



EMAIL SETUP

-and-

TROUBLESHOOTING

MANUAL

Version 1.0

PREFIX:

Step 1: Print this manual, and keep it next to the computer.

Step 2: Remember to check once a month (or more often) for an updated version.

This document is a work in progress and is very likely to change and evolve as questions roll in, we add or change functionality, or just get better at writing documentation!

This document will be updated regularly and should be checked from time to time.

At all points in time, the freshest, more current copy will be located at the following address:

TalkSpot Email Documentation:

<http://www.talkspot.com/uploads/8125/TalkSpotEmailDoc.pdf>

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Email Account Notes and Setup

Getting and setting up your own email

After you have established your own domain name, it is possible to set up email that uses your new domain name as part of your email address.

This is a very power feature, and gives you and your website a very professional image. For instance, let's say that you have just set up your site to be: www.JohnDoesWebsite.com You can now have the email address: john@JohnDoesWebsite.com or even JohnDoe@JohnDoesWebsite.com

You can even setup email addresses for up to 100 friends, relatives or employees. For instance, you can easily setup:
JohnsFriend@JohnDoesWebsite.com
Bill@JohnDoesWebsite.Com
Mark@JohnDoesWebsite.com

Please note: Until you have setup your domain name, and verified that you can successfully access your website via the domain name that you created, you will not be able to set up email accounts.

For the examples that follow, let's assume that you domain name is:
www.yourdomainname.com

Before you do anything, try the following experiment.

Open your browser, and enter your domain name, as follows, replacing the prefix (www) with the word mail.

<http://mail.yourdomainname.com>

If this doesn't work, and it is more than 24 hours since you set up your domain name, then you need to let us know at Talkspot. Something isn't right. Send us an email at: admin@talkspot.com and wait for a response.

If the above worked, you should see the following screen:



User name:

Password:

OK

If you see anything other than this – you need to write us (see above).

If you see the above, **ALL IS WELL, AND YOU WILL SOON HAVE YOUR EMAIL WORKING!!!!**

Email Administration

The screen you see is the sign-in to the administration website for your email. What this means is that it is from this website that you grant people email (including yourself) or take it away. This is not how you check email. It is how you create email accounts (email addresses).

To say that differently, if you want to set up a new email address, such one for yourself, and your employees, friends or relatives, this is where you need to go.

You only need to do this once. After you set up an email account, it is set up forever, and you never have to come back here. Simple? We'll see...

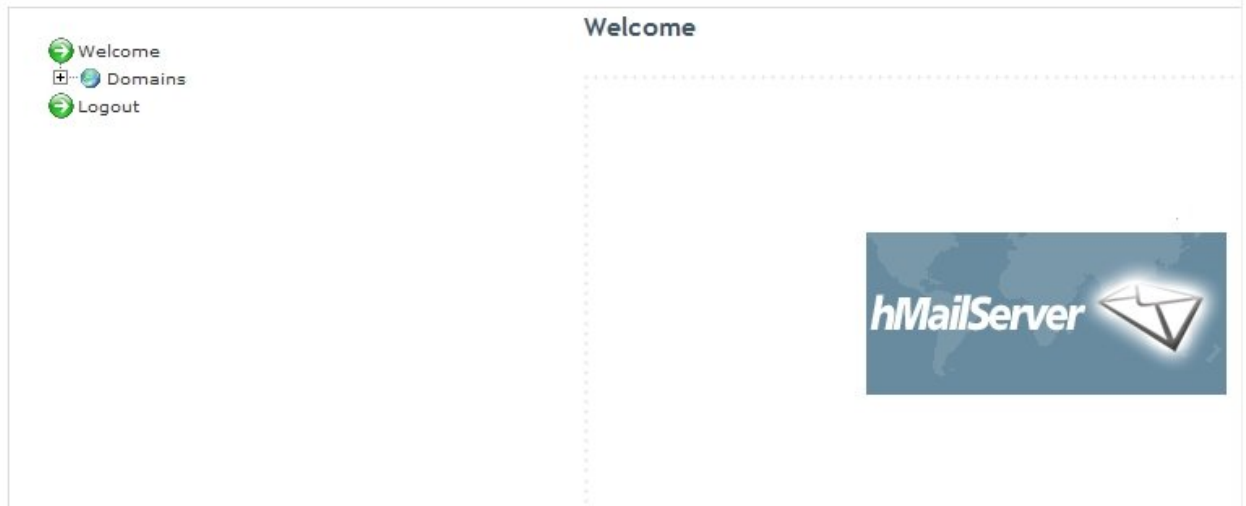
Try signing in.

