

Frequently Asked Questions

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See also [FixingErrors](#).

- **Really frequently asked questions**
 - [SpamAssassin](#) is killing my server, and I use downloaded rulesets: [FasterPerformance](#), [OutOfMemoryProblems](#)
 - Spam is getting through. How can I get new rules to improve the hit-rate? [RunningSaUpdate](#)
 - I'm getting a lot of "backscatter" / bounce messages / undeliverable email notices / etc. regarding mail I didn't send. How can I block them? [VBounceRuleset](#)
 - **What's new?**
 - When is the next version going to be out? [NextRelease](#)
 - [SpamAssassin](#) publicity: [InTheNews](#)
 - **I'm not a spammer!**
 - Can you fix [SpamAssassin](#) to stop blocking mail my company sends?: [StopBlockingMyMail](#)
 - How can I avoid our newsletters being marked as spam?: [AvoidingFpsForSenders](#)
 - Spamhaus has an excellent [FAQ on not angering the keepers of the blacklists](#).
 - **How does it work?**
 - How are the scores assigned?: [HowScoresAreAssigned](#)
 - Does [SpamAssassin](#) filter email-borne viruses as well as spam?: [FilteringViruses](#)
 - What is the history of [SpamAssassin](#)?: [SpamAssassinHistory](#)
 - Why are the number of stars rounded down yet the score is rounded normally?: [RoundingIssues](#)
 - Why use rules? Statistical filters are the future!: [WhyUseRules](#)
 - Shouldn't the rules be kept secret?: [PublicRules](#)
 - **Using [SpamAssassin](#)...**
 - How do I report spam? [ReportingSpam](#)
 - How do I report spam that matched a particular accreditation rule? [ReportingSpam](#)
 - How to filter spam mail in Outlook Express: [OeFilter](#)
 - How can I mark as spam all messages that contain a Windows executable?: [MarkingAllWindowsExecutables](#)
 - I'm seeing error messages! How do I fix them?: [FixingErrors](#)
 - What debug channels are available?: [DebugChannels](#)
 - How do I check a message's spam score?: [X_Spam_Status](#)
 - **Installation and configuration...**
 - [SpamAssassin](#) comes with an "examples" folder documenting a few ways to set it up.
 - I sent myself spam and it didn't work / How do I test [SpamAssassin](#)?: [TestingInstallation](#)
 - How do I get [SpamAssassin](#) to delete spam and is it a good idea?: [DeletingAllMailsMarkedSpam](#)
 - Where should I put local-system-specific rules or configuration options?: [WhereDoLocalSettingsGo](#)
 - How can I change the way [SpamAssassin](#) marks up messages it considers to be spam?: [ChangingMarkup](#)
 - I want to run [SpamAssassin](#) for my large site. What specification of mail server do I need?: [SitewideServerSpec](#)
 - How can I get [SpamAssassin](#) to run faster?: [FasterPerformance](#)
 - How do I tell whether rules in my user_prefs file are active?: [UserPrefRuleTest](#)
 - I upgraded to [SpamAssassin](#) 3.0.x and suddenly subject rewriting stopped working!: [SubjectRewrite](#)
 - How can I install [SpamAssassin](#) on Windows? [InstallingOnWindows](#)
 - How do I use [SpamAssassin](#) with SQL? [UsingSQL](#)
 - How do I send data to a [SeparateLogFile](#) ?
 - What tools are available to help me see which rules are hitting and how efficient those rules are? [StatsAndAnalyzers](#)
 - How do I setup Mutt to use procmail and [SpamAssassin](#)?: [UsingMutt](#)
 - How do I get [SpamAssassin](#) to stop using a blacklist to block or reject email?: [StopBlockingOthersMail](#)
 - How do I [ImproveAccuracy](#) of SpamAssassin?
 - How do I install a reasonably recent version of SpamAssassin on [RedHat](#) or [CentOS](#)?
 - How do I send spam to a special folder when using [Dovecot](#)?
 - **Want to contribute?**
 - Help make [SpamAssassin](#) more accurate by automatically regularly running a script used for rule analysis and score generation: [NightlyMassCheck](#)
 - I've got some wonderful new rules that would help classify mail messages! How do I contribute them?: [ContributingNewRules](#)
 - I have a great idea for an anti-phishing rule, detecting links that claim to be linking to a different URL than their real target!: [AntiPhishFakeUrlRule](#)
 - I get lots of spam from a program called "The Bat!", so I want to write a rule to block it. Is this a good idea?: [DontBlockTheBat](#)
 - A spam message got through! Can I send it to you so you can update the filters?: [DoYouWantMySpam](#)
 - A non-spam message got flagged as spam. Should I send it to you?: [DoYouWantMyHam](#)
 - Something more direct / "tangible"? The [CREDITS](#) file has some more information per-developer, and/or also consider contributing directly to the [ASF](#). (thanks, it's much appreciated!)
 - [WeLoveVolunteers](#) (somewhat redundant with this faq section).
 - **More questions?**
 - Where should I ask questions that aren't answered here?: [AskingQuestions](#)
 - How do I report a bug?: [ReportingBugs](#)
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