



# sendmail Cookbook: Administering, Securing & Spam-Fighting

By Craig Hunt

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**sendmail Cookbook: Administering, Securing & Spam-Fighting** By Craig Hunt

More often than not, the words "sendmail configuration" strike dread in the hearts of sendmail and system administrators--and not without reason. sendmail configuration languages are as complex as any other programming languages, but used much more infrequently--only when sendmail is installed or configured. The average system administrator doesn't get enough practice to truly master this inscrutable technology. Fortunately, there's help. The *sendmail Cookbook* provides step-by-step solutions for the administrator who needs to solve configuration problems fast. Say you need to configure sendmail to relay mail for your clients without creating an open relay that will be abused by spammers. A recipe in the Cookbook shows you how to do just that. No more wading through pages of dense documentation and tutorials and creating your own custom solution--just go directly to the recipe that addresses your specific problem. Each recipe in the *sendmail Cookbook* outlines a configuration problem, presents the configuration code that solves that problem, and then explains the code in detail. The discussion of the code is critical because it provides the insight you need to tweak the code for your own circumstances. The *sendmail Cookbook* begins with an overview of the configuration languages, offering a quick how-to for downloading and compiling the sendmail distribution. Next, you'll find a baseline configuration recipe upon which many of the subsequent configurations, or recipes, in the book are based. Recipes in the following chapters stand on their own and offer solutions for properly configuring important sendmail functions such as:

- Delivering and forwarding mail
- Relaying
- Masquerading
- Routing mail
- Controlling spam
- Strong authentication
- Securing the mail transport
- Managing the queue
- Securing sendmail

*sendmail Cookbook* is more than just a new approach to discussing sendmail configuration. The book also provides lots of new material that doesn't get much coverage elsewhere--STARTTLS and AUTH are given entire chapters, and LDAP is covered in recipes throughout the book. But most of all, this book is about saving time--something that most system administrators have in short supply. Pick up the *sendmail Cookbook* and say good-bye to sendmail dread.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **Review**

"If you are looking for a companion to a mission-critical sendmail instal, the 'other' bat book is the one for you. If you want to be able to set up and do a few cool things with your own mailserver, this is all you will need. It's written by Craig Hunt too, so you know it's going to be easy to read and accurate." - Nick Veitch, Linux Format, July

#### **About the Author**

Craig Hunt has worked with computer systems for the last twenty years, including a stint with the federal government as both a programmer and systems programmer. He joined Honeywell to work on the WWMCCS network in the days before TCP/IP, back when the network used NCP. After Honeywell, Craig went to work for the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He's still there today and is currently the leader of the Network Engineering Group. Craig is the author of TCP/IP Network Administration and other O'Reilly books.

### **Users Review**

#### **From reader reviews:**

##### **Mark Giordano:**

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##### **Bobby Gonsalves:**

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