Your userid for sign in is: admin@yourdomainname.com (replace the middle part with your domain name)

Your password is: admin

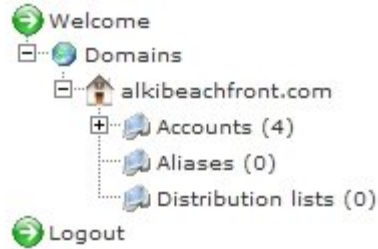
Click OK, and you will now see the following:

PHPWebAdmin for hMailServer



Not very exciting? Just wait.

Click the + sign to the left of the word "Domains", and then click the + sign again when you see your domain name, and you will see the list below.



Let's click the + sign next to the word "Accounts" to see what is under it.

PHPWebAdmin for hMailServer

Welcome

Domains

alkibeachfront.com

Accounts (1)

Aliases (0)

Distribution lists (0)

Logout

Accounts

Account address	Maximum size (MB)	
admin@alkibeachfront.com	150	

Add

It shows only one email address, because that's all that exists now. The system set up one default email address; admin@yourdomainname.com It's a real email address, and later in this tutorial we'll show you how to access email, but for now, our only focus is on learning to add and delete email accounts.

Click on the word 'Add' – let's set up a personal email account for you.

Account

Address	<input type="text"/>	@alkibeachfront.com
Password	<input type="password"/>	
Maximum size (MB)	<input type="text" value="150"/>	
Size (MB)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
Active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Last logon time		
Administration level	<input type="text" value="User"/>	

There are only two boxes on this page you need to worry about:

1. The email address you are setting up
2. The password you want to give it

There are some other things on this page, and they do work – but, unless you know what you are doing, we suggest you leave them alone.

So, let's assume your name is John Doe, and you want to be JohnDoe@yourdomainname.com – just type the word JohnDoe into the top box and shift your attention to the second box.

The second box is asking for a password. This will be the password that you, or your employees, friends, relatives, etc. use when they want to check their email. You can do what you want, but here's what we suggest at Talkspot:

Set everyone up with the same password, for instance, just make the password: 'password'. Then, let them know how to change their password, and they can change it to anything they want. Instructions on doing that are a little farther in this document. By doing it this way, and encouraging everyone to change their password, you won't know their passwords, and privacy concerns will have been addressed.

Now, you can click "Save" and you will just have created an email address. Create one for yourself, and perhaps a couple of other people, and then you are done!

...Which brings us to how you accessing your new email account(s).

Accessing your email

Before you, or anyone else can access their email, you need to set up their accounts. Please read the prior section, and set up one or more email accounts, before you read this section.

How do you check your email currently? Hotmail? Outlook? Yahoo Mail? Some other way? There are generally two different ways to access email. One is via a browser. The other is via an email program, such as Outlook or Outlook express. Talkspot supports both, although this manual is really limited to discussing how to use the browser to check and send mail. If you want to configure your email program to work with Talkspot, it almost certainly can be done, and all the information you need is at the end of this chapter. That said .. beyond what is here, you are on your own to figure it out. We do not have the resources to support all possible email programs.

Let's look at how to sign into your email account. And, by this I mean "yours". There are as many different email accounts as you have different email addresses. Generally you can only sign onto your own email. Other people, who you created accounts for sign in to THEIR email account.

The sign in page to retrieve or send email is the same for everybody.

