



# sendmail *Desktop Reference*

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## Preface

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## V8.8 Specific

The *sendmail* program is a Mail Transport Agent (MTA). It accepts mail from Mail User Agents (MUAs), mail users (humans), and other MTAs. It then delivers that mail to Mail Delivery Agents (MDAs) on the local machine, or transports that mail to another MTA at another machine. The behavior of *sendmail* is determined by its command line and by commands in its configuration file.

The *sendmail* program is written and maintained by Eric Allman at [sendmail.org](http://sendmail.org). Versions V8.7 and earlier are no longer supported and are no longer considered secure. If you are not currently running V8.8, we recommend you upgrade now. This Desktop Reference covers *sendmail* version 8.8.5.

This Desktop Reference is a companion to the second edition of the *sendmail* book by Bryan Costales with Eric Allman, published by O'Reilly & Associates. Section numbers herein reference the section numbers in that book. This is a reference guide only - for detail or tutorial information, refer to the full *sendmail* book.

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## Conventions

### **Bold**

Denotes that you enter the text literally.

### *Italic*

Means variable text, i.e., things you must fill in.

### Constant width

Is a keyword with a special meaning.

### *this(1)*

Refers to the online manual for a program.

### [...]

Denotes a range of optional selections you may make.

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V8.8 Specific

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## 1. How to Run

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The *sendmail* program is run by specifying its name followed by command-line switches, then recipient addresses. Some command-line switches cause *sendmail* to ignore its recipients, while others require their presence. One switch, **-bt**, places *sendmail* into interactive, rule-testing mode.

### 1.1 Alternative Names for sendmail

#### hoststat

Prints persistent host status information (see §36.1.1).

#### mailq

Prints the queue's contents (see §36.1.2).

#### newaliases

Rebuilds the *aliases* database file or files (see §36.1.3).

#### purgestat

Purges (zeroes) persistent host status information (see §36.1.4).

#### smtpd

Runs in daemon mode (see §36.1.5).

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1.2 Command-Line Switches

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## 1.2 Command-Line Switches

### **-B** 7bit

Causes *sendmail* to clear the high-bit of every incoming byte, or *8bitmime*, which causes *sendmail* to preserve the high-bit (see §36.7.1).

### **-ba**

Uses ARPAnet/Grey-Book protocols to transfer mail (see §36.7.3).

### **-bD**

Runs as a daemon (just as with **-bd** below), but doesn't fork and doesn't detach from the controlling terminal (see §36.7.4).

### **-bd**

Forks, detaches from the controlling terminal, and runs as a daemon, listening for incoming SMTP connections and handling them as they arrive (see §36.7.5).

### **-bH**

Purges (zeroes) persistent host status information (see §36.7.6).

### **-bh**

Prints persistent host status information (see §36.7.7).

### **-bi**

Initializes the *aliases(5)* databases (see §24.5.1).

### **-bm**

(The default) causes *sendmail* to read a message from its standard input and to send the read message (see §36.7.9).

### **-bp**

Prints the contents of the queue (see §23.4).

### **-bs**

Runs SMTP on standard I/O (see §36.7.11).

**-bt**

Runs in rule-testing mode (see 38.1).

**-bv *root bob***

Verifies the addresses *root* and *bob* (see §36.7.13).

**-C /tmp/test.cf**

Uses */tmp/test.cf* as its configuration file (see §36.7.15).

**-c**

Sets the HoldExpensive option to true (see §34.8.29).

**-d0.4**

Debugging mode to facility 0, level 4 (see §37.1).

**-F 'Jolly Roger'**

Sets the sender's full name to *Jolly Roger* (see §36.7.20).

**-f news@our.domain**

Sets sender's address to *news@our.domain* (see §36.7.21).

**-h 20**

Sets the minimum hop count to 20 (see §36.7.22).

**-i**

Sets the IgnoreDots option to true (see §36.7.24).

**-MrUUCP**

Gives the macro \$r the value *UUCP* (see §31.2).

**-m**

Sets the MeToo option to true (see §34.8.39).

**-N never**

Says to never return DSN NOTIFY information when a message bounces (see §36.7.28). Can also be -Nsuccess, failure, delay to give notification on successful delivery, failed delivery, or delayed delivery.

**-n**

Suppresses aliasing (see §24.6).

**-OMaxQueueRunSize=100**

Sets the MaxQueueRunSize option to 100 (see §34.1.2).

**-oQ/tmp**

Sets the QueueDirectory option to */tmp* (see §34.1.1).

**-pUUCP:sonya**

Sets the protocol stored in the \$r macro to *UUCP* and the host stored in the \$s macro to *sonya* (see §36.7.32).

**-q30m**

Runs *sendmail* in the background, waking up once every 30 minutes to process the queue (see §23.6.1).

**-qR@aol.com**

Processes the queue once, delivering to all recipients in any queued message that contains at least one recipient at *aol.com* (see §23.6.2.3).

**-R hdrs**

Bounces only the headers of a message. **-Rfull** bounces headers and body (see §36.7.34).

**-r**

Is a (deprecated) synonym for **-f**.

**-s**

Sets the SaveFromLine option to true (deprecated, see §34.8.59).

**-T 5d**

Sets the Timeout.queue return option to 5 days (see §34.8.52).

**-t**

Gathers the list of recipients from the message's headers (see §36.7.38).

**-U**

Makes this the initial MUA to MTA submission (see §36.7.39).

**-V cookie9167B5AS34**

Sets the DSN ENVID string to *cookie9167B5AS34* (see §36.7.40).

**-v**

Runs in verbose mode (see §36.7.41).

**-X /var/tmp/smtp.trace**

Logs both sides of all SMTP transactions to the */var/tmp/smtp.trace* file (see §26.4).

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1.1 Alternative Names for  
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## 1.3 Some Handy Debugging Switches

**-v**

When combined with **-d**, causes some otherwise lost debugging information to be printed.

**-bD**

Holds the *sendmail* daemon in the foreground so that **-d** debugging information about the running daemon can be viewed.

**-d0**

Shows the general configuration of your system: **-d0.1** prints version information (§37.5.1); **-d0.4** prints the local hostname and any aliases found for it (§37.5.2); **-d0.15** prints a list of the delivery agents declared (§37.5.4); and **-d0.20** prints the address of each network interface found (§37.5.5).

**-d8**

Traces most DNS lookups: **-d8.1** prints failure of the low-level MX search (§37.5.30); **-d8.2** prints calls to *getcanonname*(3) (§37.5.31); **-d8.3** traces dropped local hostnames (§37.5.32); **-d8.5** shows hostnames being tried in *getcanonname*(3) (§37.5.33); and **-d8.8** shows when MX lookups get the wrong type (§37.5.35).

**-d11**

Traces delivery agent calls: **-d11.1** traces arguments passed to the delivery agent (§37.5.44); and **-d11.2** prints the user ID that the delivery agent is being invoked as (§37.5.45).

**-d21**

Traces rewriting of addresses: **-d21.1** traces general rule set rewriting (§37.5.67); **-d21.2** traces use of the **\$&** macro (§37.5.68); **-d21.3** shows **\$>** subroutines being called (§37.5.69); **-d21.4** displays the result of rewriting (§37.5.70); **-d21.15** shows **\$digit** replacement (§37.5.73); and **-d21.35** shows token-by-token LHS matching (§37.5.74).

**-d27**

Traces aliasing: **-d27.1** traces general aliasing (§37.5.88); **-d27.2** traces **:include:** files, alias self-references, and errors on home (§37.5.89); **-d27.3** traces trying the **~/.forward** path and the

alias wait (§37.5.90); **-d27.4** prints "not safe" when a file is unsafe to trust (§37.5.91); and **-d27.9** shows *uid/gid* changes that correspond to :*include*: file reads (§37.5.94).

**-d35**

Traces macros: **-d35.9** shows macro values being defined (§37.5.120); **-d35.14** shows macro names being converted to integer identifiers (§37.5.121); and **-d35.24** shows macro expansion (§37.5.122).

**-d37**

Traces options and class macros: **-d37.1** traces the setting of options (§37.5.126); and **-d37.8** traces the adding of words to a class (§37.5.127).

**-d41**

Traces the queue: **-d41.1** traces queue ordering (§37.5.144); **-d41.2** shows failure to open *qf* files (§37.5.145); **-d41.49** shows excluded (skipped) queue files (§37.5.146); and **-d41.50** shows every file in the queue (§37.5.147).

**-d48**

Traces the *check\_* rule sets: **-d48.2** traces calls to the *check\_* rule sets (§37.5.165).

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## 1.4 Rule-Testing Mode (-bt) Commands

?

Prints help.

**.DrUUCP**

Defines macro **\$r** as *UUCP* (see §38.2.1).

**.Cwlocalhost**

Adds *localhost* to class **\$=w** (see §38.2.2).

**=S5**

Dumps the contents of rule set 5 (see §38.4.1).

**=M**

Displays a list of the known delivery agents (see §38.4.2).

**-d48.2**

Sets debugging output to category 48 and level 2 (see §37.1).

**\${envid}**

Prints the value in the macro *{envid}* (see §38.3.1).

**\$=w**

Prints the contents of class macro **\$=w** (see §38.3.2).

**/mx aol.com**

Returns the MX records for *aol.com*, sorted into the order they will be tried, with equal cost records randomized (see §38.5.2).

**/parse bob**

Parses the address *bob*, and returns the value of *crackaddr()* and the final parsed address including the selected delivery agent (see §38.5.5).

**/try local bob**

Rewrites the address *bob* based on the rule sets indicated in the *local* delivery agent (see §38.5.6).

## /tryflags *ER*

Sets flags used by /parse and /try to envelope recipient (see §38.5.4). Use E or H to choose envelope versus header, and R or S to choose recipient versus sender.

## /canon *foo*

Transforms the hostname *foo* into its canonical form (see §38.5.1).

## /map *aliases root*

Looks up *root* in the *aliases* database (see §38.5.3).

3,0 *bob@foo*

Runs the address *bob@foo* first through rule set 3, then rule set 0 (see §38.6).

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## 1.5 Hints

**/usr/lib/sendmail -bv *list* | grep -v deliverable**

Causes *sendmail* to recursively expand the addresses in the mailing list named *list*. The **-v** with *grep(1)* causes all good (deliverable) addresses to be excluded and only bad addresses to be printed.

**/usr/lib/sendmail -bt -d0.4 </dev/null**

Causes *sendmail* to print its version, the `#defines` used when it was compiled, and how it is interpreting the identity of the local machine.

**mailq -OMaxQueueRunSize=1**

Allows *sendmail* to quickly print how many messages are queued even when the queue contains thousands of messages.

**/usr/lib/sendmail -q -OTimeout.queuereturn=99d**

Flushes messages from an old queue (perhaps following a prolonged downtime) while preventing old messages from timing out in the queue.

