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Bind Postfix Mail Server To Localhost or Specific IP Address Only

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Q. How do I bind Postfix MTA to specific IP address such as 127.0.0.1 or 202.5.1.2?

A. Postfix allows you to listen on a particular IP address. By default MTA will listen on all network interfaces and loopback. You need to setup `inet_interfaces` parameter. You need Postfix version 2.2 and later to use this feature. The parameter also controls delivery of mail to `user@[ip.address]`.



[1]

Postfix IP address bind configuration

Open `/etc/postfix/main.cf` file:

```
# vi /etc/postfix/main.cf
```

Append / modify line as follows to bind to localhost (127.0.0.1) only:

```
inet_interfaces = 127.0.0.1
```

If you need to bind to 127.0.0.1 and 202.5.1.2, enter:

```
inet_interfaces = 202.5.1.2,127.0.0.1
```

Save and close the file. You need to stop and start Postfix when this parameter changes. So type the following to restart Postfix:

```
# /etc/init.d/postfix restart
```

Verify that everything is working fine:

```
# netstat -tulpn | grep 25  
# tail -f /var/log/maillog
```

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