It is: <http://mail.yourdomainname.com:8383>

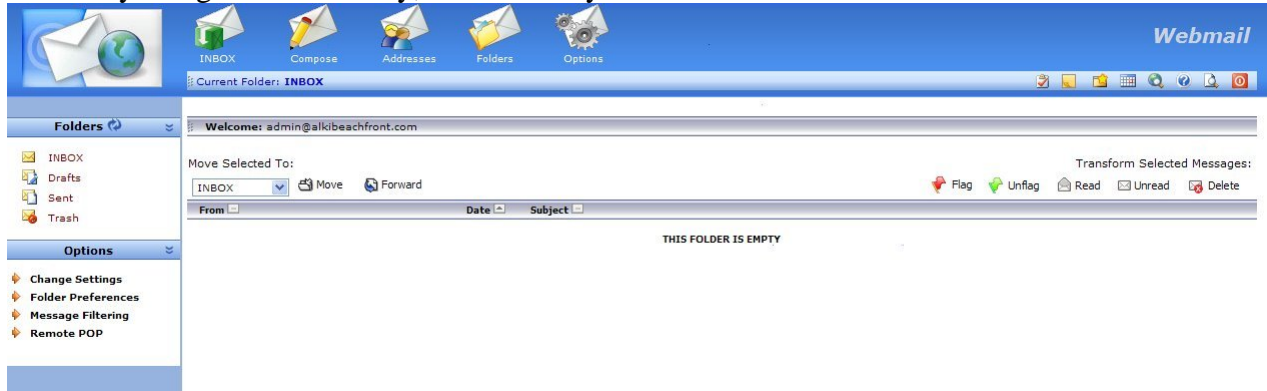
Try replacing "yourdomainname" in the above with your domain name, and type it into a browser. You should see this:



Into this screen you type your email address, and your password.

These were established in the prior chapter. If you don't remember what they were, you can look back at the prior chapter. Your email address should be something like: yourname@yourdomainname.com And, if you followed my advice setting up the email accounts, your password is probably 'password'.

Note: If you signed in correctly, here's what you'll see:

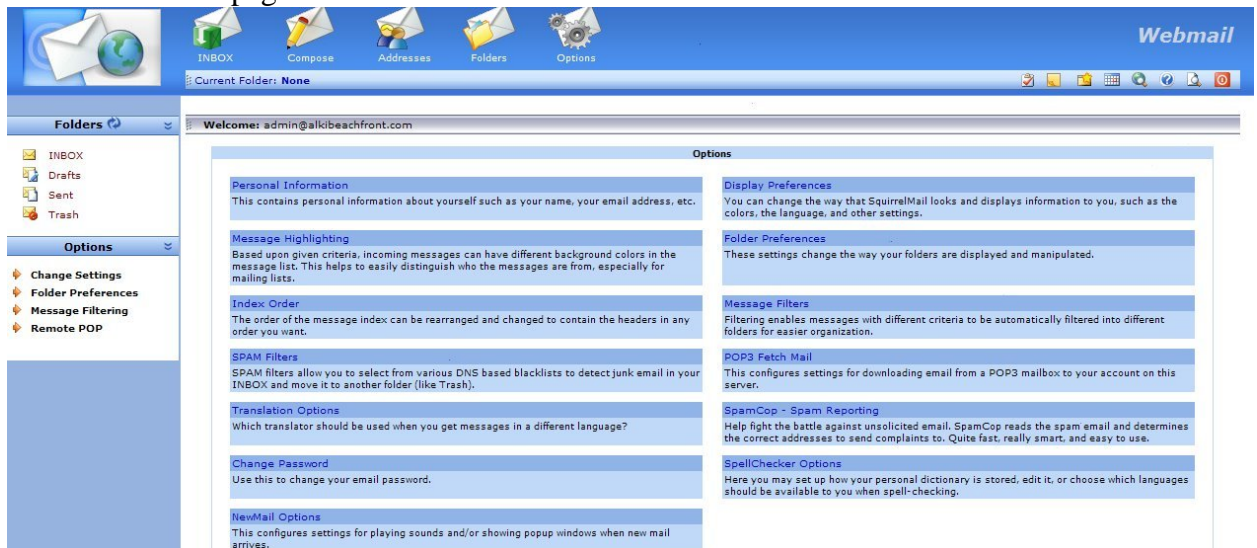


If you have been around email for awhile, this page should be very familiar. It is all you need for reading and answering your email.