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1.4 Rule-Testing Mode (-bt)

2. The sendmail.cf File

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## 2. The sendmail.cf File

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The *sendmail* configuration file, usually called *sendmail.cf*, provides all the central information that controls the *sendmail* program's behavior. It lists the location of all the other files *sendmail* needs to access and the location of all the directories in which *sendmail* needs to create and remove files. It sets the definitions *sendmail* uses when rewriting addresses. It defines the rules and sets of rules *sendmail* uses for transforming mail addresses (and aliases for those addresses) into usable information, such as which delivery agent to use and the correct form of the address to use with that delivery agent.

## 2.1 Overview

Each line in the configuration files begins with a key character that defines the function of that line. Any character other than those shown here is an error.

#

Begins a comment line (the entire line is ignored).

tab

Continues the previous line.

space

Continues the previous line.

**Cw** *localhost*

Adds *localhost* to class w (see §32.5.8).

**C{**GuestDomains**}** *guest.com visit.com*

Adds *guest.com* and *visit.com* to the multi-character class named {GuestDomains} (see §32.1.1).

**Dm***our.domain*

Defines macro m with the value *our.domain* (see §31.10.24).

**D{**OurOldDomain**}** *old.domain*

Defines multi-character macro name {OurOldDomain} with the value *old.domain* (see §31.3).

**EHOME=***/u/mail*

Assigns value */u/mail* to the environmental variable HOME. (Such assignments are only available to delivery agents that *sendmail* executes.) (See 22.2.1.)

**EUSER**

Imports the value of USER from the environment and makes it available to delivery agents.

**Fw** */etc/sendmail.cw*

Fills the class w with values read from the */etc/sendmail.cw* file (see §19.6.26).

**Fk** */usr/sbin/showuu*

Runs the program */usr/sbin/showuu* and fills the class k with values printed by that program. (see §32.5.2).

**HDate:** *\$a*

Defines the Date: header with the value *\$a* (see §35.10.10).

**H?P?Return-Path:** <*\$g*>

Defines the Return-Path: header with the value <*\$g*>. This header will only be output if the P

in `?P?` appears in the delivery agent's `F=` equate (see §35.4).

### **Kuid** *text* -z: -k2 -v0 /etc/passwd

Declares a database named *uid* to be of class *text*, which will look up keys in the flat file named `/etc/passwd` (see §33.8.18). The `-z:`, `-k2`, and `-v0` say that `/etc/passwd` has colon-delimited fields, that the key will be in the index 2 field, and the value in the index 0 field, thus converting *uid* values to login names, see §33.3.4.12).

### **Mname**, *equate*=*value*, ...

Declares a mail delivery agent. The *name* is the symbolic name for this agent. The items in the *equate* list are described in the next section, "Delivery Agent Equates."

### **O** *MaxQueueRunSize*=100

Gives the option `MaxQueueRunSize` the value *100* (see §34.8.38). Note that there must be a space between the **O** and the option name. Options are summarized later in this chapter.

### **O** *J*/var/forward/\$u:\$z/.forward

Uses the old single-character name *J* to define the *ForwardPath* option (see §34.8.27).

### **P***bulk*=-60

Associates the symbolic name *bulk* with a delivery priority of *-60*. These symbolic names are compared to the `Precedence:` header (if one) during delivery, and used to begin a message's priority in the queue (see §35.8).

### **RLHS** *tabs* **RHS** [*tabs* **COMMENT** ]

Defines a rewriting rule (do-while clause) where the RHS rewrites an address while the LHS comparison evaluates to true. The LHS and RHS must be separated by one or more *tab* characters. Optional *tabs* and a **COMMENT** may follow and are not part of the rewriting rule (see §28.1).

### **S***name*[=*val*]

Declares a rule-set start to have the name *name* (where *name* is either a number or is symbolic text). When *name* is symbolic, an optional numeric value *val* may be assigned to it (see §29.1).

### **T** *bob* *jane*

Declares that the users *bob* and *jane* are "trusted" and may use the `-f` command-line switch to precondition the sender identity. Users who are not trusted and who use the `-f` switch cause a warning to be included in the outgoing mail headers (see §22.8.1).

### **V**7/Berkeley

Specifies the version of the configuration file to be 7. An optional slash and a vendor identifier may follow, as `/Berkeley` (see §27.5).



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## 2.2 Delivery Agent Equates

The general form of a delivery agent's declaration looks like this:

**M***name* , **e**quate=*val* , ...

In this section we list and describe each *equate*, where only the first letter of each is recognized (that is, **A**=*argv* is the same as **A**=).

**A**=*argv*0 *argv*1 ...

Lists the delivery agent's command-line arguments. The delivery agent speaks SMTP only if **\$u** is absent from those arguments. The special symbolic *argv*0 names IPC and LPC reference internal *sendmail* code.

**C**=*ISO-8859-1*

Uses the *ISO-8859-1* character set in the MIME Content-Type : header (see §30.4.2). Applies to messages received *from* this delivery agent. Supersedes the **Default CharSet** option.

**D**=*/var/run:/tmp*

Sets the paths for execution of the **prog** delivery agent to */var/run* first, and if it cannot *chdir*(2) into that directory, then to */tmp* (see §30.4.3).

**E**=\r

Specifies the end-of-line characters to be a carriage-return newline pair. Those characters are generated by *sendmail* for outgoing messages and recognized by *sendmail* for incoming messages. The default is \r\n for SMTP and \n otherwise (see §30.4.4).

**F**=*flags*

Lists *flags* that describe a delivery agent's behavior (fully listed in the next section, "Delivery Agent F= Flags").

**L**=512

Limits the length of text lines in the body of a mail message to 512 characters (see §30.4.6).

**M**=1000000

Limits the total size (header and body combined) of messages handled by the delivery agent to one million characters.

**N=5**

Says to re-nice(2) the delivery agent by 5 (see §30.4.8).

**P=/usr/bin/uux**

Says to execute */usr/bin/uux* as the delivery-agent program (see §30.4.9). Special symbolic paths can also be used: [*IPC*] makes a network connection and speaks SMTP; [*FILE*] appends the message to a file; and [*LPC*] is useful for tracking down mail problems.

**R=rset or R=eset/hset**

Lists the rewriting rule set names or numbers for the recipient. A single name or number is applied to both envelope and header rewriting. Two names or numbers, separated by a slash, applies the leftmost to the envelope and the rightmost to headers (see §30.4.10).

**S=rset or R=eset/hset**

Lists the rewriting rule set names or numbers for the sender. Particulars are the same as for **R=** above (see §30.4.11).

**T=DNS/RFC822/X-Unix**

Sets the type tags used in the DSN diagnostic returns for this delivery agent. The type tag for the Reporting-MTA: field is *DNS*; the type tag for the Final-Recipient: field is *RFC822*; and the type tag for the Diagnostic-Code: field is *X-Unix* (see §30.4.12).

**U=nullmail:nullgroup**

Specifies that *sendmail* should become the user *nullmail* and the group *nullgroup* before executing the delivery agent. If the :*nullgroup* is omitted, it is found in the *passwd(5)* file entry for *nullmail* (see §30.4.13).

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2.3 Delivery Agent F= Flags



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## 2.3 Delivery Agent F= Flags

**F=0**

Turns off MX lookups for this delivery agent (see §30.8.1).

**F=3**

Extends quoted-printable conversions to encode ASCII characters that cannot be represented in EBCDIC (see §30.8.2).

**F=5**

Uses rule set 5 after local aliasing (see §30.8.3).

**F=7**

Strips the high bit when delivering (see §30.8.4).

**F=8**

Forces `EightBitMode=p` for this delivery agent (see §30.8.5).

**F=:**

Checks for `:include:` files (see §30.8.7).

**F=|**

Checks for `|program` addresses (see §30.8.8).

**F=/**

Checks for `/file` addresses (see §30.8.9).

**F=@**

Allows users to be looked up in the User Database (see §30.8.10).

**F=a**

Runs the extended SMTP protocol (see §30.8.11).

**F=A**

Allows users to be in the LHS of an alias (see §30.8.12).

**F=b**

Ensures a blank line after message (see §30.8.13).

**F=c**

Excludes comment from \$g in headers (see §30.8.14).

**F=C**

Adds @*domain* to recipient that lacks one (see §30.8.15). Applies to the *sending* delivery agent only.

**F=d**

Never encloses route addresses in <> (see §30.8.16).

**F=D**

Specifies the need for a Date : header (see §30.8.17).

**F=e**

Marks this delivery agent as "expensive" (see §30.8.18).

**F=E**

Changes any extra lines that begin in "From" into ">From" (see §30.8.19).

**F=f**

Causes delivery agent to add -f to argv (see §30.8.20).

**F=F**

Specifies the need for a From : header (see §30.8.21).

**F=g**

Suppresses sending of From:<> senders in bounce messages (see §30.8.22).

**F=h**

Preserves uppercase in hostnames (see §30.8.23).

**F=i**

Specifies to perform a User Database rewrite on the envelope sender (see §30.8.24).

**F=I**

Causes delivery agent to send SMTP VERB to the other site (see §30.8.25).

**F=j**

Specifies to perform a User Database rewrite of header recipient addresses (see §30.8.26).

**F=k**

Suppresses check for loops in HELO command (see §30.8.27).

**F=l**

Specifies that delivery agent is local (final) delivery (see §30.8.28).

**F=L**

Causes SMTP line limits to be applied (obsolete, see §30.8.29).

**F=m**

Says that the delivery agent can deliver to multiple recipients at once (see §30.8.30).

**F=M**

Specifies the need for a Message-ID: header (see §30.8.31).

**F=n**

Prevents the addition of a UNIX mailbox-style From to headers (see §30.8.32).

**F=o**

Runs the delivery agent under the *uid* and *gid* of the recipient (see §30.8.33).

**F=p**

Attempts to process the return path correctly (deprecated, see §30.8.34).

**F=P**

Specifies the need for a Return-Path: header (see §30.8.35).

**F=q**

Says to use a 252 instead of a 250 return code for an SMTP VRFY reply (see §30.8.36).

**F=r**

Causes the delivery agent to add a -r to argv (see §30.8.37).

**F=R**

Tells *sendmail* to use a reserved TCP port (see §30.8.38).

**F=s**

Causes quotation marks to be stripped from addresses (see §30.8.39).

**F=S**

Always run the delivery agent under a *uid* and *gid* specified (see §30.8.40).

**F=u**

Preserves uppercase for user names (see §30.8.41).

**F=U**

Prepends a UUCP-style From line (see §30.8.42).

**F=w**

Verifies that the user is local by checking for an /etc/passwd entry (see §30.8.43).

**F=x**

Specifies that the delivery agent requires a Full-Name : header (see §30.8.44).

**F=X**

Specifies that the delivery agent needs an RFC821 hidden dot (see §30.8.45).

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2.2 Delivery Agent Equates

2.4 Defined Macros

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## 2.4 Defined Macros

Defined macros allow strings of text to be represented symbolically. A defined macro is one whose symbol represents a single string.

**D**X*string*

The symbolic name (here *X*) is either a single letter or a multi-character name. If multi-character, it must be surrounded by curly braces:

**D**{*XXX*}*string*

The value in a defined macro is referenced by prefixing its name with a \$. Because defined macros in rules are expanded when the configuration file is read, a \$& prefix can be used when deferred expansion is desired.

