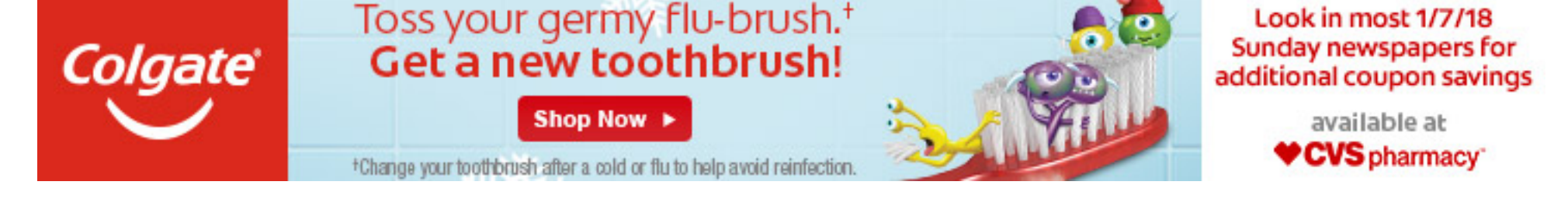


Configuring Gmail as a Sendmail email relay

admin System Administration & Configuration 15 May 2013



Introduction

In this configuration tutorial we will guide you through the process of configuring sendmail to be an email relay for your gmail or google apps account. This allows you to send email from your `bash` scripts, hosted website or from command line using `mail` command. Other examples where you can utilize this setting is for a notification purposes such or failed backups etc. Sendmail is just one of many utilities which can be configured to rely on gmail account where the others include postfix, exim, ssmtp etc. In this tutorial we will use Debian and sendmail for this task.

Install prerequisites

```
# apt-get install sendmail mailutils sendmail-bin
```

Create Gmail Authentication file

```
# mkdir -m 700 /etc/mail/authinfo/
# cd /etc/mail/authinfo/
```

next we need to create an auth file with a following content. File can have any name, in this example the name is `gmail-auth`:

```
AuthInfo: "U:root" "I:YOUR_GMAIL_EMAIL_ADDRESS" "P:YOUR_PASSWORD"
```

Replace the above email with your gmail or google apps email.

Please note that in the above password example you need to keep `P:` as it is not a part of the actual password.

In the next step we will need to create a hash map for the above authentication file:

```
# makemap hash gmail-auth < gmail-auth
```

Configure your sendmail

Put below lines into your `sendmail.mc` configuration file **right above first "MAILER" definition line**:

```
define(`SMART_HOST', `smtp.gmail.com')dnl
define(`RELAY_MAILER_ARGS', `TCP $h 587')dnl
define(`ESMTP_MAILER_ARGS', `TCP $h 587')dnl
define(`CONFAUTH_OPTIONS', `A P')dnl
TRUST_AUTH_MECH(`EXTERNAL DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5 LOGIN PLAIN')dnl
define(`CONFAUTH_MECHANISMS', `EXTERNAL GSSAPI DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5 LOGIN PLAIN')dnl
FEATURE(`authinfo', `hash -o /etc/mail/authinfo/gmail-auth.db')dnl
```

Do not put the above lines on the top of your `sendmail.mc` configuration file!

In the next step we will need to re-build sendmail's configuration. To do that execute:

```
# make -C /etc/mail
```

Reload sendmail service:

```
/etc/init.d/sendmail reload
```

and you are done.

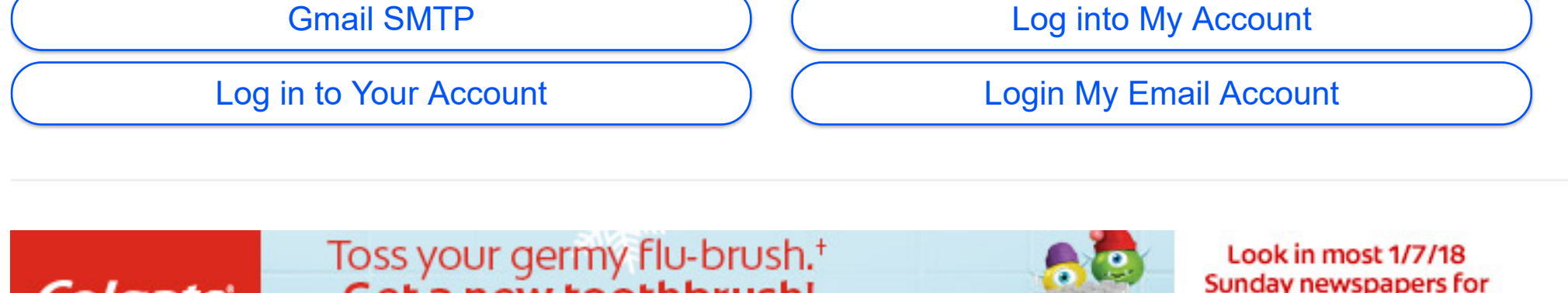
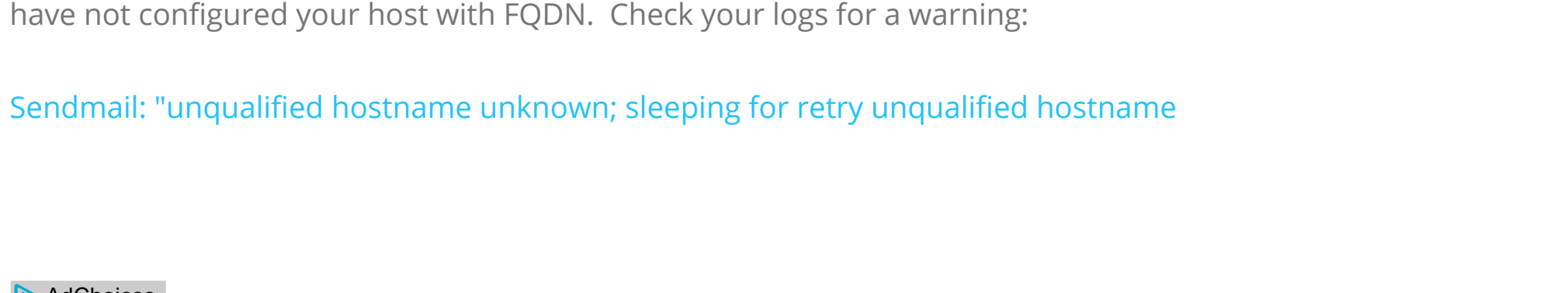
Configuration test

