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# How do I find out my mail server blacklisted?

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

- Q. How do I find out if my e-mail server IP address is blacklisted?
- A. First make sure you are not source of spam:
- a) You have correct reverse IP address mapping
- b) Your mail server is not open to spammers [1]

mxtoolbox offers test that will check a mail server IP address against 147 DNS-based blacklists. (Commonly called Realtime blacklists, blocklists, DNSBLs or RBLs). If your mail server has been blacklisted, some email you send may not be delivered. Blacklisting is a common way of reducing spam.

### Step # 1: Find out your mail server ip address

For example if your domain name is nixcraft.com

```
$ host -t mx nixcraft.com
```

#### Output:

```
nixcraft.com mail is handled by 10 ASPMX.L.GOOGLE.com.
```

#### Get IP address of this host:

```
$ host -t a ASPMX.L.GOOGLE.com.
```

#### Output:

ASPMX.L.GOOGLE.com has address 72.14.205.27

## Step # 2: Now visit mxtoolbox site and enter a mail server IP address 72.14.205.27

- => Visit mxtoolbox [2] web site.
- => Enter IP address

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URLs in this post:

- [1] open to spammers: http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/test-mail-server-for-an-open-relay.html
- [2] mxtoolbox: http://www.mxtoolbox.com/EOM/eom/public/blacklists.aspx