For additional information about how to use the email interface, click on the little help symbol (the question mark) at the far right of the menu bar.

Everyone with an email address is encouraged to change their password immediately. To do that, click on the menu item "options" in the top menu bar (it looks like an envelope with some gears).

You will see this page:



There's a lot here!!! At Talkspot we want to take care of you!

Click on Change Password, on the left side of the page.

That's it. You should now be able to receive and send email.

However, if you prefer using your own email program, here is some information that will help.

Setting up email in your local email program:

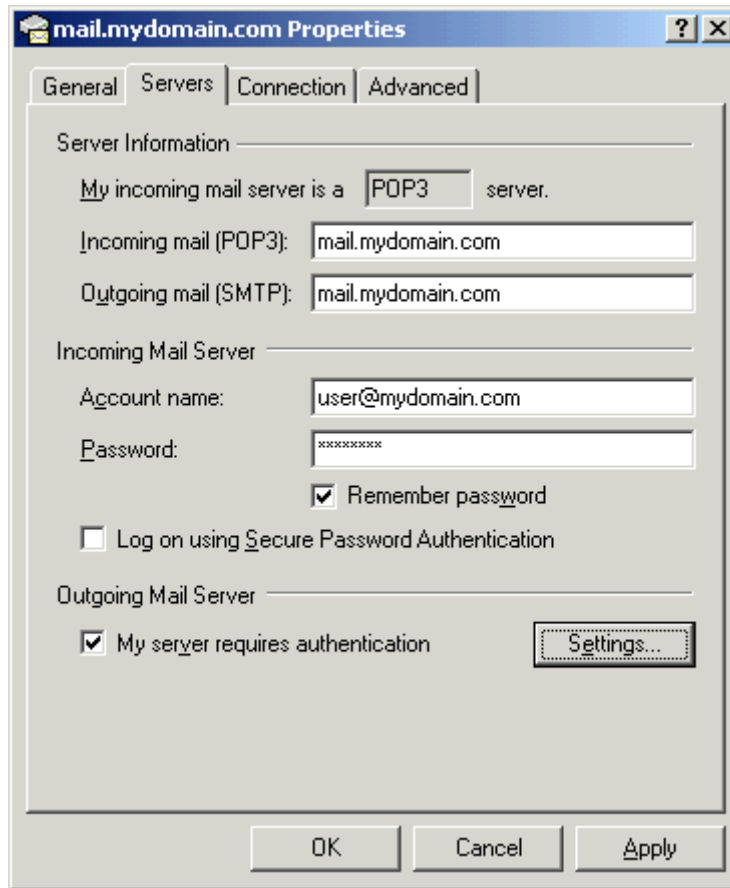
The only 3 pieces of information you need to know are:

1. Your incoming and outgoing mail server is: mail.yourdomain.com , turn on smtp authentication
2. Your username, or account name is your full email address, user@yourdomain.com
3. Your password (case SenSiTivE)

Disclaimer: TalkSpot does not have the resources to stay on top of the changing email trends of every email program and device. Listed below is amongst the more common program, and the method is likely to be similar. For anything outside Outlook or Outlook express, search online for “NAME OF DEVICE OR PROGRAM HERE email configuration”.