The *sendmail* program reserves all macros but those beginning with an uppercase letter for its own internal use. Since the *m4* configuration technique is not internal (to the program), it uses uppercase macro names. Here we show the internal macros currently used by *sendmail* and the external macros currently used by the *m4* technique.

**\$\_**

Holds the RFC1413-validation text, and any IP source route information that was found (see §31.10.1).

**\$a**

Contains the origin date in RFC822 format (see §31.10.2).

**\$b**

Contains the current date in RFC822 format (see §31.10.3).

**\${bodytype}**

Contains the ESMTP BODY parameter for the current message (see §31.10.4).

**\$B**

Specifies the BITNET relay (see §31.10.5). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining BITNET\_RELAY.

**\$c**

Contains the current hop count (see §31.10.6).

 **\${client\_addr}**

Stores the current connecting host's IP address (see §31.10.7).

 **\${client\_name}**

Stores the current connecting host's canonical name (see §31.10.8).

**\$C**

Specifies the hostname of the DECnet relay (see §31.10.9). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining DECNET\_RELAY.

**\$d**

Contains the current date in UNIX *ctime*(3) format (see §31.10.10).

 **\${envid}**

Holds the original DSN envelope ID (see §31.10.12).

**\$E**

Specifies the X.400 relay (unused, see §31.10.13).

**\$f**

Contains the current sender's (the From:) address (see §31.10.14).

**\$F**

Specifies the FAX relay (see §31.10.15). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining FAX\_RELAY.

**\$g**

Contains the current sender's address relative to the recipient (see §31.10.16).

**\$h**

Contains the host part of the current recipient address (see §31.10.17).

**\$H**

Specifies the mail hub (see §31.10.18). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining MAIL\_HUB.

**\$i**

Contains the queue identifier for the current message (see §31.10.19).

**\$j**

Holds the official canonical name of the local machine (see §31.10.20). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining confDOMAIN\_NAME.

**\$k**

Holds the UUCP name of the local machine (see §31.10.21).

**\$L**

Specifies the "local user" relay (see §31.10.23). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining LUSER\_RELAY.

**\$m**

Holds the official domain name for the local machine (see §31.10.24).

**\$M**

Specifies who we are masquerading as (see §31.10.25). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique using the MASQUERADE\_AS construct.

**\$n**

Specifies whom error messages should be from (see §31.10.26). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining confMAILER\_NAME.

**\${opMode}**

Contains the operating mode that *sendmail* started in (see §31.10.28).

**\$p**

Contains the current *sendmail* process' *pid* (see §31.10.29).

**\$r**

Contains the protocol used to receive the current message (see §31.10.31).

**\$R**

Specifies the relay for user names that lack an *@host.domain* part (see §31.10.32). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining LOCAL\_RELAY.

**\$s**

Contains the current sender host's name (see §31.10.33).

**\$S**

Specifies the Smart Host (see §31.10.34). This macro can be set using the *m4* technique by defining SMART\_HOST.

**\$t**

Contains the current time in seconds (see §31.10.35).

**\$u**

Contains the current recipient's user name (can be auto-replicated in the **A=** equate of a delivery agent if **F=m** is present) (see §31.10.36).

**\$U**

Specifies the UUCP name to override **\$k** (see §31.10.37).

**\$v**

Holds the *sendmail* program's version (see §31.10.38).

**\$V**

Specifies the UUCP relay (for the class **\$=V**) (see §31.10.39).

**\$w**

Holds the short name of the local host (see §31.10.40).

**\$W**

Specifies the UUCP relay (for the class **\$=W**) (see §31.10.41).

**\$x**

Contains the "full name" of the current sender (see §31.10.42).

**\$X**

Specifies the UUCP relay (for the class **\$=X**) (see §31.10.43).

**\$y**

Holds the name of the controlling tty (see §31.10.44).

**\$Y**

Specifies the UUCP relay for unclassified hosts (see §31.10.45).

**\$z**

Contains the current recipient's home directory (see §31.10.46).

**\$Z**

Specifies the version of this *m4* configuration (see §31.10.47). This macro can be appended to using the *m4* technique by defining `confCF_VERSION`.

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2.3 Delivery Agent F= Flags

2.5 Class Macros



# sendmail *Desktop Reference*

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## 2.5 Class Macros

A class macro is one whose symbol can represent multiple words. Those words can be declared in the configuration line or read from an external file or from the output of an executed program.

**C**X*word word ...*

**F**X */file*

**F**X */program*

The symbolic name (here *X*) is either a single letter or a multi-character name. If multi-character, it must be surrounded by curly braces:

**C**{*XXX*}*word word ...*

**F**{*XXX*} */file*

**F**{*XXX*} */program*

The *sendmail* program reserves all but class names that begin with an uppercase letter for its own internal use. Class macros are usable only in the LHS of rules. A \$= prefix matches a token to any *word* in the class. A \$~ prefix matches if the token is not in the class.

**\$=e**

Determines whether or not a Content-Transfer-Encoding : type will be quoted-printable encoded. The default contents for this class are 7bit, 8bit, and binary (see §32.5.1).

**\$=k**

Lists the UUCP names of the local host (see §32.5.2).

**\$=m**

Lists all the known domain names for the local host. Available to rule sets but not currently used by the *m4* technique (see §32.5.3).

**\$=n**

Determines the Content-Type : headers that are prevented from being converted from 8- to 7-bits. The default content for this class is %multipart/signed (see §32.5.4).

**\$=q**

Determines the Content-Type : headers that should not be converted from 8- to 7-bits with base64 encoding. By default this class is empty (see §32.5.5).

### \$=s

Lists Content-Type : header message subtypes that should be treated the same as rfc822. By default this list contains only rfc822 (see §32.5.6).

### \$=t

Lists "trusted" users who may specify an alternative sender with the -f command-line switch (see §32.5.7).

### \$=w

Lists all the hostnames by which the local host can be known. Either found by *sendmail* at startup, or declared in the configuration file, or listed in the *sendmail.cw* file (see §32.5.8).

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2.4 Defined Macros

2.6 Options

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# sendmail *Desktop Reference*

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## 2.6 Options

Options determine most of the *sendmail* program's behavior. They are declared on the command line with the **-O** switch:

**-O***name=value*

and in the configuration file with the **O** line:

**O** *name=value*

The space following the **O** is mandatory. Prior to V8.7 *sendmail*, option names could be only a single character. Beginning with V8.7, option names can be multi-character. Where appropriate, the old form is listed parenthetically after the new form.

True/False options, when absent, default to false, but when present with no value, default to true. Options marked as "(safe)" can be specified on the command line without giving up root privileges.

### **AliasFile**=*file*[,*file*, ...]

Defines the location (and optionally the type as *type:file*) of the *aliases* file or files. (Was the **A** option, see §34.8.1, or define ALIAS\_FILE with the *m4* technique.)

### **AliasWait**=*interval*

Specifies the *interval* *sendmail* will wait for the *aliases* database to rebuild. (Was the **a** option, see §34.8.2, or define confALIAS\_WAIT with the *m4* technique.)

### **AllowBogusHELO**=[*True|False*]

(safe) allows *sendmail* to accept an SMTP HELO or EHLO that is not followed by a hostname (see §34.8.3).

### **AutoRebuildAliases**=[*True|False*]

Allows *sendmail* to automatically rebuild the *aliases* database. (Was the **D** option, see §34.8.4, or define confAUTO\_REBUILD with the *m4* technique.)

### **BlankSub**=*char*

Specifies the unquoted space replacement character *char*. (Was the **B** option, see §34.8.5, or define confBLANK\_SUB with the *m4* technique.)

**CheckAliases=[True|False]**

(safe) tells *sendmail* to check the right side of aliases in the *aliases* file in addition to the normal left side checks. (Was the **n** option, see §34.8.6, or define `confCHECK_ALIASES` with the *m4* technique.)

**CheckpointInterval=number**

(safe) states the *number* of recipients that will be delivered between checkpoints (flushes to disk) of the *gf* file. (Was the **C** option, see §34.8.7, or define `confCHECKPOINT_INTERVAL` with the *m4* technique.)

**ClassFactor=factor**

Sets the multiplication *factor* for calculating priority increments. (Was the **z** option, see §34.8.8, or define `confWORK_CLASS_FACTOR` with the *m4* technique.)

**ColonOkInAddr=[True|False]**

(safe) tells *sendmail* to allow colons in addresses, thus disabling recognition of : ; list addresses - DECnet :: is always allowed (see §34.8.9, or define `confCOLON_OK_IN_ADDR` with the *m4* technique).

**ConnectionCacheSize=number**

Stipulates the *number* of simultaneous open SMTP connections *sendmail* will maintain during delivery. (Was the **k** option, see §34.8.10, or define `confMCI_CACHE_SIZE` with the *m4* technique.)

**ConnectionCacheTimeout=duration**

Stipulates the *duration* of time any given open, but when idle, SMTP connection will be maintained. (Was the **K** option, see §34.8.11, or define `confMCI_CACHE_TIMEOUT` with the *m4* technique.)

**ConnectionRateThrottle=number**

Specifies the maximum *number* of incoming connections that will be accepted per second. Additional connections are accepted progressively more slowly (see §34.8.12, or define `confCONNECTION_RATE_THROTTLE` with the *m4* technique).

**DaemonPortOptions=option=value[,option=value,...]**

Sets the daemon TCP/IP port options. Available *options* are: `Addr` is the network to accept connections from; `Family` is the type of network; `Listen` is the size of the *listen(2)* queue; `Port` is the port on which *sendmail* should listen; `ReceiveSize` is the size of the TCP/IP receive buffer; and `SendSize` is the size of the TCP/IP send buffer. (Was the **O** option, see §34.8.13, or define `confDAEMON_OPTIONS` with the *m4* technique.)

**DefaultCharSet=set**

(safe) Defines the character *set* that will be listed in the `Content-Type:` header, for MIME 8-to 7-bit conversion (see §34.8.14, or define `confDEF_CHAR_SET` with the *m4* technique).

**DefaultUser=user[:group]**

Specifies the default non-root identity for *sendmail*. The *user* may be a numeric *uid* or a login name. If *group* is omitted, *user* is looked up in the *passwd(5)* database, and that *gid* is used. Otherwise, *group* may be a numeric *gid* or a group name. (Was the **u** and **g** options, see §34.8.15, or define `confDEF_USER_ID` with the *m4* technique.)

### **DeliveryMode=mode**

(safe) sets the delivery *mode* that *sendmail* will run as. Select *mode* from: `background` to run asynchronously; `interactive` to run synchronously; `queue-only` to queue, rather than deliver, all mail; or `deferred` to queue all mail *without* doing any DNS lookups. (Was the **d** option, see §34.8.16, or define `confDELIVERY_MODE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **DialDelay=interval**

(safe) specifies how long to sleep after a connection failure. If non-zero, sleeps that *interval* then tries again (see §34.8.17, or define `confDIAL_DELAY` with the *m4* technique).

