**Server Interview Questions And Answers for linux admin**

**Sendmail Server Interview Questions And Answers for linux admin:**

**Q: - How to start sendmail server ?**

service sendmail restart

**Q: - On which ports sendmail and senmail with SSL works ?**  
  
By default, Sendmail uses TCP and UDP port 25 for non-encrypted transfers. If the  
Sendmail server is configured to use SSL for encrypting email sent and received, it uses  
port 465.

**Q: - Explain use of "trusted-users" file ?**  
  
List of users that can send email as other users without a warning including  
system users such as apache for the Apache HTTP Server.

**Q: - Explain the use of "local-host-names" file ?**  
  
If the email server should be known by different hostnames, list the host-  
names in this file, one line per hostname. Any email sent to addresses at these  
hostnames is treated as local mail. The FEATURE(`use\_cw\_fileâ€™) option must  
be enabled in the sendmail.mc file for this file to be referenced.

**Q: - explain the use of /etc/aliases file ?**  
  
/etc/aliases, can be used to redirect email from one user to another. By default, it includes redirects for system accounts to the root user. It can then be used to redirect all email for the root user to the user account for the system administrator.

**Q: - Can we use SSL Encryption with Sendmail ?**  
  
Yes, Sendmail can be configured to encrypt email sent and received using SSL (secure sockets layer).

**Q: - What is Sendmail ?**  
  
Sendmail is an MTA, meaning it accepts email messages sent to it using the SMTP proto-  
col and transports them to another MTA email server until the messages reach their destinations. It also accepts email for the local network and delivers them to local mail spools, one for each user.

**Q: - What is the role of MUA ?**  
  
An MUA (Mail User Agent) with access to the mailbox file, directly or through a network file system, can read messages from the disk and display them for the user. This is generally a console or webmail application running on the server.

**Q: - Which are the important configuration files for Sendmail server ?**  
  
The /etc/mail/ directory contains all the Sendmail configuration files, with sendmail.cf  
and submit.cf being the main configuration files. The sendmail.cf file includes options  
for the mail transmission agent and accepts SMTP connections for sending email. The  
submit.cf file configures the mail submission program.

**Q: - How to configure sendmail to accept mail for local delivery that is addressed to other hosts?**

Create a /etc/mail/local-host-names file. Put into that file the hostnames and domain names for which sendmail should accept mail for local delivery. Enter the names with one hostname or domain name per line. And also make sure that Sendmail configuration file should contain "use\_cw\_file" option.

dnl Load class $=w with other names for the local host  
FEATURE(`use\_cw\_file')

**Q: - When an organization stores aliases on an LDAP server, how you will configure sendmail to read aliases from the LDAP server?**

Use "sendmail -bt -d0" command to check the sendmail compiler options. If sendmail was not compiled with LDAP support, recompile and reinstall sendmail.

Add an ALIAS\_FILE define, containing the string ldap to the sendmail configuration.

# Set the LDAP cluster value  
define(`confLDAP\_CLUSTER', `wrotethebook.com')  
# Tell sendmail that aliases are available via LDAP  
define(`ALIAS\_FILE', `ldap:')

**Q: - How to forward emails of a local user to external address?**

Add an alias to the aliases file for each user whose mail must be forwarded to another system. The recipient field of the alias entry must be a full email address that includes the host part. After adding the desired aliases, rebuild the aliases database file with the newaliases command.

**Q: - You have been asked to create a sendmail configuration that sends all local mail to a mail hub, while directly delivering mail addressed to external systems.**

Create a sendmail configuration containing the MAIL\_HUB define to identify the mail relay host for local mail. Use the LOCAL\_USER command to exempt the root user's mail from relaying.

dnl Define a relay server for local mail  
define(`MAIL\_HUB', `smtp.test.com')  
dnl Users whose mail is not passed to the mail hub  
LOCAL\_USER(root)

Rebuild and reinstall sendmail.cf, and then restart sendmail.