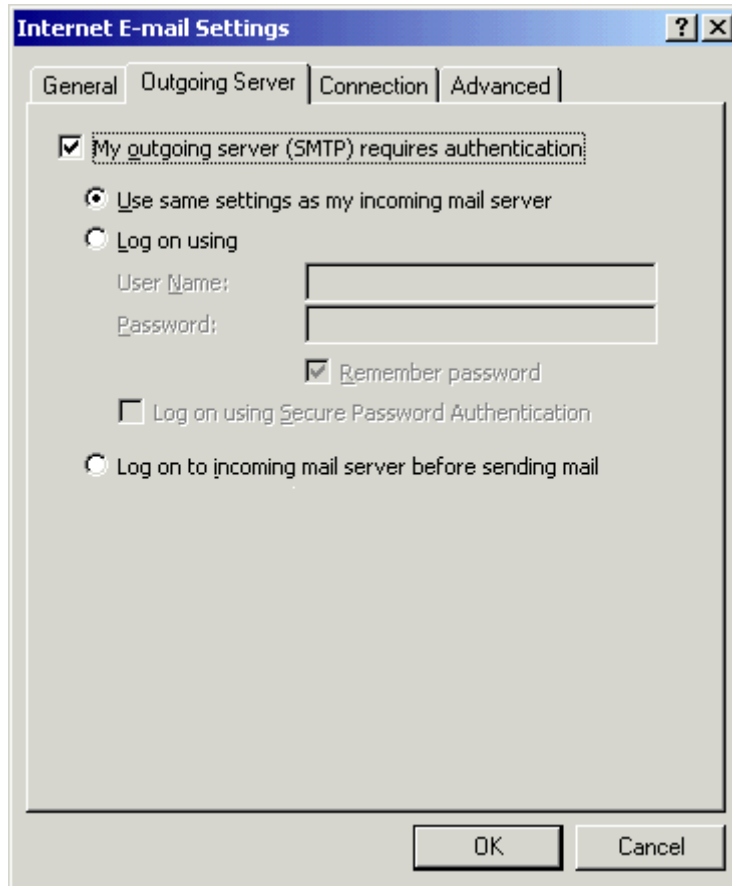
In Outlook or Outlook Express:

Click tools, accounts, mail tab, then double click your mail account. Click the servers tab, then under "Outgoing mail server, check "my server requires authentication".



In Outlook XP:

Click tools, email accounts, view or change existing email accounts, double click the account, more settings, outgoing server tab, then check the box for "my server requires authentication".



Check your mail program's help files for help with Netscape, or Eudora, but these are similar.

IMPORTANT RESTRICTION – PLEASE READ!!!!

Sending mass email:

We do not allow you to use our mail servers to send mass mailings, or newsletters, other than through your normal Talkspot Administration panel. Do not attempt to send 100s or 1000s of emails from your webmail client. And, as always: you are never authorized to send spam from a Talkspot account. Emailing your own customer list is fine. Emailing potential customers is not. You know the difference between spam and a newsletter. Use common sense, and DO NOT spam.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Here's how you can troubleshoot:

- If your domain name is less than 24 hours old:
 - Enter: `http://mail.yourwebsite.com` into the browser.
 - If you do not see a sign in page, then your website's domain name has not been setup.
 - It's probable that the Internet is still configuring your email. The solution may be to simply wait a day. Give it more time.
 - If it has been more than 24 hours since purchasing your name, then let us know (see "*Notifying Talkspot of a Problem*", below)
- If your domain name is over 24 hours old:

There are three probable places where your email may be failing. Before contacting Talkspot, it is important to determine which of these three entities has the problem.

1. **Talkspot.** Our servers may be down temporarily.
2. **Your Internet Service Provider.** It is possible that your ISP has done something which is messing up your email. Frequently, the internet providers take steps to fight spammers, and this often leads to lost email, or the ability to send/receive emails.
3. **Your email configuration.** If your email has worked for months, and is suddenly down, then it is probably not your local email configuration. But, if this is your first time to set up your local email program (like Outlook or Thunderbird) then there's a good chance that if it isn't working, you need to study the help files for your email program.