### **DontExpandCnames=[True|False]**

Prevents CNAME expansion when looking up MX records (see §34.8.18, or define `confDONT_EXPAND_CNAMES` with the *m4* technique).

### **DontInitGroups=[True|False]**

Suppresses use of the *initgroups(3)* call to look up additional group memberships (see §34.8.19, or define `confDONT_INIT_GROUPS` with the *m4* technique).

### **DontPruneRoutes=[True|False]**

Prevents *sendmail* from short-circuiting source routes. (Was the **R** option, see §34.8.20, or define `confDONT_PRUNE_ROUTES` with the *m4* technique.)

### **DoubleBounceAddress=address**

Specifies the *address* to which an error message should be sent if there is an error sending an error message (see §34.8.21, or define `confDOUBLE_BOUNCE_ADDRESS` with the *m4* technique).

### **EightBitMode=how**

(safe) specifies how to convert unlabeled MIME input. Select from: `mimify` to force conversion of 8BITMIME to 7-bit; `pass` to pass unlabeled 8-bit input through as-is; or `strict` to reject unlabeled 8-bit input. (Was the **8** option, see §34.8.22, or define `confEIGHT_BIT_HANDLING` with the *m4* technique.)

### **ErrorHeader=description**

(safe) specifies text or a file's contents to insert at the top of bounced messages. If the *description* starts with a slash, it is taken as the full pathname of a file, otherwise the *description* is taken as literal text. The text is macro-expanded during interpolation. (Was the **E** option, see §34.8.23, or define `confERROR_MESSAGE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **ErrorMode=mode**

(safe) specify *mode* of error handling. Select from: `m` to mail error notification to the sender no matter what; `e` to act just like `m`, but to always exit with a zero exit status; `p` to print error messages (the default); `q` to remain silent about all delivery errors; or `w` to write errors to the sender's

terminal screen. (Was the **e** option, see §34.8.24, or define `confERROR_MODE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **FallbackMXhost=host**

Specifies the *host* to send mail to when all connections to the actual MX hosts have failed. (Was the **V** option, see §34.8.25, or define `confFALLBACK_MX` with the *m4* technique.)

### **ForkEachJob=[True|False]**

Causes queue files to be processed individually to lessen the impact on small-memory machines. (Was the **Y** option, see §34.8.26, or define `confSEPARATE_PROC` with the *m4* technique.)

### **ForwardPath=file[:file:...]**

Sets the *~/.forward* search path. Each *file* name is macro-expanded, then tried. Each is tried in turn until one can be read, whereupon it is the *~/.forward* for that local recipient. (Was the **J** option, see §34.8.27, or define `confFORWARD_PATH` with the *m4* technique.)

### **HelpFile=file**

Specifies the location of the *file* that contains help messages for the SMTP (and ESMTP) HELP command, and usage for the **-bt** rule-testing command. (Was the **H** option, see §34.8.28, or define `HELP_FILE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **HoldExpensive=[True|False]**

Tells *sendmail* to queue rather than deliver messages that will be delivered by "expensive" delivery agents (those with an **F=e** flag set). (Was the **c** option, see §34.8.29, or define `confCON_EXPENSIVE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **HostsFile=file**

Specifies an alternative for the */etc/hosts file* (see §34.8.30, or define `confHOSTS_FILE` with the *m4* technique).

### **HostStatusDirectory=directory**

Specifies the *directory* in which *sendmail* should store persistent host status. If specified, this also enables the keeping of that status. A relative name is relative to the queue directory (see §34.8.31, or define `confHOST_STATUS_DIRECTORY` with the *m4* technique).

### **IgnoreDots=[True|False]**

(safe) tells *sendmail* to ignore leading dots in the message body. (Was the **i** option, see §34.8.32, or define `confIGNORE_DOTS` with the *m4* technique.)

### **LogLevel=level**

(safe) sets the logging *level*, where a level of: 0–6 logs progressively less serious problems; 7 logs delivery failures; 8 logs delivery successes; 9 logs deferred delivery; 10–11 logs database and *nis* lookups; 12 logs SMTP connects; 13 logs questionable permissions; 14 logs connection refusals; 15 logs all incoming and outgoing SMTP commands; and 16–98 logs progressively more detailed debugging information. On the command line, you can only increase the logging level. (Was the **L** option, see §34.8.33, or define `confLOG_LEVEL` with the *m4* technique.)

**MatchGECOS=[True|False]**

Enables so called "Fuzzy" matching of the recipient in the *gecos* field of the *passwd(5)* database. (Was the **G** option, see §34.8.34, or define `confMATCH_GECOS` with the *m4* technique.)

**MaxDaemonChildren=number**

Specifies maximum *number* of children that *sendmail* will fork to process inbound connections. Does not limit forked children that process the queue (see §34.8.35, or define `confMAX_DAEMON_CHILDREN` with the *m4* technique).

**MaxHopCount=number**

Sets the maximum *number* of times a message may be relayed through mail-handling sites (the maximum hop count). (Was the **h** option, see §34.8.36, or define `confMAX_HOP` with the *m4* technique.)

**MaxMessageSize=size**

Specifies the maximum *size* (in bytes) of an incoming message that *sendmail* will accept (see §34.8.37, or define `confMAX_MESSAGE_SIZE` with the *m4* technique).

**MaxQueueRunSize=number**

(safe) specifies the maximum *number* of queued messages that *sendmail* will process from a queue in a given queue run (see §34.8.38, or define `confMAX_QUEUE_RUN_SIZE` with the *m4* technique).

**MeToo=[True|False]**

(safe) causes a copy of the message to be sent to the sender too, when the sender is one of the recipients listed in an alias or mailing list. (Was the **m** option, see §34.8.39, or define `confME_TOO` with the *m4* technique.)

**MinFreeBlocks=number**

(safe) defines minimum *number* of free disk blocks that must be available when a message's size is stated with the SIZE keyword to the ESMTP MAIL command. (Was the **b** option, see §34.8.40, or define `confMIN_FREE_BLOCKS` with the *m4* technique.)

**MinQueueAge=interval**

(safe) skips processing of a queued file if the last time it was processed is sooner than the *interval* specified (see §34.8.41, or define `confMIN_QUEUE_AGE` with the *m4* technique).

**MustQuoteChars=characters**

Allows *sendmail* to quote nonaddress *characters* in an address, as required by RFC822 (see §34.8.42).

**NoRecipientAction=how**

(safe) specifies *how* to handle the situation of no recipients being specified in the header (as would be the case when all recipients were specified in `Bcc:` headers). Select from: `add-apparently-to`, which adds an `Apparently-To:` header; `add-bcc`, which adds an empty `Bcc:` header; `add-to`, which adds an empty `To:` header; `add-undisclosed`, which

adds a `To: undisclosed-recipients:;` header; or none, which passes the message unchanged (see §34.8.43, or define `confNO_RCPT_ACTION` with the *m4* technique).

### **OldStyleHeaders=[True|False]**

(safe) causes *sendmail* to insert commas between the recipients listed in a space-delimited list of recipients. (Was the `o` option, see §34.8.44, or define `confOLD_STYLE_HEADERS` with the *m4* technique.)

### **OperatorChars=characters**

Sets token-separation operators to the list of *characters* given. (Was the `$o` macro, see §34.8.45, or define `confOPERATORS` with the *m4* technique.)

### **PostmasterCopy=address**

Enables the user, whose email *address* is given, to receive an extra copy of every bounce message. (Was the `P` option, see §34.8.46, or define `confCOPY_ERRORS_TO` with the *m4* technique.)

### **PrivacyOptions=option[,option,...]**

(safe) increases privacy and security of the daemon. Each *option* adds to earlier options. Select from: `authwarnings`, which enables `X-Authentication-Warning:` headers; `needexpnhelo`, which requires SMTP HELO before EXPN; `needmailhelo`, which requires SMTP HELO before MAIL; `needvrfyhelo`, which requires SMTP HELO before VRFY; `noexpn`, which disables all SMTP EXPN commands; `novrfy`, which disables all SMTP VRFY commands; and `goaway`, which enables all the preceding. Also select from: `public`, which means none of the preceding; `restrictmailq`, which restricts who may run *mailq*(1); `restrictqrn`, which restricts who may process the queue; and `noreceipts`, which disables sending of return-receipt mail. (Was the `p` option, see §34.8.47, or define `confPRIVACY_FLAGS` with the *m4* technique.)

### **QueueDirectory=pathname**

Specifies the full *pathname* of the queue directory. (Was the `Q` option, see §34.8.48, or define `QUEUE_DIR` with the *m4* technique.)

### **QueueFactor=factor**

Sets the *factor* for high-load queuing. When a message is received, the decision to deliver or to queue it is based on the formula:

$$\text{priority} > \text{QueueFactor} / (\text{load} - \text{QueueLA} + 1)$$

If the priority of the message is greater than the result of this formula, where `load` is the current load average, the message is delivered. (Was the `q` option, see §34.8.49, or define `confQUEUE_FACTOR` with the *m4* technique.)

### **QueueLA=load**

Specifies the *load* average above which queue runs will be skipped. This is also used in the formula shown above for **QueueFactor**. (Was the `x` option, see §34.8.50, or define `confQUEUE_LA` with the *m4* technique.)

**QueueSortOrder=***how*

(safe) specifies *how* to presort the queue. Select from: host to sort by recipient host, lock status, and priority; priority for a simple sort of the message priorities; or time to sort based on submission time (see §34.8.51, or define confQUEUE\_SORT\_ORDER with the *m4* technique).

**QueueTimeout=***interval*

Limits the life of a queued message to the *interval* specified. The first delivery failure after that interval is exceeded causes the message to bounce. (Was the **T** option; deprecated, use the Timeout.queuereturn option instead.)

**RecipientFactor=***factor*

Penalizes large recipient lists by multiplying the number of recipients by this *factor* when determining a message's priority. (Was the **y** option, see §34.8.53, or define confWORK\_RECIPIENT\_FACTOR with the *m4* technique.)

**RefuseLA=***load*

Tells *sendmail* to refuse incoming SMTP connections when the *load* average exceeds this specified load. (Was the **X** option, see §34.8.54, or define %confREFUSE\_LA with the *m4* technique.)

**ResolverOptions=***arg* [*arg* ...]

Tunes DNS lookups by specifying an *arg*, or args, such as: +AAONLY, which turns on the AAONLY name server option (Authoritative Answers Only); and -DNSRCH, which turns off the DNSRCH name server option (search the domain path). (Was the **I** option, see §34.8.55, or define confBIND\_OPTS with the *m4* technique.)

**RetryFactor=***increment*

Sets the amount to *increment* a job's priority each time a message fails to be delivered. (Was the **Z** option, see §34.8.56, or define confWORK\_TIME\_FACTOR with the *m4* technique.)

**RunAsUser=***user*[*:group*]

Runs *sendmail* as a *user* other than *root*. The *user* may be a numeric *uid* or a login name. If *group* is omitted, *user* is looked up in the *passwd(5)* database and the primary *gid* is used. Otherwise, *group* may be a numeric *gid* or a group name (see §34.8.57, or define confRUN\_AS\_USER with the *m4* technique).