**Q: - How to configure multiple mail queues?**

mkdir /var/spool/mqueue/queue.1  
mkdir /var/spool/mqueue/queue.2  
mkdir /var/spool/mqueue/queue.3

chmod 700 /var/spool/mqueue/queue.1  
chmod 700 /var/spool/mqueue/queue.2  
chmod 700 /var/spool/mqueue/queue.3

Add the QUEUE\_DIR define to the sendmail configuration to use the new queue directories.

dnl Declare the queue directory path  
define(`QUEUE\_DIR', `/var/spool/mqueue/queue.\*')

**Q: - How to disable certain SMTP commands?**

Add the confPRIVACY\_FLAGS define to the sendmail configuration to set Privacy Options that disable unwanted, optional SMTP commands. Here we will disables the EXPN, VRFY, VERB, and ETRN commands.

dnl Disable EXPN, VRFY, VERB and ETRN  
define(`confPRIVACY\_FLAGS', `noexpn,novrfy,noverb,noetrn')

Rebuild and reinstall sendmail.cf, and then restart sendmail.

**Q: - In which Sendmail configuration file we have to make changes?**

we will make the changes only in the sendmail.mc file, and the changes will be moved into the sendmail.cf file for us.

**Q: - When Sendmail dispatches your email, it places the servers hostname behind your username, which becomes the "from address" in the email (ie. user@mail.test.com).But we want to use the domain name and not the hostname?**

define(`confDOMAIN\_NAME', `test.com')dnl  
FEATURE(`relay\_entire\_domain')dnl

**Q: - What does /etc/mail/access file contains?**

The access database ("/etc/mail/access") is a list of IP addresses and domainnames of allowable connections.

FEATURE(`access\_db',`hash -T<TMPF> -o /etc/mail/access.db')dnl

and cat /etc/mail/access

localhost.localdomain RELAY  
localhost RELAY  
127.0.0.1 RELAY  
192.168.0 RELAY  
test.com RELAY

**Q: - How to restrict sendmail to sending a big file?**

define(`confMAX\_MESSAGE\_SIZE',`52428800')dnl

or If you are using a PHP based webmail application like SquirrelMail, you can adjust the max file size in php.ini file.

vi php.ini

post\_max\_size = 50M  
upload\_max\_filesize = 50M  
memory\_limit = 64M

**Q: - How to set 25 recipients for each email?**

define(`confMAX\_RCPTS\_PER\_MESSAGE',`50')dnl

**Q: - Which antivirus you have integrated with sendmail ?**

ClaimAV

**Q: - What is Clamav-Milter?**

Clamav-Milter is a tool to integrate sendmail and clamAV antivirus.

**Q: - Which configuration files are required to integrate sendmail and ClaimAV antivirus?**

milter.conf and clamav-milter

**Q: - How to test sendmail integration with ClaimAV?**

grep Milter /var/log/maillog

You have to get following type of messages.

sendmail: Milter add: header: X-Virus-Scanned: ClamAV version 0.88.2, clamav-milter version 0.88.2 on mail.test.com  
sendmail: Milter add: header: X-Virus-Status: Clean

**Q: - Which tool you have used to block spamming?**

SpamAssassin

**Q: - What does "/etc/mail/" directory contains?**

The /etc/mail/ directory contain all the Sendmail configuration files, with sendmail.cf and submit.cf being the main configuration files.

**Q: - Explain the use of /etc/mail/relay-domains file?**

The /etc/mail/relay-domains file is used to determine domains from which it will relay mail. The contents of the relay-domains file should be limited to those domains that can be trusted not to originate spam.

**Q: - What is the name of spamassassin configuration file?**

/etc/mail/spamassassin/local.cf

**Q: - How to check mail Queue of sendmail?**

/usr/lib/sendmail -bp

or

mailq

**Q: - How to use m4 macro processor to generate a new sendmail.cf?**

m4 /etc/mail/sendmail.mc > /etc/mail/sendmail.cf

<http://www.linuxhowto.in/2012/07/sendmail-server-interview-questions.html>

**SEND MAIL IINTERVIEW QUESTION & ANSWER**

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