

# SpamAssassinRules

## Bundled Ruleset

[SpamAssassin](#) includes a large set of rules, which is optimised at release time to catch the optimal quantities of [Ham](#) and [Spam](#) mails with the minimum number of [FalsePositives](#) and [FalseNegatives](#).

## Custom Rulesets

[SpamAssassin](#) allows entire third-party rulesets to be installed simply by placing them in the sitewide configuration directory (usually `/etc/mail/spamassassin`).

There is a collection of [CustomRulesets](#) that have been contributed by members of the [SpamAssassin](#) community. These rulesets, while very effective, have not gone through the same "quality assurance" that the main rules have gone through. Thus, use of these third party rulesets is "at your own risk".

## Where do I put rules ?

(FIXME: move to [WhereDoLocalSettingsGo](#))

(copied from <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/mkettler/sa/SA-rules-howto.txt> )

```
~/ .spamassassin/user_prefs
```

is best if you want to have a rule only run when a particular user runs SA. Bear in mind that this is the user that executes SA, not the user who the mail is addressed To:. If you run SA from a sendmail milter, the only `user_prefs` that will be used is the one for the user sendmail runs as (usually root). Even if you do have a site-wide configuration, `user_prefs` may be useful to you by allowing you to add rules to another user account's `user_prefs` and test them using the command line prior to adding them to your `local.cf`.

Note: if you use `spamd`, rules placed in `user_prefs` will be IGNORED by default.

Do **not** add your rules to the `.cf` files in

```
/usr/share/spamassassin
```

- When you upgrade

SA (and you should do so somewhat regularly), all the existing rules in `/usr/share/spamassassin` will be deleted and replaced by the new default ruleset.

```
/etc/mail/spamassassin/local.cf
```

is the place of choice for site-wide application of a rule. Rules placed here get applied no matter what user invokes [SpamAssassin](#). Multiple "cf files" can be placed in this directory (`/etc/mail/spamassassin/*.cf`) and they will all be included in the site-wide configuration.