**SafeFileEnvironment=***pathname*

Sets the *pathname* to a directory that is safe for file writes. The *sendmail* program does a *chroot(2)* to that directory before writing to files. Also prevents writing to other than plain files, with the exception of */dev/null* (see §34.8.58, or define confSAFE\_FILE\_ENV with the *m4* technique).

**SaveFromLine=[***True|False***]**

Prevents *sendmail* from removing UNIX mailbox-style **From** lines from input. (Was the **f** option, see §34.8.59, or define confSAVE\_FROM\_LINES with the *m4* technique.)

**SendMimeErrors=[***True|False***]**

(safe) Tells *sendmail* it may return error messages (bounced mail notifications) in MIME format. (Was the **j** option, see §34.8.60, or define `confMIME_FORMAT_ERRORS` with the *m4* technique.)

### **ServiceSwitchFile**=*file*

Specifies the location of the switched-services *file*. Under Solaris, DEC OSF/1, and Ultrix, this option is ignored, and the system file automatically used. A switch-services file defines how and in what order services, such as alias, host, and user information, will be looked up (see §34.8.61, or define `confSERVICE_SWITCH_FILE` with the *m4* technique).

### **SevenBitInput**=[*True|False*]

(safe) Forces *sendmail* to clear the high-bit of each byte of a message's body that it reads. (Was the **7** option, see §34.8.62, or define `confSEVEN_BIT_INPUT` with the *m4* technique.)

### **SingleLineFromHeader**=[*True|False*]

(safe) Tells *sendmail* to strip all newline characters from `From:` headers (see §34.8.63).

### **SingleThreadDelivery**=[*True|False*]

Ensures that only a single *sendmail* will ever be delivering to a given host at a given time. Requires that the `HostStatusDirectory` option be set (see §34.8.64, or define `confSINGLE_THREAD_DELIVERY` with the *m4* technique).

### **SmtpGreetingMessage**=\$j *Sendmail \$v ready at \$b*

Specifies the SMTP greeting message. (Was the **\$e** macro, see §34.8.65, or define `confSMTP_LOGIN_MSG` with the *m4* technique.)

### **StatusFile**=*file*

Specifies the location of the statistics *file* (usually *sendmail.st* preceded by an appropriate path). (Was the **S** option, see §34.8.66, or define `STATUS_FILE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **SuperSafe**=[*True|False*]

(safe) Ensures additional reliability by forcing all messages to be queued, even if they could be directly delivered. (Was the **s** option, see §34.8.67, or define `confSAFE_QUEUE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **Temp FileMode**=*mode*

Sets the default *permissions* (in octal) for created temporary files. (Was the **F** option, see §34.8.68, or define `confTEMP_FILE_MODE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **TimeZoneSpec**=*zone*

Sets the time *zone* to that specified. If *zone* is absent, imports the TZ variable from the environment. If the entire option is missing, the default is to unset the TZ environmental variable and use the system default. (Was the **t** option, see §34.8.69, or define `confTIME_ZONE` with the *m4* technique.)

### **Timeout.event**=*interval*

Sets the timeout for an *event* to the *interval* specified. See the section "The Timeout Option" for

details.

## **TryNullMXList=[True|False]**

Tells *sendmail* to connect directly to the A record for a host when the best MX record points to this host. (Was the **w** option, see §34.8.71, or define `confTRY_NULL_MX_LIST` with the *m4* technique.)

## **UnixFromLine=format**

Defines the *format* for the UUCP-style From line. (Was the **\$I** macro, see §34.8.72, or define `confFROM_LINE` with the *m4* technique.)

## **UnsafeGroupWrites=[True|False]**

Tells *sendmail* to check group write permissions on files that it is taking addresses from, and to reject those files (and hence the addresses) when such group write permissions are found (see §34.8.73, or define `confUNSAFE_GROUP_WRITES` with the *m4* technique).

## **UseErrorsTo=[True|False]**

(safe) Allows error notification to be sent to the address listed in the Errors-To : header in addition to that sent to the envelope sender. (Was the **I** option, see §34.8.74, or define `confUSE_ERRORS_TO` with the *m4* technique.)

## **UserDatabaseSpec=file**

Specifies the location of the database *file* that will be used for User Database lookups. (Was the **U** option, see §34.8.75, or define `confUSERDB_SPEC` with the *m4* technique.)

## **Verbose=[True|False]**

(safe) Causes *sendmail* to run in verbose mode. (Was the **v** option, see §34.8.76.)

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2.5 Class Macros

2.7 The Timeout Option



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## 2.7 The Timeout Option

The **Timeout** option is used to set many internal timeouts. Its general form looks like this:

**OTimeout.event=interval**

Here we describe each *event*. Each *interval* is represented by an integer followed by a unit of time: **s** for seconds; **m** for minutes; **h** for hours; **d** for days; and **w** for weeks. They may be chained, as for example:

3d22h4s

sets an *interval* of 3 days, 22 hours, and 4 seconds.

**Timeout.command=interval**

Sets the maximum *interval* of time to wait for arrival of the next anticipated SMTP command (see §34.8.70.1, or define `confTO_COMMAND` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.connect=interval**

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for the `connect(2)` system call to return (see §34.8.70.2, or define `confTO_CONNECT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.datablock=interval**

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for each DATA block read to complete (see §34.8.70.3, or define `confTO_DATABLOCK` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.datafinal=interval**

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the final dot that terminates the DATA phase (see §34.8.70.4, or define `confTO_DATAFINAL` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.datainit=interval**

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the SMTP DATA command (see §34.8.70.5, or define `confTO_DATAINIT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.fileopen=wait**

Specifies how long to *wait* for an NFS-mounted file to open (see §34.8.70.6, or define `confTO_FILEOPEN` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.helo=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the SMTP HELO or EHLO commands (see §34.8.70.7, or define `confTO_HELO` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.hoststatus=***interval*

Specifies the *interval* for which persistent host status should be considered still valid (see §34.8.70.8, or define `confTO_HOSTSTATUS` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.iconnect=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for the first `connect(2)` system call to complete (see §34.8.70.9, or define `confTO_ICONNECT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.ident=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for the RFC1413 identification protocol to complete (see §34.8.70.10, or define `confTO_IDENT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.initial=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for the initial SMTP greeting message (see §34.8.70.11, or define `confTO_INITIAL` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.mail=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the SMTP MAIL command (see §34.8.70.12, or define `confTO_MAIL` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.misc=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of SMTP commands, other than those specifically mentioned here (see §34.8.70.13, or define `confTO_MISC` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.queuereturn[.\*|urgent|normal|%non-urgent]]=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to try to deliver a message. The first time it fails after this interval, it is bounced. Three optional keywords can follow to what is bounced. They correspond to values given in a message's `Priority:` header. The literal ".\*" is a wildcard that encompasses all three keywords (see §34.8.70.14, or define one of `confTO_QUEUERETURN`, `confTO_QUEUERETURN_NONURGENT`, `confTO_QUEUERETURN_NORMAL`, or `confTO_QUEUERETURN_URGENT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.queuewarn[.\*|urgent|normal|%non-urgent]]=***interval*

Causes a warning to be sent to the sender when a message is still undelivered after this *interval*. Three optional keywords can follow as described above (see §34.8.70.15, or define one of `confTO_QUEUEWARN`, `confTO_QUEUEWARN_NONURGENT`, `confTO_QUEUEWARN_NORMAL`, or `confTO_QUEUEWARN_URGENT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.quit=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the SMTP QUIT command (see §34.8.70.16, or define `confTO_QUIT` with the *m4* technique).

**Timeout.rcpt=***interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the SMTP RCPT command (see §34.8.70.17, or define confTO\_RCPT with the *m4* technique).

### Timeout.rset=*interval*

Sets the maximum *interval* to wait for acknowledgment of the SMTP RSET command (see §34.8.70.18, or define confTO\_RSET with the *m4* technique).

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2.6 Options

2.8 Rule Sets

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## 2.8 Rule Sets

Rule sets are declared in the configuration file by beginning a line with the letter S:

**S***number*  
**S***name*  
**S***name=number*

Rule sets are identified either by *number* or symbolic *name*. When identified by name, a number is internally assigned by *sendmail*. An optional = and number may follow a name to force specific association of number to name.

Rule sets numbered 0 through 9 are reserved for *sendmail*'s internal use. Addresses are rewritten by a specific sequence of rules numbered 0 through 4 (see [Figure 2.1](#)).

**Figure 2.1: Sequence of rule sets; envelope (solid) versus header (dashed)**

### **S3**

Rewrites all addresses to prepare them for entry into the sequence for rule sets. It usually focuses on the host part of an address and detects the various forms of the local hostname, so that local delivery can take place (see §29.4).

### **S4**

Undoes any special rewriting done by rule set 3. Rule set 4 is always last (see §29.5).

### **S0**

Selects a delivery agent that determines the **R=** and **S=** rule sets. It also selects the recipient user (which is separately rewritten and placed into **\$u**) and the recipient host (which is placed as-is into **\$h**). (See §29.6)

### **S1**

Rewrites all sender addresses (see §29.9).

### **S2**

Rewrites all recipient addresses (see §29.8).

### **S5**

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## 2.7 The Timeout Option

## 2.9 Delivery Agent S= and R=

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## 2.9 Delivery Agent S= and R=

The S= rule set follows rule set 1 and rewrites the sender address; the R= rule set follows rule set 2 and rewrites the recipient address (see [Figure 2.1](#)) They are declared inside a delivery agent declaration like this:

```
S=set
S=eiset/hset
R=set
R=eiset/hset
```

When there is just a single *set* specified, it is the rule set used to rewrite both header and envelope addresses. When a slash is present, the rule set to the left rewrites the envelope and the one to the right, the headers. If any is missing or zero, that rewriting is skipped.

Any S= rule set may be expressed as:

```
number
name
name=number
```

When identified by name, a number is internally assigned by *sendmail*. An optional = and number may follow a name to force specific association of number to name.

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2.8 Rule Sets

2.10 The check\_Rule Sets



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## 2.10 The check\_ Rule Sets

V8.8 *sendmail* has introduced a suite of named rule sets that have special internal meaning. If one of these rule sets does not exist, the address is accepted. If it exists and if the rule set returns anything other than an #error delivery agent, the message is accepted. Otherwise the message is rejected.

### check\_compat

Compares or contrasts each envelope sender and envelope recipient pair of addresses just before delivery, and validates based on the result. The workspace looks like this:

*sender \$| recipient*

The sender address is separated from the recipient address by a single token that is the \$| operator (see §29.10.4).

### check\_mail

Validates the sender-envelope address as given in the SMTP MAIL command. The workspace, on entry, contains a hostname that should be preprocessed by rule set 3 (see §29.10.1).

### check\_rcpt

Validates the recipient-envelope address as given in the SMTP RCPT command. The workspace, on entry, contains a hostname that should be preprocessed by rule set 3 (see §29.10.2).