HOW TO KNOW IF TALKSPOT'S SERVER IS DOWN

Try the following. In this example, replace where it says “yoursitename” with your website’s domain name. For instance, if your website is: www.JoesPlumbing.com, then you would replace <http://www.yoursitename.com> with <http://www.JoesPlumbing.com>

1. Open a browser window (Firefox or Explorer)
2. Type the following into the URL: <http://mail.yoursitename.com>
3. Do you see a screen that looks like this:



User name:


Password:



4. If so, the odds are heavy that this is not a talkspot issue. Just to be certain though, let's try signing into your email
5. Type the following into your browser address:
<http://www.yoursitename.com:8383>

6. You should see the following sign in:



7. Try signing in using your email address and password.
8. If you get signed in, and see your email, that is a very good sign.
9. Now, try reading an email. Just see if you can.
10. You could? Great!
11. Now, let's give it a real test. Try sending yourself an email using the web interface. To do so, click the button that says "compose" and send an email to your own email address. Just say "hello" that's all you need.
12. Click on the "Check mail" icon: 
13. You might need to wait a couple minutes, but you should see the email. (*If there is a large delay, and you would like to see this faster, see below in the **FAQ***).
14. If that all works, there is some good news, and some bad news. Talkspot is working fine, but you now need to read the sections on how to decide if it is your ISP or your local email configuration that has the problem.
15. If any of the above failed, wait 30 minutes, then try again.
16. If after a second attempt, the results are still negative, then let us know (*see "Notifying Talkspot of a Problem", below*)

HOW TO TELL IF IT'S MY ISP

You are able to send and receive emails if you use the web interface, exclusively, but when trying to send via an email program like Outlook, the emails frequently or never arrive.

Because of the enormous variety of email programs, we can't give specific instructions. However, this is likely due to "Port 25". Port 25 is what most email is sent on. Many Internet Service Providers (ISP's) have blocked this port to cut down on SPAM. Here is a list of some of the bigger companies that have been known to block "Port 25".

- AT&T (can be unblocked at the request)
- MindSpring
- BellSouth
- MSN
- CableOne
- NetZero
- Charter
- People PC
- Comcast ATTBI
- Sprynet
- Cox
- Sympatico.ca
- EarthLink
- Verio
- Flashnet
- Verizon
- MediaOne

We recommend setting the following setting to avoid this issue:

- Incoming server (POP3): 110
- Outgoing server (SMTP): 587

To learn how to do this, you can search on a search engine like Google, the following:

- Set SMTP Port to 587

You can also try the following links for assistance (Remember, TalkSpot uses POP email, not IMAP):

- <http://kb.wisc.edu/helpdesk/page.php?id=2786>
- <http://www.inno-tech.com/support/user-port587.html>
- <http://webmail.tm.net.my/info/port587.html>
- <http://www.maximumasp.com/support/kb/article.aspx?article=1033>

TROUBLESHOOTING YOUR EMAIL CONFIGURATION

Unfortunately, there are a myriad of email programs and hand held devices which can be used for email. TalkSpot does not have the resources to offer troubleshooting and/or specific instructions for each of them. Even with the most popular programs and devices, the frequent updates and new programs and models would render any information herein outdated within a short time.

However, we can assist somewhat by recommending search terms and offer key links to material online that we feel will assist you at this time.

Depending on the program or handheld device You will need some of this information available, and likely all of it. Make sure you know the following, prior to diagnosing the issue.

The important pieces of information you'll need are as follows:

- **Your Name (or the name of the email account):** Your Name (or YourDomainName.com)
- **Your Domain Name:** YourDomainName.com
- **Your Email Address:** YourName@ YourDomainName.com
- **Your Password:** *****
- **Incoming Mail Server: (POP3):** mail. YourDomainName.com
- **Outgoing Mail Server: (SMTP):** mail. YourDomainName.com
- **Your outgoing server (SMTP) requires authentication:** Activated
- **Incoming Server (POP3) Port Numbers:** 110
- **Outgoing Server (SMTP) Port Numbers:** 587
 - (25 will likely work, as well, but may experience blocks. See section called "HOW TO TELL IF IT'S MY ISP" from above.)

