



Gateways and Other Server Roles

Help Documentation

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Please note that SmarterMail was designed to support one server in several of these roles. For instance, one server could act as an Incoming Gateway, an Outgoing Gateway, and a Backup MX.

SmarterMail can also take on one of these roles when placed together with a competing mail server product. For example, using SmarterMail as an outgoing gateway on a server other than your primary mail server may help to resolve problems with stability of other mail server software products.

Primary mail server

- Use for storing email for defined users.
- Accessible through POP, SMTP, IMAP, and over the web.
- To configure:
- Follow instructions in online help

Backup MX Server

- Use as a backup for mail delivery in case of short amounts of downtime or delivery problems on your primary mail server.
- To configure:
- Add a placeholder domain (called "example.com") to open up the port to listen on.
- Configure SmartHosting by adding the IP addresses to which delivery should be allowed.
- In general settings, change the delivery retry times to 10, 10, 10, and 1440.
- In DNS, add secondary MX records pointing to the new server's IP. Set the preference value higher than the main MX record.

Incoming Gateway server

- Use to host third party anti-virus and/or anti-spam software products in order to reduce load on primary server.
- Reduces load on primary server by managing all incoming sessions and performing abuse/intrusion detection.
- To configure:
- Enable domain forwarding and add all destination IPs and domain names that will be forwarded.
- Add a placeholder domain (called "example.com") to open up the port to listen on.
- In DNS, change the MX records of your domains to reference the new gateway server.

- Install and configure any third-party anti-virus or anti-spam products, such as Declude JunkMail or Declude Virus.

Outgoing Gateway server

- Use as a delivery mechanism to reduce load on your primary servers.
- Also use as a method to combat blacklisting. If the server gets blacklisted, rotate the primary IP on the network card to a different one to send out on the new IP.
- To configure:
 - Add a placeholder domain (called "example.com") to open up the port to listen on.
 - Set relay option in General Settings to "nobody".
 - Add the primary mail server's IP addresses to the IP Whitelist for SMTP.
 - In your primary mail server's General Settings page, set the IP address of the gateway server and enable gatewaying.

SmartGateway server

- Use as a delivery mechanism to balance the load on your gateway servers.
- To configure:
 - Add a placeholder domain (called "example.com") to open up the port to listen on.
 - Set relay option in General Settings to "nobody".
 - Add the primary mail server's IP addresses to the IP Whitelist for SMTP.
 - In your primary mail server's General Settings page, set the IP address of the gateway server and enable gatewaying.