## How to contribute to Mailpile

First of all: Thank you! :heart:

#### Further Reading

Second of all, please adhere to our Code of Conduct when you participate

in our community. Be kind, be respectful. [The full Code of Conduct can

be found here](CODE\_OF\_CONDUCT.md).

Please also be sure you are comfortable with [our license](COPYING.md)

before contributing any code to Mailpile.

Note that Mailpile is a slightly unsual app; the design is both political

and opinionated. If you are confused or unsure whether something is a bug or a

feature, [our developer FAQ might have answers](DEV\_FAQ.md)! Please read it

before filing issues about design choices or attempting to reorganize the code

in any major way. The FAQ also contains a quick introduction Mailpile internals

and debugging techniques.

Also, have you seen [the main Mailpile website](https://www.mailpile.is/) and

[the community Discourse](https://community.mailpile.is/categories)?

#### Are you new to Mailpile and/or FOSS?

\* Welcome! The first step is probably to get Mailpile up and running, play with it, get familiar.

\* Read the links above, and [check out our website](https://www.mailpile.is/) if you haven't already.

\* Not sure what to work on? Find inspiration in one of our [Low Hanging Fruit](https://github.com/mailpile/Mailpile/issues?q=is%3Aissue+is%3Aopen+label%3A%22Low+Hanging+Fruit%22) issues!

\* Otherwise, read on...

#### Did you find a bug?

\* \*\*Ensure the bug was not already reported\*\* by searching on GitHub

under [Issues](https://github.com/mailpile/Mailpile/issues).

\* If you're unable to find an open issue addressing the problem,

[open a new one](https://github.com/mailpile/Mailpile/issues/new). Be

sure to include a \*\*title and clear description\*\*, as much relevant

information as possible.

\* Remember, we cannot read your mind or see your screen, so you'll

probably need to answer all of these:

1. What were you doing?

2. What did you expect would happen?

3. What actually happened?

4. Operating system? GnuPG version? Mailpile version?

\* Reproducability is key. If you cannot reliably trigger the bug or

cannot describe how to do so, then unfortunately it's less likely that

the Mailpile team will be able to do anything about it. It may still

be useful to file a report in case others are having the same issue, but

bugs that can be reproduced will in general get fixed much faster!

\* The [Developer FAQ](DEV\_FAQ.md) has a section on debugging techniques.

\* If it's not bug, but you still need help: [visit our Discourse support

forum](https://community.mailpile.is/c/support).

#### Did you write a patch that fixes a bug?

\* Open a new GitHub pull request with the patch.

\* Ensure the PR description clearly describes the problem and solution.

Include the relevant issue number if applicable.

#### Do you plan write a patch that adds a feature?

\* Please be sure you have read the [Developer FAQ](DEV\_FAQ.md) to ensure

your feature is compatible with our high-level goals and design decisions.

\* If you are unsure or would like some guidance, join the #mailpile

channel on IRC (Freenode) and discuss your plans there.

\* Open a new GitHub pull request with the patch.

\* Ensure the PR description clearly describes what your feature does.

Include the relevant issue number if applicable.

#### Did you fix whitespace, format code, or make a purely cosmetic patch?

Changes that are cosmetic in nature and do not add anything substantial to the

stability, functionality, or testability of Mailpile will generally not be

accepted.

All patches to Mailpile are reviewed by a human and our resources (time,

people) are very limited. Cosmetic patches are no easier to review than other

patches and we would rather focus our efforts on functional improvements to the

software.

#### Do you want help other users?

Our [community Discourse](https://community.mailpile.is/categories) has a

support forum and needs friendly people to help out and steer conversations

in friendly and productive directions. Please join the conversation!

#### Do you want to translate Mailpile to your language?

Please feel free to join our translation community

[on Transifex](https://www.transifex.com/otf/mailpile/).

#### Do you plan to write documentation?

\* Please feel free to contribute documentation to

[our wiki](https://github.com/mailpile/Mailpile/wiki).

\* If you would like some guidance, join the #mailpile channel on IRC

(Freenode) or file an issue with your questions.

\* If you added a new page or made major major changes to an existing page,

please file [a new issue requesting a review](https://github.com/mailpile/Mailpile/issues/new)

when you are done. Be sure to include a link to the wiki page!

#### Credits

This document borrows some language and structure from the [Ruby on Rails

contributor guidelines](https://raw.githubusercontent.com/rails/rails/master/CONTRIBUTING.md).