

How to Configure the Exim Outgoing IP Address

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Overview

By default, Exim sends mail from the server's primary IPv4 address. To decrease the chance that spam filters mark your mail as spam, verify that the reverse DNS (rDNS) entry of Exim's outgoing IP address matches the DNS response of your server's hostname.



Note:

The steps in this document **require** root-level privileges on the server.

Modify Exim's preferences for outgoing mail

cPanel & WHM offers two ways in which you can modify Exim's default preferences for outgoing mail's IP address.

Enable automatic configuration of the server's IPv4 address for outgoing mail

To automatically configure Exim to send mail from each domain's dedicated IPv4 address, perform the following steps:

1. Modify the rDNS for each IPv4 address to point to the desired domain.



Important:

- An incorrect rDNS configuration may cause mail servers to reject your server's mail.
- For more information, read our [How to Configure Reverse DNS for BIND in WHM](#) documentation.

2. Enable the *Send mail from account's dedicated IP address* option in WHM's [Exim Configuration Manager](#) interface (*Home >> Service Configuration >> Exim Configuration Manager*).



Warning:

If you select this option, cPanel & WHM uses the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/updateuserdomains` script to automatically configure Exim, and overrides any manual changes in the following files:

- `/etc/mailhelo`
- `/etc/mailips`

Manually configure Exim's outgoing IP addresses



Warnings:

- We do **not** recommend that you modify your Exim files. To send outgoing mail with each account's dedicated IP address, enable the *Send mail from account's dedicated IP address* option in WHM's [Exim Configuration Manager](#) interface (*Home >> Service Configuration >> Exim Configuration Manager*).
- To modify your Exim configuration files, you **must** have root user privileges.

- If you enable the *Send mail from account's dedicated IP address* option, it will overwrite any changes that you make in the Exim configuration files.

To use a custom Exim configuration, enable the following options in the *Basic Editor* section of WHM's [Exim Configuration Manager](#) interface (*Home >> Service Configuration >> Exim Configuration Manager*):

- *Reference /etc/mailhelo for outgoing SMTP HELO*
- *Reference /etc/mailips for outgoing SMTP connections*

The /etc/mailhelo file


The /etc/mailhelo file contains Exim's configuration for the HELO command, which initiates dialog between a mail server and a client. This file governs which domain sends the HELO command.

Use your preferred text editor to create an /etc/mailhelo file that resembles the following example:

```
1 example.com: example.com
2 sub.example.com: example.com
3 example.net: example.net
4 addon.example.net: example.net
5 *: hostname.example.com
```

The /etc/mailips file

The /etc/mailips file controls the IP address from which each domain sends mail.

 **Warning:**
If you enable the *Send mail from account's dedicated IP address* setting in the *Basic Editor* section of WHM's [Exim Configuration Manager](#) interface (*Home >> Service Configuration >> Exim Configuration Manager*), the system **will** overwrite any manual changes that you subsequently make to the /etc/mailhelo and /etc/mailips files.

Use your preferred text editor to create an /etc/mailips file that resembles one of the following examples:

[Click to view IPv4 example](#)

```
1 example.com: 192.168.0.2
2 sub.example.com: 192.168.0.2
3 example.net: 192.168.0.3
4 addon.example.net: 192.168.0.3
5 *: 192.168.0.1
```



Notes:

- In the example above, the system uses the asterisk (*) entry to direct outbound mail for domains without entries within this file. In this case, this is your server's main shared IPv4 address. You can set this value to another IP address if you ensure that the asterisk entry in the /etc/mailhelo file uses the appropriate domain name.
- **Only** use valid, publicly-accessible IP addresses.
- Do **not** separate multiple IP addresses with commas. Instead, use semi-colons.

[Click to view IPv4 and IPv6 example](#)

```
1
2 example.com: 192.168.0.2
```

```
3 sub.example.com: 192.168.0.2
4 example.net: 201:db8::2:1
5 addon.example.net: 201:db8::2:1
  *: 192.168.0.1
```

**Notes:**

- In the example above, the system uses a double colon (: :) to indicate a collapsed section. However, IPv6 addresses **cannot** contain more than one double colon. For more information, read our [Guide to IPv6](#) documentation.
- **Only** use valid, publicly-accessible IP addresses.
- Do **not** separate multiple IP addresses with commas. Instead, use semi-colons.

Additional documentation

[Suggested documentation](#)[For cPanel users](#)[For WHM users](#)[For developers](#)

- [How to Configure the Exim Outgoing IP Address](#)
- [How to Edit the exim.conf File](#)
- [How to Configure the Apache SpamAssassin Report_Safe Option](#)
- [CVE-2016-1531 Exim](#)
- [How to Customize the Exim System Filter File](#)

- [How to Configure Mail Filters](#)
- [The BlackBerry FastMail Service](#)
- [IMAP vs. POP3](#)
- [How to Log in to the Sent and Spam Mail Folders Directly](#)
- [How to Set Up a cPanel Email Account for iOS and Android](#)

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- [UAPI Functions - Chkserverd::get_exim_ports_ssl](#)
- [WHM API 0 Functions - validate_exim_configuration_syntax](#)
- [UAPI Functions - Chkserverd::get_exim_ports](#)
- [WHM API 0 Functions - validate_current_installed_exim_config](#)
- [WHM API 0 Functions - deliver_messages_mail_queue](#)

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