



Exercise 9.2: Enable dovecot as IMAP server

- Ensure the student user can log in to IMAP using the password student.
- Prepare for this lab by sending a couple of emails to the student user:

```
for i in one two three;
do
echo $i | mail -s "test $i" student@localhost;
done
```

Solution 9.2

1. Ensure **dovecot** and **mutt** are installed:

- On **CentOS**:

```
# yum install dovecot mutt
```

On **OpenSUSE**:

```
# zypper install dovecot20 mutt
```

On **Ubuntu** and **Debian**:

```
# apt-get install mutt dovecot-imapd dovecot-pop3d dovecot-core dovecot-lmtpd
```

2. Ensure **dovecot** is listening on all interfaces for the IMAP protocol,

- On **CentOS** and **OpenSUSE**:

Edit the file `/etc/dovecot/dovecot.conf` and add/modify these lines:

```
protocols = imap pop3 lmtp
listen = *
```

- On **Ubuntu** and **Debian**:

(a) Remove the configuration file for the **Sieve** protocol if it exists.

```
# rm -f /usr/share/dovecot/protocols.d/managesieved.protocol
```

(b) Create a new configuration for the **LMTP** protocol if required.

```
# echo 'protocols = $protocols lmtp' > \
    /usr/share/dovecot/protocols.d/lmtp.protocol
```

(c) Edit the file `/etc/dovecot/dovecot.conf` and add/modify these lines:

```
listen = *
```

3. Ensure **dovecot** is using the proper storage location for email:

- On **OpenSUSE** or **CentOS**: Edit the file `/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-mail.conf` and add the line:

```
mail_location = mbox:~/mail:INBOX=/var/spool/mail/%u
```

- On **Ubuntu** and **Debian**:

Review the contents of the default mail delivery configuration file `/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-mail.conf`. No changes need to be made as the default has the proper settings already.

4. Restart **dovecot**:

```
# systemctl restart dovecot
```

5. Test the **dovecot** server using **mutt**

```
$ mutt -f imap://student@<IP_ADDRESS>/
```

- NOTE: You may have to connect twice with **mutt** to verify the **imap** server is working.
- NOTE: The server may already be set up for SSL/StartTLS with a dummy SSL certificate.
- NOTE: There may be a permission challenge creating mail directories. Look in the mail log to confirm the create directory error. Add the group **mail** to the **student** account temporarily.