

# BetterDocumentation InstallTxt

## INSTALL

The following is the text of INSTALL, based off of revision 233398.

Please feel free to edit it as much as you like to make it more useful. Periodically the version in Subversion will be updated to incorporate some of the changes.

To see the latest version in Subversion, [click here](#)

Feel free to write comments about your changes in the [Comments](#) section (at the bottom).

```
Upgrading SpamAssassin?
```

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```

```
Please be sure to read the UPGRADE file for important changes that
have been made since previous versions.
```

```
Installing or Upgrading SpamAssassin
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```

```
Using CPAN via CPAN.pm:
```

```
perl -MCPAN -e shell                                [as root]
o conf prerequisites_policy ask
install Mail::SpamAssassin
quit
```

```
Using Linux:
```

```
Debian unstable: apt-get install spamassassin
Gentoo: emerge mail-filter/spamassassin
Fedora: yum install spamassassin
```

```
Alternatively download the tarfile, zipfile, and/or build your own RPM
from http://spamassassin.apache.org/. Building from tar/zip file is
usually as simple as:
```

```
[unzip/untar the archive]
cd Mail-SpamAssassin-*
perl Makefile.PL
[option: add -DSPAMC_SSL to $CFLAGS to build an SSL-enabled spamc]
make
make install                                [as root]
```

```
Please make sure to read this whole document before installing, especially
the prerequisite information further down.
```

```
To install as non-root, see the directions below.
```

```
If you are running AFS, you may also need to specify INSTALLSITELIB and
SITELIBEXP.
```

```
Note that you can upgrade SpamAssassin using these instructions, as long
as you take care to read the caveats in the file UPGRADES. Upgrading
will not delete your learnt Bayes data or local rule modifications.
```

```
If you're using SunOS 4.1.x, see
http://wiki.spamassassin.org/w/BuildingOnSunOS4 for build tips.
```

```
Note for Perl 5.8 Users (incl Red Hat 8)
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```

```
Perl 5.8 now uses Unicode internally by default, which causes trouble for
SpamAssassin (and almost all other reasonably complex pieces of perl
code!).
```

We've worked around this in most places, as far as we know, but there may still be some issues. In addition, there is a speed hit, which it would be nice to avoid.

Setting the LANG environment variable before any invocation of SpamAssassin sometimes seems to help fix it, like so:

```
export LANG=en_US
```

Notably, the LANG setting must not include "utf8". However, some folks have reported that this makes no difference. ;)

#### Installing SpamAssassin for Personal Use (Not System-Wide)

These steps assume the following, so substitute as necessary:

- Your UNIX login is "user"
- Your home directory is /home/user
- The location of the procmail executable is /usr/bin/procmail

Many more details of this process are at <http://wiki.apache.org/spamassassin/SingleUserUnixInstall>

1. Uncompress and extract the SpamAssassin archive, using "unzip" or "tar xvfz", in a temporary directory.

2. change directory into it:

```
cd Mail-SpamAssassin-*
```

3. Make SpamAssassin as normal, but using your home directory as the target:

```
perl Makefile.PL PREFIX=$HOME
make
make install
```

Please see the file PACKAGING, sections "Changing paths in the Makefile" and "Setting further options on the command line" for more informations on available command line variables.

4. If you already use procmail, skip to step 6. If not, ensure procmail is installed using "which procmail" or install it from [www.procmail.org](http://www.procmail.org).

5. Create a .forward file in your home directory containing the below lines:

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

6. Edit or create a .procmailrc file in your home directory containing the below lines. If you already have a .procmailrc file, add the lines to the top of your .procmailrc file:

```
:0fw: spamassassin.lock
| /home/user/bin/spamassassin
```

The above line filters all incoming mail through SpamAssassin and tags probable spam with a unique header. If you would prefer to have spam blocked and saved to a file called "caughtspam" in your home directory, instead of passed through and tagged, append this directly below the above lines:

```
:0:
* ^X-Spam-Status: Yes
caughtspam
```

Also, see the file procmailrc.example and <http://wiki.apache.org/spamassassin/UsedViaProcmail>

7. Now, you should be ready to send some test emails and ensure everything

works as expected. First, send yourself a test email that doesn't contain anything suspicious. You should receive it normally, but there will be a header containing "X-Spam-Status: No". If you are only tagging your spam, send yourself a copy of the GTUBE test string to check to be sure it is marked as spam. GTUBE is located in the sample-spam.txt message distributed with SpamAssassin and also at:

<http://spamassassin.apache.org/gtube/>

If your test emails don't get through to you, immediately rename your .forward file until you figure out cause of the the problem, so you don't lose incoming email.

Note: one possible cause for this is the use of smrsh on the MTA system; see <http://wiki.spamassassin.org/w/ProcmailVsSmrsh> for details.

8. You can now customize SpamAssassin. See README for more information.

## CPAN

----

Most of the modules listed below are available via the Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (CPAN, see <http://www.cpan.org/> for more information). While each module is different, most can be installed via a few simple commands such as:

```
$ perl -MCPAN -e shell
cpan> o conf prerequisites_policy ask
cpan> install Module::Name
cpan> quit
```

If there are problems or questions regarding the installation any of the modules, please see the CPAN and relevant module's documentation for more information. We can't provide documentation or installation support for third party modules.

