news articles (netnews) between news servers, and for reading/posting articles by the end user client applications. Brian Kantor of the University of California, San Diego, and Phil Lapsley of the University of California, Berkeley, wrote RFC 977, the specification for the Network News Transfer Protocol, in March 1986. Barber from the Baylor College of Medicine and Erik Fair of Apple Computer 2dd5eabd88

== Characteristics == 2dd5eabd88 A message transfer agent receives mail from either another MTA, a mail submission agent (MSA), or a mail user agent (MUA). The transmission details are specified by the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP). When a recipient mailbox of a message is not hosted locally, the message is relayed, that is, forwarded to another MTA. Every time an MTA receives an email message, it adds a Received trace header field

to the top of the header of the message, thereby building a sequential record of MTAs handling the message. The process of choosing a target MTA for the next hop is also... 2dd5eabd88 "smtps" is also the name of an IANA-registered service, with the TCP port number 465. The service was intended for use by Mail Transfer Agents (MTAs), as a point of contact where these could exchange email in an encrypted form rather than in plaintext. The registration was quickly revoked, however, as standardization...

2dd5eabd88 == Term == 2dd5eabd88

Email alias An email alias is a email address used for forwarding. RFC 5321. Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP). sec. 1. doi:10. 2. 17487/RFC5321. IETF. Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP). 2008. IETF. Retrieved 2026-03-22 2dd5eabd88

== Operation == 2dd5eabd88 A newsreader, also known as a news client, is a software... 2dd5eabd88

Open mail relay This used to be the default configuration in many mail servers; indeed, it was the way the Internet was initially set up, but open mail relays have become unpopular because of their exploitation by spammers and worms. open mail relay is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server configured in such a way that it allows anyone on the Internet to send e-mail through An open mail relay is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server configured in such a way that it allows anyone on the Internet to send e-mail through it, not just mail destined to or originating from known users. Many relays were closed, or were placed on blacklists by other servers 2dd5eabd88

SMTPS is neither a proprietary protocol nor an extension of SMTP. It is a way to secure SMTP at the transport layer, by wrapping SMTP inside Transport Layer Security (TLS). Conceptually, it is similar to how HTTPS wraps HTTP inside TLS. 2dd5eabd88 LMTP, on the other hand, can indicate success or failure to the client for each recipient, allowing the client to handle the queueing instead. The client in this case would typically be an Internet-facing mail gateway. LMTP is not intended for use over wide area networks. In other words, the message transfer agent (MTA) still handles all outgoing mail, including the mail stream from the LMTP, to another mail server located... 2dd5eabd88

Local Mail Transfer Protocol The Local Mail Transfer Protocol (LMTP) is an alternative to (Extended) Simple Mail Transfer Protocol for situations where the receiving side does not The Local Mail Transfer Protocol (LMTP) is an alternative to (Extended) Simple Mail Transfer Protocol for situations where the receiving side does not have a mail queue, such as a message transfer agent acting as a message delivery agent. LMTP was described in RFC 2033 in 1996 2dd5eabd88

Messages exchanged across networks are passed between mail servers, including any attached data files (such as images, multimedia, or documents). These servers often keep mailboxes for email. Access to this email by end users is typically either by webmail or an email client. 2dd5eabd88

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