### check\_relay

Validates incoming network connections and can be used if *libwrap.a* code was omitted from your release of *sendmail*. The workspace looks like this:

*hostname \$| IPnumber*

The hostname is separated from the IP number by a single token that is the \$| operator (see §29.10.3).

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2.9 Delivery Agent S= and R=

2.11 Rules



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## 2.11 Rules

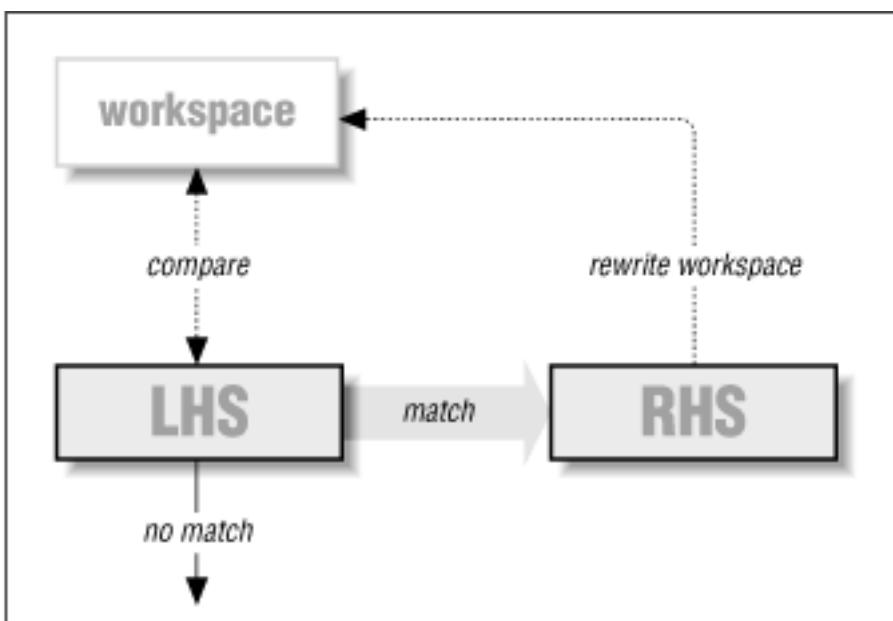
Rules are declared in the configuration file with the **R** command:

```
RLHS tabs RHS [ tabs COMMENT ]
```

Rules are composed of two parts separated by *tab* characters (an optional third part can follow the first two, also separated by *tab* characters, and it forms a comment that is ignored).

Each rule forms a do-while statement as shown in [Figure 2.2](#). So long as the LHS evaluates to true, the RHS rewrites the current address in the workspace. LHS evaluation is done by matching wildcard expressions to addresses. RHS rewriting is done by positional substitution. In this chapter we describe the wildcard and positional operators that aid in the writing of rules (see §28.1).

**Figure 2.2: The behavior of a rule**

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## 2.12 Wildcard Operators in the LHS

The LHS of a rule is compared to an address or to the result of rewriting by earlier rules. The comparison is case insensitive. To illustrate, consider passing the address *hat@coat.org* to this LHS:

**\$\* @ \$+ .ORG**

The **\$\*** (match zero or more) will match *hat*, the **@** will match exactly, the **\$+** (match one or more) will match *coat*, and the **.ORG** will match *.org* despite the case difference.

Wildcard operators match as little as possible in order to make the entire LHS match. For an address like *a@b@c*, the LHS **\$\*@\$+** will cause the **\$\*** to match the *a*.

**\$\***

Matches zero or more tokens. Prefers zero, or the fewest possible, to satisfy an LHS match.

**\$+**

Matches one or more tokens. Prefers one, or the fewest possible, to satisfy an LHS match.

**\$-**

Matches exactly one token.

**\$@**

Matches exactly zero tokens.

**\$=**

Matches any word in a class. Words may be single-token (like *coat*) or multi-token (like *coat.org*).

**\$~**

Matches any single token not in a class.

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2.11 Rules

2.13 Positional Operators in  
the RHS





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## 2.13 Positional Operators in the RHS

The RHS rewrites by substitution. Wildcard operators in the LHS select the portions of the workspace to be passed to the RHS. The first wildcard is assigned to **\$1**, the second to **\$2**, and so on. Consider:

R\$+@\$*		\$2 !\$1
↑	↑	
\$1		
\$2		

Here, an Internet address is rewritten in UUCP form. Note that there are only nine such positional operators, and that **\$0** is illegal.

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2.12 Wildcard Operators in  
the LHS

2.14 Other Operators in the  
RHS

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## 2.14 Other Operators in the RHS

Other operators in the RHS aid in rewriting. The first two below are prefixes, which means they must be the first operator in the RHS to have the desired effect. The others are more complex and may appear anywhere in the RHS.

**\$:**

When used as a prefix, proceeds directly to the next *rule* immediately after the RHS rewrite without trying the LHS again.

**\$@**

When used as a prefix, causes the current *rule set* to immediately return the result of the RHS rewrite without trying the LHS again (the current rule set exits).

**\$> set tokens**

Passes the *tokens* that follow through another rule *set*. The entire expression is replaced with the result of that subroutine call.

**\$[ host \$]**

Canonicalizes the hostname contained between this pair of operators. The result is placed into the workspace, and the operators dropped.

**\$(*database key \$: default \$*)**

Looks up the *key* in the *database* (see [Chapter 3, Databases](#)).

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2.13 Positional Operators in  
the RHS

2.15 Operators that Return a  
Triple



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## 2.15 Operators that Return a Triple

Rule sets 0 and 5 are special in that they allow you to select a delivery agent. Selecting a delivery agent means placing a "triple" in the RHS. The form of that triple looks like this:

**\$# agent \$@ host \$: user**

The order is important; any other order will fail.

**\$# agent**

Selects the delivery *agent* by symbolic name. If the name is **error**, the message is bounced (or deferred) and the nature of the **\$@** and **\$:** changes.

**\$@ host**

Selects the host to which the mail will be sent. The hostname is placed as-is into **\$h**. For the **error** agent, this is the DSN return code (common codes are: 5.1.3 for illegal syntax, 5.1.1 for an address syntax error, 5.1.2 for an invalid hostname, or 5.7.1 for a security rejection; see RFC1893 and §30.5.2).

**\$: user**

Specifies the name of the recipient user. For remote mail this may be a full address. For local mail it may be a login name. The user name is processed by rule set 2, then by the rule set indicated by the **R=** equate of the delivery agent, then by rule set 4, and the result placed into **\$u**. For the **error** agent, this is the literal text of the error message. A three-digit SMTP error code can optionally prefix this text (see §30.5.2).

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2.14 Other Operators in the  
RHS

2.16 Conditional Operators



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## 2.16 Conditional Operators

Conditional operators allow text to be inserted that depends on the value in a macro. Conditional operators are never used in rules, but are often used in header definitions (see §31.6).

**\$?macro result \$ | alternate \$.**

If the *macro* has a value, the entire expression is replaced by *result*. Otherwise, the entire expression is replaced by *alternate*. For example:

From: \$?x\$x <\$g>\$ | \$g\$ .

Here, if \$x has a value (the \$?x), the entire expression becomes:

From: \$x <\$g>

Otherwise (the \$ | \$g), it becomes:

From: \$g

The \$. is last and terminates the conditional expression. Conditional expressions may nest, but nesting is discouraged.

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2.15 Operators that Return a  
Triple

2.17 Hints

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## 2.17 Hints

a new *sendmail.cf* file

Requires that you restart the *sendmail* daemon, or else the daemon will not know of the changes. Before installing a new configuration file be sure to test it with the **-C** command-line switch. When using **-C** for testing, also use **-oQ/tmp**.

**\$=w** and MX records

Require that any host that lists your host as the best MX record be included in your hosts' **\$=w** class declaration, or in your *sendmail.cw* file.

**F=m** and quotas

Don't combine well. If one user is over quota, */bin/mail* cannot tell if one or all recipients of a multi-recipient message failed, so it exits in a way that causes *sendmail* to retry delivery to all the recipients over and over again. If you run quotas on the mail spool directory, try disabling the **F=m** flag for the local delivery agent.

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2.16 Conditional Operators

3. Databases



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## 3. Databases

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Database support in *sendmail* includes external files, internal symbol tables, and database-style hooks into processes. Databases support the common *aliases* and such *m4* style features as *mailertable* and the User Database.

### 3.1 Support in Makefile

Some database support is always supplied as a part of *sendmail* (like **dequote**), while others require you to include support inside your *Makefile* when building *sendmail*. Support is added on the DBMDEF= line:

```
DBMDEF= -DNDBM
```

This line adds support for *ndbm*(3) database files (see §18.4.1). Some database formats, such as *db*, may require that you also add *include* file and library support:

```
INCDIRS=-I/usr/local/include/db
LIBS= -lodb -lresolv
```

Here LIBS= had -lodb added (see §18.4.6), and INCDIR= show the path to the *db* *include* files (see §18.4.3).

**-DHESIOD**

Supports *hesiod*(3) for aliases only (see §18.8.10).

## -LDAPMAP

Supports *ldap*(3) white pages (see §18.8.15).

## -NDDBM

Supports *ndbm*(3) database files (see §18.8.24).

## -DNEWDB

Supports the Berkeley *db*(3) database (see §18.8.28).

## -DNIS

Supports Sun's *nis* network services (see §18.8.29).

## -DNISPLUS

Supports Sun's *nisplus* network services (see §18.8.30).

## -DNETINFO

Supports NeXT's *netinfo*(3) (see §18.8.27).

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3.2 Aliasing



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## 3.2 Aliasing

The source and type of aliases are controlled by the `AliasFile` option and the `aliases` entry in the service-switch file. Alias entries are built from key and value pairs where the key (the *list* name) is on the left, followed by a colon, then by one or more *members* that form the value (see §24.1):

*list*: *member1*, *member2*, ...

The sequence of *members* can be continued on subsequent lines by beginning each such continuation line with white space.

*list*: *member1*, *member2*,  
*member3*, *member4*, ...

Each list *member* may be a user address, a file name, a program reference, or a `:include:` reference. addresses

Are either standard email addresses (a local user or alias name or a *user@host*, where comments and "Full Name <*user@host*>" syntaxes are acceptable), or a local user name prefixed with a backslash (which forces immediate delivery, see §24.2.1).

files

Are specified by prefixing the file name with a forward slash (e.g., */path/file*); thus all file specifications must be full pathnames. Files must be world writable, or must have the *setuid* bit set but no execute bits set. Delivery is made by appending the message to the *file* (see §24.2.2).

programs

Are specified by prefixing the program with a vertical bar (e.g., *|path/program*). If the program's invocation includes command-line arguments, it must be quoted. Programs are run as the sender (if local) or the default user (set by the `DefaultUser` option). Delivery is made by piping the message through the *program* (see §24.2.3).

`:include:`

Says that additional aliases will be read from a specified *file*, which must be a full pathname:

`:include: /path/file`

The file listed in a :include: reference must be world readable. The syntax of a file is identical to the syntax of a *forward* file (described below). The owner of the :include: file is used for the permissions for writing files, running programs, and reading recursive :include: files (see §25.2).

