

AI_Mail_Assistant - Credentials Guide

Overview

AI_Mail_Assistant uses n8n workflow automation to send AI-generated emails via Gmail.

For security, all sensitive credentials are managed inside the n8n Credentials Manager.

Important: Never store API keys, OAuth tokens, or passwords in workflow files, local .env, or GitHub.

Required Credentials

1. OpenAI API

- Purpose: Enables the AI agent to generate email content and respond to user prompts.
- Steps to create:

1. Sign in to <https://platform.openai.com/>
2. Navigate to API keys
3. Click Create new secret key
4. Copy the key

- Add to n8n:

- Go to Credentials -> New Credential -> OpenAI API
- Paste your API key
- Save

2. Gmail OAuth

- Purpose: Allows n8n to send emails via Gmail securely.
- Steps to create:

1. Go to <https://console.cloud.google.com/>
2. Create a new project (if needed)
3. Navigate to APIs & Services -> Credentials
4. Configure OAuth 2.0 Client ID
5. Set redirect URI for n8n: https://YOUR_N8N_DOMAIN/rest/oauth2-credential/callback
6. Save Client ID and Client Secret

- Add to n8n:

- Go to Credentials -> New Credential -> Gmail OAuth2
- Enter Client ID, Client Secret
- Authenticate via Google
- Save

3. Google Contacts OAuth

- Purpose: Allows n8n to fetch recipient email addresses automatically.

- Steps to create:

1. In Google Cloud Console, enable People API
2. Create OAuth 2.0 Client ID (same project as Gmail optional)
3. Set redirect URI for n8n as above
4. Save Client ID and Client Secret

- Add to n8n:

- Go to Credentials -> New Credential -> Google Contacts OAuth2
- Enter Client ID and Client Secret
- Authenticate via Google
- Save

Best Practices

- Never commit credentials to GitHub
- Use .gitignore to exclude .env or local config files
- Rotate keys periodically for security
- Only give n8n access to the minimum necessary scopes

Optional Security Tips

- Use environment variables in n8n for additional safety
- Enable 2FA for OpenAI and Google accounts
- Keep a secure password manager for API keys and secrets

Summary

Credential | Purpose | Notes

OpenAI API | AI email generation | Keep key private

Gmail OAuth | Send emails | Use OAuth flow

Google Contacts OAuth | Fetch recipients | Minimum scopes

Following this guide ensures your AI Mail Assistant workflow is secure, functional, and safe for production.