<https://www.lifewire.com/send-email-from-php-script-using-smtp-authentication-and-ssl-1171197>

### **PHP mail() and SMTP Authentication**

Part of what makes the PHP *mail()* function is so simple is its lack of flexibility. It's frustrating that stock PHP *mail()* does not usually allow you to use the [SMTP server](https://www.lifewire.com/definition-of-smtp-817975) of your choice, and it does not support SMTP authentication — required by many mail servers today — at all.