Additional information about the CPAN module is also available via "perldoc CPAN".

Most Linux distributions also offer the CPAN modules in their own native formats (RPMs, Debian packages, etc.), so you should be able to find these through those mechanisms, too, if you prefer.

## Required Perl Interpreter

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Perl 5.6.1 or a later version is required.

## Required Perl Modules

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In addition to the modules associated with Perl, some additional modules need to be installed or upgraded depending on the version of Perl that you are running.

You can get an immediate report on which of these modules you may need (or want) to upgrade, by running "perl build/check\_dependencies" from the SpamAssassin build directory.

The list of required modules that do not ship with Perl and must be installed:

- Digest::SHA1 (from CPAN)

The Digest::SHA1 module is used as a cryptographic hash for some tests and the Bayes subsystem.

Debian: apt-get install libdigest-sha1-perl

Gentoo: emerge dev-perl/Digest-SHA1

- HTML::Parser >= 3.24 (from CPAN)

Version 3.31 or later is recommended.

HTML is used for an ever-increasing amount of email so this dependency is unavoidable. Run "perldoc -q html" for additional information.

Debian: apt-get install libhtml-parser-perl

Gentoo: emerge dev-perl/HTML-Parser

#### Optional Modules

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In addition, the following modules will be used for some checks, if available and the version is high enough. If they are not available or if their version is too low, SpamAssassin will still work, just not as effectively because some of the spam-detection tests will have to be skipped.

Note: SpamAssassin will not warn you if these are installed, but the version is too low for them to be used.

- MIME::Base64

This module is highly recommended to increase the speed with which Base64 encoded messages/mail parts are decoded.

- DB\_File (from CPAN, included in many distributions)

Used to store data on-disk, for the Bayes-style logic and auto-whitelist. As of SpamAssassin 3.1.0, SQL storage (see the DBI/DBD modules below) is recommended instead for this.

There seems to be a bug in libdb 4.1.25, which is distributed by default on some versions of Linux. See <http://wiki.apache.org/spamassassin/DbFileSleepBug> for details.

- Net::DNS (from CPAN)

Used for all DNS-based tests (SBL, XBL, SpamCop, DSBL, etc.), perform MX checks, used when manually reporting spam to SpamCop, and used by sa-update to gather version information. Recommended.

If this is installed and you are using network tests of any variety (which is the default), then you need to make sure the Net::DNS version is sufficiently up-to-date:

- version 0.34 or higher on Unix systems
- version 0.46 or higher on Windows systems

- Net::SMTP (from CPAN)

Used when manually reporting spam to SpamCop.

- Mail::SPF::Query (from CPAN)

Used to check DNS Sender Policy Framework (SPF) records to fight email address forgery and make it easier to identify spams.

Net::DNS version 0.34 or higher is required to use Mail::SPF::Query.

- IP::Country (from CPAN)

Used by the RelayCountry plugin (not enabled by default) to determine the domain country codes of each relay in the path of an email.

- Net::Ident (from CPAN)

If you plan to use the --auth-ident option to spamd, you will need to install this module.

- IO::Socket::INET6 (from CPAN)

This is required if the first nameserver listed in your IP configuration or /etc/resolv.conf file is available only via an IPv6 address.

- IO::Socket::SSL (from CPAN)

If you wish to use SSL encryption to communicate between spamc and spamd (the --ssl option to spamd), you need to install this module. (You will need the OpenSSL libraries and use the ENABLE\_SSL="yes" argument to Makefile.PL to build and run an SSL compatible spamc.)

- Time::HiRes (from CPAN)

If this module is installed, the processing times are logged/reported more precisely.

- Mail::DomainKeys (from CPAN)

If this module is installed, and you enable the DomainKeys plugin, SpamAssassin will perform domain key lookups when domain key information is present in the message headers.

- DBI \*and\* DBD driver/modules for your database (from CPAN)

If you intend to use SpamAssassin with an SQL database backend for user configuration data, Bayes storage, or other storage, you will need to have these installed; both the basic DBI module and the driver for your database.

- LWP (from CPAN)

Used by sa-update to retrieve update archives.

- IO::Zlib (from CPAN)

Used by sa-update to uncompress update archives.

- Archive::Tar (from CPAN)

Used by sa-update to expand update archives.

What Next?

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Take a look at the USAGE document for more information on how to use SpamAssassin.

The SpamAssassin Wiki <<http://wiki.spamassassin.org/>> contains information on custom plugins, extensions, and other optional modules included with SpamAssassin.

```
(end of INSTALL)
```

```
// vim:tw=74:
```

## Comments

Please enter comments here. You can type @\*SIG@ to insert your signature. – [DuncanFindlay](#) <<DateTime(2005-08-22T02:43:20Z)>>

Updated DB\_File (which was listed as "strongly recommended") to be in line with the 3.1.0 release notes. I'm not sure how exactly it should read; assuming the wording is okay, it should also be moved further down the list. IP::Country::Fast is found in CPAN under IP::Country, so I updated its reference accordingly. – [JoshKelley](#) <<DateTime(2005-11-17T20:04:54Z)>>