

**NAME**

/etc/mailcap.order – the mailcap ordering specifications

**DESCRIPTION**

The order of entries in the */etc/mailcap* file can be altered by editing the */etc/mailcap.order* file. Each line of that file specifies a package and an optional mime type. Mailcap entries that match will be placed in the order of this file. Entries that don't match will be placed later.

**Example**

```
mime-support:*/*
gv:application/postscript
netscape:text/html
less:text/*
emacs:text/*
```

The above would make any entries provided by the **mime-support** package (as found in the */usr/lib/mime/packages* directory) take priority over everything else. The **gv** package will be used over anything else when it comes to postscript documents. **Netscape** will be used for any html documents and **less** will be used for any remaining text documents. However, since neither netscape or less provide for editing documents, any edit or compose actions will fall through to the **emacs** rules.

After modifying this file, be sure to run */usr/sbin/update-mime* (as root) to propagate the changes into the */etc/mailcap* file.

Remember that this file takes *package* names and not *executable* names. If you want to define rules that reference specific programs, the best way is to include them in *~/.mailcap* or the user section of the */etc/mailcap* file.

**LIMITATIONS**

There is currently no way to break out a certain type from a wildcard rule. If, for example, both xv and gimp were to specify "image/\*" rules, it isn't possible to use xv for *gif* images but use gimp for *jpe g* images.

Also, I would like to add the ability to specify certain actions in the rules. For example, if netscape were to have an *edit* rule but I wanted to use emacs for editing/creating html documents, I could place a line like

```
emacs:text/* action=edit|compose
```

before the netscape entry. The **update-mime** program would then spit out entries such that netscape *view* rule comes **before** the emacs *view* rule but have the netscape *edit* rule comes **after** the emacs *edit* rule.

**SEE ALSO**

**mailcap(5)** **run-mailcap(1)** **update-mime(8)**

**AUTHOR**

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