What is SMTP

SMTP Stands for **S**imple **M**ail **T**ransfer **P**rotocoll

We all know E-Mails. We know the Good One and We know the Spam Mails. What most People don't know is:

How do E-Mails work?

Well this is where SMTP Server Comes in. SMTP Server are used to Receive and Send E-Mails.

The SMTP server performs three basic functions:

It verifies who is sending emails through the SMTP server.
It sends the outgoing mail
If the outgoing mail can't be delivered it sends the message back to the sender

All of this Happens on Port 25 (if you used the unsecured version)
or on Port 465 for SMTPS (for the Secured Version)

You will most likely Face stuff like SMTP When you try to bring your E-Mail Accounts in Programs like "Thunderbird"

But what exactly happens at an SMTP Server?

First of all Your Mail User Agent connects to the SMTP Server of your domain for an SMTP Handshake on [Port25] and starts an SMTP Connection

After that Mail gets send to the SMTP server who afterwards Checks the Message.

Now it is Important if the Recipients SMTP Server is available AND the Recipients E-Mail is correct. If so, then it will land on the Recipients SMTP POP3/IMAP Server

Else it will result in an error.

But what is POP3/IMAP now?

IMAP stands for **I**nternet **A**ccess **M**essage **Protocol** and is necessary for dealing with managing and retrieving emails from an receiving server.

Pop3 downloads the E-Mails from the server to a single computer as well as deleting the emails from the Server. IMAP will keep the Emails

Note: This is the SHORT Version of SMTP. There is much more to know out there

Credits:

I Hope this might Help Someone on their Journey through Infosec :)

If so, feel free to contact me on Twitter : https://twitter.com/MarcusChachuls1

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