General Email Information, related to the system TalkSpot uses

TalkSpot uses MaximumASP as our email server, and hMailServer version 4.4 for the actual program. The following 3 links go to the documentation related to the supporting system for TalkSpot's email:

- <http://www.maximumasp.com/support/kb/default.aspx?category=9>
- <http://www.maximumasp.com/support/kb/default.aspx?category=71>
- <http://www.hmailserver.com/documentation/v4.4/?page=overview>

More specific information to popular programs and hand held devices:

- **Blackberry Support:**
 - <http://www.blackberry.com>
 - <http://na.blackberry.com/eng/>
 - <http://na.blackberry.com/eng/support/>

- **iPhone Support:**
 - <http://www.apple.com>
 - <http://www.apple.com/support/iphone/mail/>
- **Palm Support:**
 - <http://www.palm.com>
 - <http://forums.palm.com/palm/>
- **Outlook and Outlook Express Support:**
 - <http://www.microsoft.com>
 - <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/ie6/using/howto/oe/setup.msp>
 - <http://www.plus.net/support/email/setup/outlook.shtml>
- **More Popular Email Programs**
 - <http://www.plus.net/support/email/setup/outlook.shtml>

You may also try a variety of search terms.

With Google.com, Bing.com, Yahoo.com and/or your favorite search engine, you may try the following terms, one at a time, to learn more about the topic, or together in groups, to learn more specific information.

- Configure Outlook Email
- Configure iPhone pop3 Email Account
- Setup pop email on blackberry
- POP3
- SMTP
- Your Email Program Name or Handheld Device
- Email
- hMailServer
- MaximumASP
- TalkSpot
- Configure
- Troubleshoot
- Problem
- Setup

NOTIFYING TALKSPOT OF A PROBLEM

Post a message on our support board so that we may help you sort out the issue. Be as specific as you can in describing the problem. You will also need to indicate that you've tried all the tests listed above, otherwise, we will just tell you to try the tests above. Only after all previous tests fail will we look into it further.

Be sure to indicate your website address, so we can test your site. Otherwise, we will not know which site this issue pertains to. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PASSWORD.**

Our support forums are located, here:

<http://www.talkspot.com/asp/m/467257>

Direct link to post email related questions and topics:

<http://www.talkspot.com/asp/m/467257/bbs/Forum.14462.229979>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **My Email doesn't arrive immediately. There are times where it takes a very long time and is a big delay. What can I do?**

- Both Talkspot, and your ISP, are taking measures to block spam. Currently, well over half of all internet traffic is spam.

The odds are that both Talkspot, and your ISP, take the same approach to blocking spam. There are companies which we subscribe to, which look at each piece of email, and assign it a rating, based on the probability that it is spam. This process can take time, and sometimes the agencies that do this work get backed up.

One simple step to solve this problem is to turn off the option on TalkSpot's mail server that does this. To do this, go to your email administration panel: <http://mail.yoursitename.com>.

You'll need the email address: admin@yourmailserver.com

We do not know your password. Hopefully you remember it, if not, let us know, by using the procedure under "How to notify Talkspot", below.

On the left side of the screen is the word "Domains", with a plus [+] sign to the left. Click the plus sign to see the domains contained within.

Click the domain name for your site, and you will see an "Advanced Option called greylisting. It should be set to Active. You want to de-select it, then press the SAVE button at the bottom of the screen. This will turn off your greylisting for your email.

Now, this only turns off the spam checking at Talkspot. If you are still having problems with slow delivery, then the odds are heavy that the problem is at your internet provider. We cannot control them. Contact their technical support. If you want to verify it is them, then try checking your email via our web based email program:

<http://www.yoursite.com:8383>.

If you observe that emails are there, that are not arriving in the email program on your computer, then you now understand why.

