



RSS Feeds

Help Documentation

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RSS Feeds Overview

Real Simple Syndication (RSS) is a way for website owners to make their content available for people to read and review. Websites publish lists of updates via "feeds" that indicate when new content is available. Rather than regularly visiting a website, you can add a new feed to SmarterMail (also called subscribing to a feed) and then see when new content is available from that site. Any new content posted to your feeds will appear in the RSS feeds section of your mailbox.

Using RSS, combined with organizing your feeds into folders, makes it easy to stay up-to-date on information from news sites, blogs, social media outlets, Google alerts, new forum topics and much more, right from within SmarterMail.

To access your RSS feeds, click the RSS feeds icon .

For help understanding the different areas of the RSS feeds section, see the RSS feeds interface diagram .

Navigating Your RSS Feeds

When you view your RSS feeds, the page is divided into two sections:

- The navigation pane displays all of the RSS feeds you have added to SmarterMail. To view recent updates to a specific RSS feed, simply click the desired feed.
- The content pane displays the RSS feeds in the folder you are viewing.

In general, the following options are available from the navigation pane toolbar:

- Actions - Click this button and select the appropriate option to create a new folder, rename a folder, or delete a selected folder. Using folders makes it easy to keep your news items organized. For example, create folders for technology items, politics, business or other categories.

In general, the following options are available from the content pane toolbar:


- New - Adds a new RSS feed to SmarterMail.
- Edit - Edits the selected RSS feed.
- Delete - Deletes the selected RSS feed(s).

Adding New RSS Feeds

To subscribe to a new RSS feed, click New in the content pane toolbar. Adding a feed requires two pieces of information:

- Name - A friendly name for the RSS feed. Typically, you'll want to make this a short name so you can easily find it. You can use a backslash character to make the feed appear in a subdirectory, such as in News\Fox News or Technology\Microsoft Updates.
- URL - The URL for the website's RSS feed. Note: The RSS feed URL is not the same as the website URL. For example, the SmarterTools Blog can be found at blog.smartertools.com , but the RSS feed for the blog is at blog.smartertools.com/rss.aspx .

Finding a Site's RSS Feed

An RSS feed can usually be identified by an orange symbol (such as ). When you see it on a website, clicking on the icon will usually direct you to that site's RSS feed. From there, you can simply copy the link and then paste it into SmarterMail to subscribe to the feed. If the site does not have the orange RSS feed symbol, try looking for a text link to the RSS feed. Text links to feeds may include any of the following terms: subscribe, syndicate, feed, RSS, xml, or atom. Note: Not all sites offer RSS feeds.

For a list of sample RSS feeds you may be interested in subscribing to, please see [Sample Feeds](#) .

Sample Feeds

There are many RSS feeds on the internet today. This topic contains many of the more common feeds, although this list is by no means exhaustive.

The following links are either direct RSS feed URLs or links to web pages containing an RSS feed list. To add a feed to SmarterMail, right-click on the link and select "copy shortcut" from the context menu. Then paste this value into the RSS URL in SmarterMail.

Feed lists (designated by [feed-list]) will typically have orange XML icons next to each feed. Follow the same procedure (copy shortcut) to get the URL of those feeds.

<p>News and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SmarterTools Blog • Fox News [feed-list] • CNN News [feed-list] • Yahoo! News [feed-list] • Reuters News Online [feed-list] • CNET News [feed-list] • Washington Post [feed-list] • BBC News <p>Entertainment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E! Online [feed-list] • NY Times: Opinion • Dictionary word of the day <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiplinger Personal Finance • SmartMoney 	<p>Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC Magazine: New Product Reviews • Slashdot News • TheWHIR Web Host News • Wired News • AnandTech's DailyTech News <p>Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESPN News • Fox Sports • CBS SportsLine [feed-list] • NY Times: Sports
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Managing RSS Folders

To make your RSS feeds easy to manage, SmarterMail lets users create as many RSS folders as they want. RSS folders help users organize feeds in ways that make sense to the individual user.

To create a new folder, click Actions in the navigation pane toolbar and select New Folder . This will open a new folder window. In the Parent field, select the appropriate directory to save the folder to. In the Folder field, type the name of the new folder. Folder names can include letters, numbers, and the hyphen (-), space (), and underline () characters only. Note: Using a backslash character (\) when naming a new folder will create a sub-folder. For example: Technology\Software. Then click Save .

Renaming and Deleting Folders

You can change the name of a RSS folder anytime or delete it completely when you no longer need it.

To rename a folder, select the appropriate folder in the navigation pane. Click Actions in the navigation pane toolbar and select Rename Folder . In the New Folder Name field, type the name of the new field. You can also change the directory that the folder is saved to by selecting another directory in the Parent field. Then click Save .

To delete a folder, select the appropriate folder in the navigation pane. Click Actions in the navigation pane toolbar and select Delete Folder . Then click OK to delete the folder and all of its contents.