Aliases are not processed until the alias database is rebuilt using the **newaliases** command or the **-bi** command-line switch (see §24.5.1).

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3.1 Support in Makefile

3.3 The *~/.forward* file



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### 3.3 The *~/.forward* file

Users can redirect mail addressed to themselves by creating a file named *forward* in their home directory (see §25.7). (The *ForwardPath* option is used to change or augment the location and name of the *forward* file.) The *forward* file must be owned by the user or by *root*, and must *not* be world writable (mode 644 is recommended). Entries read:

*member1, member2, ...*

There can be multiple lines, but they are treated independently (there are no continuation lines). Just as in the *aliases* file, *members* may be a user address, a file name, a program reference, or a :*include*: reference. Files must be writable by the forwarding user, programs are run as the forwarding user, and :*include*: files must be readable by the forwarding user.

The ability to run programs or to write to files from the *forward* file is controlled by the */etc/shells* file. If the owner of the *forward* file lacks a valid shell as listed in */etc/shells*, program execution is disallowed. The special string */SENDMAIL/ANY/SHELL/*, when placed in the */etc/shells* file, allows all users to execute programs and deliver to files (see §18.8.56).

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3.2 Aliasing

3.4 :*include*: Files and  
Mailing Lists



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## 3.4 :include: Files and Mailing Lists

Files referenced using the `:include:` syntax have the same syntax as `~/.forward` files. Any files written via a `:include:` file must be writable by the owner of the `:include:` file, and any other `:include:` files referenced for inclusion must be readable by the owner of the referencing `:include:` file.

To set up a mailing list managed by, for example, *sally*, set up the following aliases:

```
sample:           :include:/var/lists/sample.list
sample-request: sally
owner-sample:   sample-request
```

Then create the file `/var/lists/sample.list`, mode 644, and owned by *sally*. Mail sent to *sample* will be sent to everyone on the list. Error messages will go directly to *sample-request*, and in turn to *sally*. (The *list-request* syntax is an Internet convention, see §25.2.)

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3.3 The `~/.forward` file

3.5 The `makemap` Program



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## 3.5 The makemap Program

The *makemap(1)* program (part of *sendmail*'s source) is useful for producing database files. It supports the *ndbm(3)* form of database, and the *hash* and *btree* forms of the Berkeley *db(3)* database (see §33.2).

*makemap switches class database*

The *makemap(1)* program reads from its standard input lines of text with the key preceding the value on each line. Output is to *database* file. The *class* is selected from *dbm*, *btree*, or *hash*. The *switches* are:

**-d**

Allows duplicate keys. Without this switch, duplicate keys cause warnings to be printed (see §33.2.1.1).

**-f**

Prevents (the default) folding of keys from upper- to lowercase (see §33.2.1.2).

**-N**

Appends a null byte to all keys (see §33.2.1.3).

**-o**

Prevents *file* from being truncated on *open(2)*. In other words, append to, don't overwrite the file (see §33.2.1.4).

**-r**

Replaces (silently) a duplicate key's value with the new value (see §33.2.1.5).

**-v**

Sets verbose mode so that you can watch keys and data being added (see §33.2.1.6).

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Mailing Lists

3.6 The K Command





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## 3.6 The K Command

The **K** command is used to declare a database support in the configuration file:

*Kname class switches database*

The *name* is the symbolic name used in rule sets with the \$( and \$) operators. The *class* is described in the next section. The *switches* are described immediately below. The *database* is either the name of an external database (possibly created with *makemap*), or that of a flat text file (see §33.3).

**-A**

Appends values for duplicate keys (see §33.3.4.1).

**-a tag**

Appends *tag* on a successful match (see §33.3.4.2).

**-f**

Prevents folding of keys to lowercase prior to the lookup (see §33.3.4.3).

**-k column**

Specifies the *column* for the key in flat text or some network files (see §33.3.4.4).

**-m**

Suppresses replacement on match (see §33.3.4.5).

**-N**

Appends a null byte to the key before the lookup (see §33.3.4.6).

**-O**

Causes *sendmail* to not add a null byte to the key before the lookup. Note that with neither **-O** nor **-N**, *sendmail* determines adaptively whether or not it should add a null byte (see §33.3.4.7).

**-o**

Specifies that the existence of the database file is optional (see §33.3.4.8).

**-q**

Prevents quotes from being stripped from the key before the lookup (see §33.3.4.9).

**-s *character***

Specifies the space replacement *character* (see §33.3.4.10).

**-v *column***

Specifies the value's *column* for flat or some network files (see §33.3.4.11).

**-z *delimiter***

Specifies the column *delimiter* for flat or some network files (see §33.3.4.12).

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3.5 The makemap Program

3.7 Classes



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## 3.7 Classes

There are many classes available for use with the **K** command and for use in rewriting rules. Some require special compile flags to be included when *sendmail* is built.

### **btree**

Uses Berkeley's *db* form of database. Database file names have a *.db* appended (see §33.8.1).

### **bestmx**

Looks up the best MX record for a host (see §33.8.2).

### **dbm**

Uses the *ndbm* form of database. The database is formed of two files, one whose name ends in *.pag* and the other in *.dir* (see §33.8.3).

### **dequote**

Removes quotation marks (see §33.8.4).

### **hash**

Uses Berkeley's *db* form of database (see §33.8.5).

### **hesiod**

Uses MIT network user authentication services (see §33.8.6).

### **host**

Uses an internal table to store and look up hostnames (see §33.4.3).

### **implicit**

Searches for an *aliases* database file (see §33.8.8).

### **ldapx**

Uses the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (see §33.8.9).

### **netinfo**

Uses NeXT Computer's network information services (see §33.8.10).

**nis**

Uses Sun's Network Information Services (*nis*, see §33.8.11).

**nisplus**

Uses Sun's newer Network Information Services (*nisplus*, see §33.8.12).

**null**

Provides a "never found" service (for internal use only, see §33.8.13).

**program**

Runs an external program to look up the key (see §33.8.14).

**sequence**

Searches a series of maps (see §33.8.15).

**stab**

Loads aliases into the symbol table (internally) (see §33.8.16).

**switch**

Auto-builds sequences of databases based on service-switch file entries (see §33.8.17).

**text**

Looks up keys in flat text files (see §33.8.18).

**userdb**

Uses the User Database (see §33.8.19).

**user**

Looks up local *passwd*(5) information (see §33.8.20).

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3.6 The K Command

3.8 Databases in Rules



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## 3.8 Databases in Rules

Databases are accessed inside the RHS of rules with the \$( and \$) operators:

`$( name key $)`

This looks up *key* in the database named *name* and replaces the entire expression (operators and all) with the value found in the database. If no value is found, the *key* replaces the expression, unless a \$: gives a default:

`$( name key $: default $)`

in which instance the *default* replaces the entire expression.

Optional replacement text can be appear between the *name* and the \$: (if one) or the \$. Each is of the form "\$@text":

`$( name key @{$text1 @{$text2 $})`  
`$( name key @{$text1 @{$text2 $: default $})`

The first (the @{\$text1}) will replace any literal %1 expressions in the value returned by the database. The second (the @{\$text2}) will replace %2, and so on. In this scheme, %0 always references the *key*. But note that not all map classes do this replacement.

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3.7 Classes

3.9 The User Database



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## 3.9 The User Database

Locates mail drops when mail is received, and maps user names to their external form when mail is sent. The format of the database file (e.g., */etc/userdb*) is:

<i>user:maildrop</i>	<i>user@host</i>
<i>user:mailname</i>	<i>alias@external.domain</i>

As a shorthand, if all users in a database should have their domain name changed when mail is sent, use:

<i>:default:mailname</i>	<i>external.domain</i>
<i>user1:maildrop</i>	<i>user1@host</i>
<i>user2:maildrop</i>	<i>user2@host</i>

You build the database using the *makemap(1)* program:

```
% makemap btree /etc/userdb < /etc/userdb
```

Berkeley database (**btree** class) support is required.

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3.8 Databases in Rules

3.10 Hints

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## 3.10 Hints

**-f** and **-N**

Must match between the configuration file's **K** line and the command-line run to execute *makemap(1)*. But note that in most cases you probably don't want to use either switch.

**text** class

Lookups on heavily loaded systems can be very slow. They can also be slow when the text file is extremely large. In either instance try to convert to an *ndbm*- or *db*-style database.

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3.9 The User Database

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## 4. Configuring with m4

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A configuration file is generated from an *m4* source file (e.g., one named *our.mc*) in the *cf/cf* *sendmail* source tree like this:

```
m4 ..../m4/cf.m4 our.mc > sendmail.cf
```

To use a directory other than *./m4*, use:

```
m4 -D_CF_DIR_=path/ path/m4/cf.m4 our.mc >
sendmail.cf
```

Here, *path* is the full path to the *m4/cf.m4* file. The *our.mc* source may contain the following lines (in this order):

OSTYPE( <i>os</i> )	← declare local parameters using define here
DOMAIN( <i>domain</i> )	← can be several
FEATURE( <i>feature</i> )	← can be several
MAILER( <i>agent</i> )	← local rule set declarations here

Thus, a minimal file would declare the operating system and local delivery agent support with two lines like this:

```
OSTYPE(os)
MAILER(local)
```

In some cases you may see lines terminated with **dnl**, which means "delete to new line." Its use prevents extra blank lines from appearing in the output. It is almost never required. For more details about the *m4* technique in general, see §19.2.

## OSTYPE

Causes support to be included from one of the files in the *cf/ostype* directory.

`OSTYPE( os )`

This sets defaults for your operating system from the file *cf/ostype/os.m4* (as for example, *sunos4.1.m4*). If you want to change any of the defaults that come with your operating system's file, do so after declaring OSTYPE. (See §19.3.1).

## DOMAIN

Collects together local parameter declarations for an (optional) administrative domain:

`DOMAIN( domain )`

Here, *domain* is the name of a file in the *cf/domain* directory. With the exception of the file called *generic*, you should create your own *domain* file (see §19.3.3).

### *local parameter declarations*

Are (mostly) named *confNAME*, and most all cases are declared using the `define` directive:

`define(`parameter_name', `value')`

the *parameter\_names* define options and macros (see [Chapter 2, The sendmail.cf File](#)). In some cases local parameters are declared using special macros; see the next section.

## FEATURE

Supplies simple solutions to special needs. The FEATURE directive is described below.

## MAILER

Causes support for delivery agents to be included. It must follow local parameter declarations because some of them change how a MAILER directive will be interpreted. MAILER is detailed following the features.