- **My email used to work through my email program or handheld device, and suddenly stopped working, but I've changed nothing. What's happening?**
 - It is almost positively your Internet Service Provider, and what we call the "Port 25" issue. If your email was working, and you are able to do email by using TalkSpot's web interface, then read the section called, "HOW TO TELL IF IT'S MY ISP", above.
 - If your email has never worked, then see the "TROUBLESHOOTING" section, above.

- **What is TalkSpot email?**
 - TalkSpot email is included with the upgraded gold membership.
 - You may have up to 100 customized email addresses.
 - You can create email lists and groups.
 - You can add signatures.
 - You can have instant auto replies.
 - TalkSpot's email is hosted by MaximumASP.com.
 - The program running TalkSpot's email is hMailServer, version 4.4.
 - TalkSpot email has a website interface, allowing you to check your email from anywhere in the world, provided you have an internet connection.
 - TalkSpot's email can be configured with most major email programs and handheld devices.

- **What if I want more than 100 email addresses?**
 - At present, the limit is 100. If there becomes a pressing need for more than 100 email addresses, email us at admin@talkspot.com and something can likely be worked out.

- **I can get to the Web Interface page, but I can't login. Why is this?**
 - Make sure you're using the correct email address for logging in. It's not uncommon for people to confuse their email addresses. Next make sure that you are using the correct password.

- **I can't get to the Web Interface page, what could be wrong?**
 - First make sure you are putting the port 8383 at the end of the URL (i.e. mail.YourDomain.com:8383).
 - If it has been less than 24 hours, it's possible your domain name has not been fully set up and you may need to simply wait a little longer.
 - If you do try the 8383 and it's been more than 24 hours and still are not able to get to the Web Interface page you may be behind a firewall that does not allow traffic over that port. You would then need to contact your ISP. You may also contact TalkSpot using the method outlined above in the section called "NOTIFYING TALKSPOT OF A PROBLEM"

- **I can receive mail, but I cannot send. This has happened recently, with no settings changed.**

- That is usually a sign of the ISP blocking SMTP. They do this without warning, to try and control spam. Please try the following:

Go to a command prompt, and run the following command:

```
telnet mail.yourdomain.com 25
```

The screen should go black, with a cursor at the top left. Type HELO and hit enter, you should receive a HELO back from the server. Type quit and hit enter to exit the telnet.

If you cannot get the helo response, you cannot connect to SMTP, and cannot send mail. This means that either the ISP is blocking SMTP, or we are at the server due to past abuse. To check if we are blocking, go to www.whatismyip.com , and let us know the IP address you are using. We will check the block list.

In the case of an ISP block, you will most likely need to change the outgoing server to one of the ISP's. The address will usually be something like mail.yourisp.com or smtp.yourisp.com (example: for insightbb.com, it would be smtp.insightbb.com) Try either of those, but contact the ISP for a definitive address.

- **How do I create an Auto reply for email?**

- Here are the steps on how to setup auto reply.
- Login to the webinterface for your mail (<http://mail.YourDomain.com> for example) with the login information for the email address you want to set the auto-reply for.
- In the left hand tree-menu, expand your account name.
- Select the Auto-reply option.
- In the right hand pane you will see your auto-reply options. Select the Active Checkbox , then fill your Subject and text line with the appropriate information.
- If you only want the autoreply to be active for a set amount of time, you can also select to auto-expire the message and enter both date and time information for the auto-reply to be inactivated.
- Then click save.

- **Can I add a default signature to my outgoing domain email address?**
 - Yes. You can set up a signature per user. Log in to the web based interface, and select Change My Signature from the drop down box.
 - Please keep in mind this attaches the signature to emails sent from the web interface, **but not from email clients such as Outlook or Outlook Express**. Refer to your email client's help files for specific instructions on using signatures.

- **I am having difficulty sending emails from our website. I can send email to yahoo, hotmail, and most other domains, but some domains do not receive the email, why?**
 - Some email servers filter incoming mail. They do this in various ways, including blocking the mail if it was sent to a BCC, or, querying the sending server, to make sure the sending account exists. If the administrator of the email server chooses to do this, your email will be filtered out.