Now you can send an email from your command line using `mail` command:

```
$ echo "Just testing my sendmail gmail relay" | mail -s "Sendmail gmail Relay" my_email@my-domain.com
```

If you will experience substitutional delays after executing the above command to most likely cause is that you have not configured your host with FQDN. Check your logs for a warning:

Sendmail: 'unqualified hostname unknown; sleeping for retry unqualified hostname'



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Roy MoreLeSter 9 months ago
There is no "makemap" for Fedora

bonobo2000 1 year ago
I dont understand all what I did but worked perfectly. thanks. had to generate and use a one-usage password from google, as I am used two-step verification.

SP 1 year ago
I followed the post but I see following error :

```
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sendmail[4545]: v0PLBYIW004545: from=root, size=130, class=0, nrcpt=1, msgid=<201701252111.v0PLBYIW004545@localhost.localdomain>, relay=root@localhost
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBYn004546: from=<root@localhost.localdomain>, size=405, class=0, nrcpt=1, msgid=<201701252111.v0PLBYIW004545@localhost.localdomain>, proto=ESMTP, daemon=MTA-v4, relay=localhost [127.0.0.1]
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sendmail[4545]: v0PLBYIW004545: to=<shantu17@hotmail.com>, ctaddr=root (0/0), delay=00:00:00, xdelay=00:00:00, mailer=relay, pri=30130, relay=[127.0.0.1] [127.0.0.1], ds=2.0.0, stat=Sent (v0PLBYn004546 Message accepted for delivery)
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: STARTTLS=client, relay=gmail-smtp-mlsa.l.google.com., version=TLSv1/SSLv3, verify=FAIL, cipher=ECDHE-RSA-AES128-SHA, bits=128/128
Jan 25 15:11:35 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBYn004546: to=<shantu17@hotmail.com>, ctaddr=<root@localhost.localdomain> (0/0), delay=00:00:01, xdelay=00:00:01, mailer=relay, pri=120405, relay=gmail-smtp-mlsa.l.google.com., [74.125.198.109], ds=5.0.0, stat=Service unavailable
Jan 25 15:11:35 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBZn004548: DSN: Service unavailable
Jan 25 15:11:36 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBZn004548: to=<root@localhost.localdomain>, delay=00:00:01, xdelay=00:00:01, mailer=local, pri=30000, ds=2.0.0, stat=Sent
```

venom 1 year ago
@Kevin Schultz Followed your instructions. except the 3rd one since the links dead. Still cannot get mail to send, it is saying "530-5.5.1 Authentication Required". I've allowed less secure apps to access my gmail account and i do not have two factor authentication. I have no idea what to do, any help would be greatly appreciated.

Justin Kramlinger 9 months ago
You need to set up an application password.

metulbur 1 year ago
I had to reset my gmail password. Now that i redo this process with the new password, i cant get it to work anymore

Spencer Williams 1 year ago
Hell yeah! This worked for me in an Ubuntu (jessie) docker container on a Windows 10 host.