### *local rule set declarations*

Allow you to easily add rules and rule sets to your configuration file. Each definition stands on a line by itself, and the lines following each are included in the appropriate place in the configuration file. For example: LOCAL\_CONFIG to add general declarations (e.g., K configuration databases) that should go at the top of the configuration file (see §19.6.30); LOCAL\_RULE\_0 to add rules to rule set 0 (see §19.6.32); LOCAL\_RULE\_1 to add rules to rule set 1 (see §19.6.33); LOCAL\_RULE\_2 to add rules to rule set 2 (see §19.6.34); LOCAL\_RULE\_3 to add rules to rule set 3 (see §19.6.35); and LOCAL\_RULESETS to declare entirely new rule sets, such as **check\_relay** (see §19.6.36). Also select from: LOCAL\_NET\_CONFIG (used in conjunction with LOCAL\_RELAY) to add rules that tell what addresses should *not* be forwarded to the relay (see §19.6.37); and MAILER\_DEFINITIONS to define new delivery agents and the rule sets associated with them (see §19.6.40).

# 4.1 Special Local Parameters

These lines should go in the DOMAIN file or before FEATURE declarations (because they precondition certain features).

## **EXPOSED\_USER(*user*)**

(Used with MASQUERADE\_AS) tells what users should not be masqueraded (see §19.6.4).

## **GENERIC\_DOMAIN(*domain*)**

Lists the names of domains that will be looked up with the **genericstable** feature. Declare one *domain* per line. There may be several such lines.

## **GENERIC\_DOMAIN\_FILE(*file*)**

Specifies the *file* that contains the domains that will be looked up with the **generic\%stable** feature.

## **MASQUERADE\_AS(*domain*)**

Causes all outgoing addresses to be rewritten as though they came from the indicated *domain* (see §19.6.42).

## **MASQUERADE\_DOMAIN(*domain*)**

Specifies additional *domains* that will be translated into the MASQUERADE\_AS domain. See also the **limited\_masquerade** feature (see §19.6.43).

## **MASQUERADE\_DOMAIN\_FILE(*file*)**

Specifies the name of the *file* that contains a list of domains that will be masqueraded (see §19.6.44).

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4.2 FEATURE Declarations



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## 4.2 FEATURE Declarations

In addition to minimal support, many handy features can be included with a line like:

FEATURE (*feature*)

Here, *feature* is selected from those listed below. Some accept additional arguments. See *cf/README*, and §19.3.4, for details.

### **allmasquerade**

Causes the MASQUERADE\_AS host to replace all header-recipient addresses too (see §19.6.6).

### **always\_add\_domain**

Tells *sendmail* to always append the local domain to addresses that lack a domain part, even if the recipient is local (see §19.6.7).

### **bestmx\_is\_local**

Accepts a hostname as local if the best MX record for that host is found in the class \$=w (see §19.6.8).

### **bitdomain**

Includes rules that support an external database for converting BITNET addresses into Internet addresses (see §19.6.9).

### **domainable**

Allows use of multiple domain names during a transition period (see §19.6.10).

### **genericstable**

Includes rules that support use of a User Database-like facility to change sender addresses so that senders can be delivered to new hosts (see §19.6.11).

### **limited\_masquerade**

Specifies that only hosts declared with MASQUERADE\_DOMAIN and MASQUERADE\_DOMAIN\_FILE may be masqueraded (see §19.6.12).

### **local\_procmail**

Includes rules that allow *procmail*(1) to be used as the local delivery agent (see §19.6.13).

## **mailertable**

Includes rules that support a database that maps *host.domain* names to special delivery agents and new domain name pairs. Essentially it provides a database hook into rule set 0. The new domain names are used for routing but are not reflected in the headers of messages (see §19.6.14).

## **masquerade\_entire\_domain**

Causes all hosts under any domains declared by MASQUERADE\_DOMAIN or MASQUERADE\_DOMAIN\_FILE to be masqueraded. Ordinarily, masquerading only transforms hosts from a list of hosts in the class \$=w (see §19.6.15).

## **masquerade\_envelope**

Causes the envelope to be masqueraded too. Ordinarily, masquerading only affects the headers (see §19.6.16).

## **nocanonify**

Prevents *sendmail* from passing addresses to \$[ and \$] for canonicalization. Ordinarily, as part of rule set 3, *sendmail* tries to canonify (add a domain to) any hostname that lacks a domain part (see §19.6.17).

## **nodns**

Once caused DNS support to be excluded from the configuration file, but now does nothing. Deprecated; use the ServiceSwitchFile instead (see §19.6.18).

## **nouucp**

Excludes UUCP support from the configuration file (see §19.6.19).

## **nullclient**

Produces a minimal configuration file that can only forward mail to a mail hub machine (see §19.6.20).

## **redirect**

Adds support for *address.REDIRECT* forms of addresses. This is chiefly used to bounce retired-account mail with useful forwarding information (see §19.6.21).

## **smrsh**

Cause *smrsh*(1) (*sendmail* restricted shell) to be used in place of */bin/sh* as the shell for the **prog** delivery agent (see §19.6.22).

## **stickyhost**

Causes all addresses without a host part to be forwarded to a central mail server, while allowing those with a local host part to remain on the local machine and be delivered in the usual local way (see §19.6.24).

## **use\_ct\_file**

Causes a list of trusted users to be read from the */etc/sendmail.ct* file (see §19.6.25).

**use\_cw\_file**

Causes a list of local hostnames to be read from the */etc/sendmail.cw* file (see §19.6.26).

**uucpdomain**

Includes rules that cause hostnames of the form *host.UUCP* to be looked up in a database. If found, they are rewritten to an *@host* form as specified in that database (see §19.6.27).

**virtusertable**

Maps virtual (possibly nonexistent) domains into new addresses. Note that this reroutes delivery, but does not change the mail headers (see §19.6.28).

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4.1 Special Local Parameters

4.3 MAILER Declarations

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## 4.3 MAILER Declarations

Delivery agents are declared using the MAILER directive:

```
MAILER( agent )
```

The available *agents* are listed in the *cf/mailer* directory (see §19.3.2). For example, consider:

```
MAILER( local )
MAILER( smtp )
```

Here, the first includes support for local delivery, delivery to files, and delivery through programs. The second allows the *sendmail* daemon to accept incoming mail.

### cyrus

Declares *cyrus* for delivery to the Cyrus IMAP4 server, and *cyrusbb* for delivery to a Cyrus bulletin board.

### fax

Declares *fax* for delivery to a mail-to-fax gateway.

### local

Declares *local* for delivery to a local mailbox and *prog* for delivery through a shell program.

### mail11

Declares *mail11* for delivery to a DECnet/*mail11* gateway.

### phquery

Declares *ph*, which uses the *phquery* program to send to the *ph* directory service.

### pop

Declares *pop* for delivery through the MH *spop* program.

### procmail

Declares *procmail* for delivery using the *procmail* program.

### smtp

Declares `smtplib`, which handles SMTP mail; `esmtplib`, which always speaks ESMTP instead of adapting on the basis of the greeting message; `smtplib8`, which always uses 8-bit data directly; and `relay`, which uses SMTP with minimal rewriting and only works within a single domain.

### **usenet**

Declares `usenet` for delivery to a mail-to-news gateway.

### **uucp**

Declares `uucp-old`, `uucp-new`, `uucp-uudom`, and `uucp-dom`. Use `uucp-old` if your peers are running very old (V7) versions of UUCP. Use `uucp-new` if they are running a newer version (e.g., *honey danber*) but don't understand domain-based addressing. Use `uucp-uudom` if your peers use UUCP addresses (e.g., *host!user*) in the envelope, but domain-based addresses (*user@host.domain*) in the headers. Use `uucp-dom` if your peers are completely converted to domain-based addressing. The last two are only defined if MAILER(`smtp`) is declared before MAILER(`uucp`).

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## 4.4 Virtual User Tables

When using FEATURE(virtusertable), *sendmail* will do translation based on the entire domain name when the address is first read. This is similar, but not identical, to aliasing. It is commonly used to host multiple domains with different (and possibly even overlapping) users on one machine using MX records. The format of the input file (e.g., */etc/virtusertable*) is:

[*virtuser*]@*virtdomain*    *address*

For example, an input file might read:

info@foo.com	foo-info
info@bar.com	bar-info
john@foo.com	jdoe
jane@foo.com	jroe@elsewhere.com
@bar.com	mary

The first two entries translate *info@foo.com* and *info@bar.com* into different names, which may be user names or aliases. The third and fourth entries alias users to other names. The fifth entry says that *anything@bar.com* that wasn't otherwise recognized should go to *mary*.

You build the database from the input file using the *makemap(1)* program:

```
% makemap hash /etc/virtusertable < /etc/virtusertable
```

You declare the database for use with your *.mc* file, like this:

```
FEATURE(virtusertable, hash /etc/virtusertable)
```

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4.3 MAILER Declarations

4.5 Mailer Tables



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## 4.5 Mailer Tables

Mailer tables are a simple way of directing messages to different Mail Delivery Agents (MDAs) on the basis of host or domain names. For example, consider this input file (e.g., */etc/mailertable*):

```
remote.foo.com    uucp-uudom:home
.skunkworks.foo.com    relay:secret.foo.com
```

Here the first line says that anything addressed to *user@remote.foo.com* should be sent using the **uucp-uudom** delivery agent to the host named *home*. The second line says that any message addressed to any host within the domain *.skunkworks.foo.com* should be sent using the **relay** delivery agent to the host *secret.foo.com*.

You can build the database from the input file using the *%makemap(1)* program:

```
% makemap hash /etc/mailertable < /etc/mailertable
```

You declare the database for use with your *.mc* file, like this:

```
FEATURE(mailertable, hash /etc/mailertable)
```

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4.4 Virtual User Tables

4.6 Hints



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## 4.6 Hints

- Always test your newly generated configuration file with *sendmail*'s (**-bt**) rule-testing mode. Run a series of predetermined addresses through the **/parse** command and look for any discrepancies that look odd.
- Make sure your *DOMAIN* file does not define operating system-dependent parameters. It should contain parameter and FEATURE declarations that you want *all* the machines in your domain to share. For example, if you want to include FEATURE(redirect) or FEATURE(nouucp), declare them in your *DOMAIN* file for consistency across all hosts in your domain.
- A new binary should always be accompanied by a new configuration file. Whenever you build a new version of *sendmail*, be sure to also create a new configuration file with the *m4* technique.

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## 4.5 Mailer Tables

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**Chapter 5**

## 5. Additional Information Sources

No reference this tiny can contain all the information you need. The *sendmail* source comes with many useful documents.

### **RELEASE\_NOTES**

Describes all the changes that have occurred from version to version.

### **READ\_ME**

Tells what is where in the source tree and gives a few cautionary general announcements.

### **src/READ\_ME**

Describes how to edit *Makefile*, and how to build and install *sendmail*.

### **cf/README**

Describes how to create a configuration file using the *m4* technique.

### **doc/op**

Contains the *Installation and Operations Guide*. This directory contains the *-me* source and printer-ready PostScript.

### **FAQ**

Included with the source, is deprecated. Instead look for the most current FAQ that is periodically posted to the Usenet newsgroups [comp.mail.sendmail](#) and [comp.answers](#). A link to the latest archived FAQ can be found at <http://www.sendmail.org>.

In addition to these documents supplied with the source, you can always find the most up-to-the-minute information at <http://www.sendmail.org>.

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4.6 Hints