

# Guide To Set Up NinjaTrader Alerts With Gmail

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Setting up NinjaTrader to send alerts to your Gmail account involves configuring both your Gmail account to allow access and NinjaTrader's settings to connect to Gmail's SMTP server. Here's a comprehensive guide:

## Phase 1: Configure Your Gmail Account

Due to Google's security measures, you can no longer simply use your main Gmail password with third-party applications like NinjaTrader. You'll need to enable 2-Step Verification and create an App Password.

1. **Enable 2-Step Verification (if not already enabled):**
  - Go to your Google Account settings:  
<https://myaccount.google.com/>
  - Navigate to the "Security" section.
  - Under "Signing in to Google," click on "2-Step Verification."
  - Follow the on-screen prompts to set it up. This usually involves verifying your phone number.
2. **Create an App Password:**
  - Once 2-Step Verification is enabled, go back to the

"Security" section of your Google Account.

- Find and click on "App passwords" (it might be under "Signing in to Google" or a similar subsection). You may need to sign in again.
- Under "Select app," choose "Mail."
- Under "Select device," choose "Other (Custom name)."
- Give it a descriptive name, like "NinjaTrader Alerts," and click "Generate."
- Google will display a 16-character App Password. **Copy this password immediately and save it securely.** You will only see it once. This is the password you will use in NinjaTrader, NOT your regular Gmail password.
- Click "Done."

## **Phase 2: Configure NinjaTrader (Version 8.1 and later recommended)**

1. **Open NinjaTrader Control Center.**
2. **Go to "Tools" > "Options."**
3. **Navigate to the "General" category on the left.**
4. **Find "Share services" and click the "..." (ellipsis) button or "Edit" to open the Share Services window.**
5. **Click the "Add" button in the Share Services window.**
6. **Configure the Email Service:**
  - **Service name:** You can leave it as "Email" or give it a custom name like "Gmail Alerts."
  - **Preconfigured settings:** Select "Gmail" from the dropdown. This should populate most of the server settings automatically.
  - **Connection - Server:** Should be smtp.gmail.com
  - **Connection - Port:** Should be 587
  - **Connection - SSL/TLS:** Should be Enabled (checked).

Some older guides might mention SSL, but TLS is the modern standard usually handled by this setting.

- **From Name (Optional):** Enter the name you want to appear as the sender (e.g., "NinjaTrader Alerts").
- **Email address:** Enter your **full Gmail address** (e.g., yourusername@gmail.com).
- **User name:** Enter **only the username part of your Gmail address** (e.g., yourusername, without @gmail.com). Some older guides or setups might vary, but typically for Gmail's SMTP, only the username is needed here. However, some users report success with the full email address. If one doesn't work, try the other. The "Preconfigured settings" for Gmail should handle this correctly.
- **Password:** Enter the **16-character App Password** you generated in Phase 1. **Do NOT use your regular Gmail password.**
- **Default:** Check this box if you want this to be your default email service for alerts.

7. **Test the Connection:**

- Click the "Test" button.
- NinjaTrader will attempt to send a test email to the "Email address" you provided.
- Check your Gmail inbox (and spam folder, just in case) to see if you received the test email.

8. **Save Settings:**

- If the test is successful, click "OK" in the Email service window.
- Click "OK" in the Share Services window.
- Click "OK" in the Options window.

## **Phase 3: Setting Up an Alert in NinjaTrader to Send an Email**

1. **Open a chart or the NinjaTrader Control Center.**
2. **Create or edit an alert:**
  - **From a Chart:** Right-click on the chart, select "Alerts."
  - **From Control Center:** Go to "New" > "Alert."
3. **Define your alert condition** (e.g., price crossing a certain level, indicator value meeting criteria).
4. **In the "Actions" section of the Alert window:**
  - Click "Add."
  - From the "Action" dropdown, select "Share a message."
  - In the "Share to" field, select the Gmail service you configured (e.g., "Gmail Alerts" or "Email").
  - You can customize the "Subject" and "Message" of the email. You can use placeholders for alert-specific information (NinjaTrader's help documentation will have details on available placeholders).
  - Optionally, you can set "Rearm" settings for how often the alert can trigger.
5. **Click "OK" to save the alert.**

### **Troubleshooting Tips:**

- **Incorrect Password:** Double-check that you are using the 16-character App Password, not your main Gmail password.
- **2-Step Verification Not Enabled:** App Passwords require 2-Step Verification to be active on your Google account.
- **Typographical Errors:** Ensure all server settings, email addresses, and usernames are entered correctly. Pay close attention to smtp.gmail.com and the port number 587.
- **Username Format:** As mentioned, try both your Gmail username (without @gmail.com) and your full Gmail address in the "User name" field in NinjaTrader if one doesn't work. The preconfigured Gmail setting should generally pick the correct

one.

- **Firewall/Antivirus:** Temporarily disable your firewall or antivirus software to see if it's blocking NinjaTrader's connection. If it is, add an exception for NinjaTrader.
- **NinjaTrader Version:** Ensure you are using a recent version of NinjaTrader, as older versions might have different procedures or compatibility issues with Gmail's updated security. NinjaTrader 8.1+ is recommended.
- **"Less secure app access" (Deprecated):** Older guides might mention enabling "Less secure app access" in Google settings. This option is no longer available for most accounts and has been replaced by App Passwords. If you see this advice, it's outdated.
- **Google Workspace Accounts:** If you are using a Gmail account through Google Workspace (a custom domain email hosted by Google), there might be additional security settings or policies enforced by your Workspace administrator that could affect connectivity.
- **Check NinjaTrader Log:** If alerts are not sending, check the NinjaTrader Log (Control Center > Log tab) for any error messages. These can provide clues about what's going wrong.
- **Google Security Alerts:** Check your Gmail for any security alerts from Google regarding login attempts from a new app. You might need to acknowledge the activity.

By following these steps, you should be able to successfully configure NinjaTrader to send alerts to your Gmail account. Always refer to the latest documentation from NinjaTrader and Google for any changes to their systems.