SP 1 year ago
I also used ubuntu but i see following error:

```
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sendmail[4545]: v0PLBYIW004545: from=root, size=130, class=0, nrcpt=1, msgid=<201701252111.v0PLBYIW004545@localhost.localdomain>, relay=root@localhost
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sm-mta[4546]: v0PLBYn004546: from=<root@localhost.localdomain>, size=405, class=0, nrcpt=1, msgid=<201701252111.v0PLBYIW004545@localhost.localdomain>, proto=ESMTP, daemon=MTA-v4, relay=localhost [127.0.0.1]
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sendmail[4545]: v0PLBYIW004545: to=<shantu17@hotmail.com>, ctaddr=root (0/0), delay=00:00:00, xdelay=00:00:00, mailer=relay, pri=30130, relay=[127.0.0.1] [127.0.0.1], ds=2.0.0, stat=Sent (v0PLBYn004546 Message accepted for delivery)
Jan 25 15:11:34 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: STARTTLS=client, relay=gmail-smtp-mlsa.l.google.com., version=TLSv1/SSLv3, verify=FAIL, cipher=ECDHE-RSA-AES128-SHA, bits=128/128
Jan 25 15:11:35 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBYn004546: to=<shantu17@hotmail.com>, ctaddr=<root@localhost.localdomain> (0/0), delay=00:00:01, xdelay=00:00:01, mailer=relay, pri=120405, relay=gmail-smtp-mlsa.l.google.com., [74.125.198.109], ds=5.0.0, stat=Service unavailable
Jan 25 15:11:35 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBZn004548: DSN: Service unavailable
Jan 25 15:11:36 ubuntu sm-mta[4548]: v0PLBZn004548: to=<root@localhost.localdomain>, delay=00:00:01, xdelay=00:00:01, mailer=local, pri=30000, ds=2.0.0, stat=Sent
```

fatipem 1 year ago
Thanks, it's works in my linux mint 17.2

Wretched Ghost 1 year ago
I got it working following the How-To exactly as well as following the steps that Kevin Schultz explained. (opening 587 on firewall (i use pfSense), custom password on Google App Pass/re-run makemap; editing the host file.)

Kevin Schultz 1 year ago
Some solutions (Note: running Debian Stretch (Testing)):
* First, I had two `sendmail.mc` files: 1) `/usr/share/sendmail.cf/debian/sendmail.mc`; and 2) `/etc/mail/sendmail.mc`. I updated them both, putting the text under "MAILER_DEFINITIONS", but I believe you may need to update #2. Note: if you forget to update #2, and your ISP blocks outgoing port 25, you may get `/var/log/mail.log` error, "...status=deferred (connect to ..."

* Second, for Two Factor Authentication users, as a workaround, go to <https://security.google.com>, and generate an App password: select "Mail", from pulldown "Select App", and "Other (Custom name)", from pulldown "Select Device", filling in whatever descriptive text, when prompted. Then select button "GENERATE". Copy the password and replace your password, from the file created in directory `/etc/mail/authinfo/`, above (for example, `gmail-auth`). Rerun "makemap hash gmail-auth < gmail-auth" and maybe "etc/init.d/sendmail reload" as well, for good measure.

* Third, as mentioned, above, edit `/etc/hosts` as here: <http://forum.linuxcareer.co>...

marmor 2 years ago
maybe my brain not working today but step 4 "right above first "MAILER" definition line:" where exactly is that, i do not know what im looking for

Kevin Schultz 1 year ago
Like this (note: under "MAILER_DEFINITIONS", but over the first "MAILER(...)");

```
include(`/etc/mail/m4/dialup.m4')dnl
include(`/etc/mail/m4/provider.m4')dnl
dnl #
dnl # Default Mailer setup
MAILER_DEFINITIONS
define(`SMART_HOST', `smtp.gmail.com')dnl
define(`RELAY_MAILER_ARGS', `TCP $h 587')dnl
define(`ESMTP_MAILER_ARGS', `TCP $h 587')dnl
define(`CONFAUTH_OPTIONS', `A P')dnl
TRUST_AUTH_MECH(`EXTERNAL DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5 LOGIN PLAIN')dnl
define(`CONFAUTH_MECHANISMS', `EXTERNAL GSSAPI DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5 LOGIN PLAIN')dnl
FEATURE(`authinfo', `hash -o /etc/mail/authinfo/gmail-auth.db')dnl
MAILER(`local')dnl
MAILER(`smtp')dnl
```

Hugo Lara Sanchez 2 years ago
I dont receive any mail

li he 2 years ago
me too

GalaxyNet 2 years ago
Getting Error:
Jul 1 10:47:09 ubuntu sm-mta[16763]: AUTH=client, relay=gmail-smtp-mlsa.l.google.com., temporary failure, connection abort
Jul 1 10:47:10 ubuntu sm-mta[16763]: u6158beV016761: to=<myemail@hotmail.com>, ctaddr=<root@ubuntu> (0/0), delay=00:00:02, xdelay=00:00:02, mailer=relay, pri=120357, relay=gmail-smtp-mlsa.l.google.com., [74.125.206.108], ds=4.0.0, stat=Deferred: Temporary AUTH failure

I have confirmed that the id/pass is ok, and allow less secure app is also turned on, i can use the same id from other devices fine, only sendmail not sending. what could be the cause?

dinojedl 2 years ago
Great tutorial.
On my Ubuntu after created I cannot change the permissions in `mkdir -m 700 /etc/mail/authinfo/`. My Ubuntu use a SSH certificate and has not the root password (I cannot do su, only sudo). Maybe is better to setup a 777 and at the end of configuration change to 700.

Rennann Maxxx 2 years ago
Hello greetx!
How to use yahoo or gmx instead of gmail?

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