

UsedViaProcmail

How do I ensure that procmail is working?

If you already use procmail, skip to the next section. If not, ensure procmail is installed using `which procmail` or install it from www.procmail.org. Note that some systems use procmail by default, so the directions in the next paragraph may not be necessary for your installation. Also, some accounts require use of web-based configuration tools to specify that a given mailbox should "filter" to `/usr/bin/procmail` (for example).

In a traditional shell installation, create a `.forward` file (or `.qmail` as appropriate) in your home directory containing the below lines, but replacing `user` with your username (which you can discover by entering `whoami`) and entering the correct procmail path (which you can discover with `which procmail`):

```
"|IFS=' ' && exec /usr/bin/procmail -f- || exit 75 #user"
```

The above does not fail gracefully and requeue with Postfix 2.3.0, however this does:

```
"|/usr/bin/procmail || exit 75"
```

It's worth noting that a lot of MTAs already use procmail as the default MDA (mail delivery agent), so setting up a `.forward` file is likely not necessary. For instance, in postfix's `main.cf`:

```
mailbox_command = /usr/bin/procmail -a "$EXTENSION"
```

How do I use SpamAssassin with procmail?

Now, edit or create a `.procmailrc` file in your home directory containing the following lines, which come from the [procmailrc.example](#).

Another common (but more complicated) use of procmail is to forward mail to another account, after processing with [SpamAssassin](#). This can also support mistake-based Bayes training. See [ProcmailToForwardMail](#).

The [spamc](#) client program can be used instead of [spamassassin](#), if you intend to install and use the [spamd](#) server system-wide.

Read '[man procmailrc](#)' and '[man procmailex](#)' for further details and explanation.

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