WEBMAIL

Software run by an ISP or online service that provides access to send, receive, and review e-mail using only your Web browser. Users can simply enter the Webmail Web site URL in their browser's address or location field, and use their Webmail account by typing in a username and password.

Webmail provides an easy access and storage of e-mail messages for users who are not connected to the Internet from their usual location. Instead of the e-mail being downloaded to the computer you are checking your e-mail account from, the messages will stay on the provider's server, allowing you access to all e-mail messages regardless of what system or ISP you are connected to the Internet with. Hotmail, Gmail, and Yahoo! mail are all examples of popular Webmail providers. Additionally many ISPs offer Webmail services to customers in addition to POP e-mail services.

1. Install sqwebmail

- Webmail is a very useful service to offer your clients although you may need to be careful of the extra CPU load and bandwidth it might use.
- Unlike many other webmail solutions, which use POP3 or IMAP to talk to the mail store, sqwebmail reads and writes Maildir directories directly. This makes it efficient in the case where POP/IMAP and webmail run on the same box, or where there is an NFS-shared mailstore.
- sqwebmail is feature-rich, very customisable through HTML templates and stylesheets, supports multiple languages, and is simple to install (it runs as a single CGI). Note however that it is still under very active development and hence subject to change quite frequently.
- If you don't have it, install and test Apache first, but you should already have Apache from your exercises done on previously:

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- Check your Apache install is working by pointing a web browser at http://localhost/
- Now install sqwebmail:
- # cd /usr/ports/mail/sqwebmail
- # make WITH CHARSET=all
- [When prompted for options on the screen, press <TAB> to highlight OK, and then <ENTER> to continue.]
- # make install
- # make clean (optional step)
- This will take about 15 or less minutes to compile on your machines.
- The option "WITH_CHARSET=all" allows sqwebmail to view messages in a wide copy these somewhere else.

- range of character sets. This increases the size of the binary by about one megabyte with the extra translation tables which are included.
- One other change is required: add the following line to /etc/crontab to periodically clean out old sessions:
- 0 * * * * bin /usr/local/share/sqwebmail/cleancache.pl
- Sqwebmail comes in two parts: a small CGI stub which sends HTTP requests down a socket; and a pool of daemons which perform the actual work. The CGI stub is installed in /usr/local/www/cgi-bin-dist by default, and there are some graphics installed in /usr/local/www/data-dist/sqwebmail/*. These locations will work for a default Apache install, but if you have changed the normal Apache configuration (e.g. DocumentRoot) then you may need to copy somewhere else.

2. Configure and start sqwebmail

sqwebmail's main configuration file is /usr/local/etc/sqwebmail/sqwebmaild - however you almost certainly don't need to change it.

As usual, you will need to enable the sqwebmail daemon in /etc/rc.conf, and then call its startup script.

vi /etc/rc.conf

...

sqwebmaild_enable="YES"

/usr/local/etc/rc.d/sqwebmail-sqwebmaild.sh start Starting sqwebmaild.

3. Test Sqwebmail

If everything is working correctly, you should be able to point a web browser at http://localhost/cgi-bin/sqwebmail/sqwebmail and be presented with a login screen, where you can enter a username and password and login.

In addition consider connecting securely at this point:

https://localhost/cgi-bin/sqwebmail/sqwebmail

If this does not work:

Check your Apache logs - /var/log/httpd-access.log and /var/log/httpd-error.log

Check your mail log - /var/log/maillog

Check your debug log - /var/log/debug.log

Further documentation for sqwebmail can be found at

http://www.courier-mta.org/sqwebmail/ and installed in /usr/local/share/doc/sqwebmail/

4. Optional extra exercises

- 11.1 Give your neighbour a mail account on your system. Let them check that they can collect mail using POP3, IMAP and Webmail.
- 11.2 When users send mail via sqwebmail, we would like their IP address and login name to be recorded in one of the Received: headers to provide a security audit. This can be done by modifying the script 'sendit.sh' which sqwebmail uses to send all outgoing mail.
- # vi /usr/local/share/sqwebmail/sendit.sh
- change:
- exec /usr/sbin/sendmail -oi -t \$DSN -f "\$1"
- to:
- exec /usr/sbin/sendmail -oi -t -f "\$1" -oMr "\$SERVER_PROTOCOL" -oMa "\$REMOTE ADDR" -oMt "\$2"
- # /usr/local/etc/rc.d/sqwebmail-sqwebmaild.sh restart

- After making this change, compose a mail via the sqwebmail interface. When it is delivered, check the full headers and look for the bottom Received: header which should record the source of the mail. You'll need to click on the mail icon with the magnifying glass to see full headers:
- Received: from [196.216.76.1] (ident=prossie@linuxchix.or.ke)
- by Festina.local.linuxchix.or.ke with HTTP/1.1 (Exim 4.43 (FreeBSD))
- id 1Cln2K-0000Pd-EP
- for pc1@linuxchix.or.ke; Tue, 14 march 2007 11:39:40 +0000
- 11.3 A number of behaviours of courier-imap and sqwebmail can be changed by means of "account options". These can be set globally, and overridden for individual accounts (although not for Unix system accounts). Try the following:
- # vi /usr/local/etc/authlib/authdaemonrc
- change

- DEFAULTOPTIONS=""
- to
- DEFAULTOPTIONS="wbnodsn=1,wbnochangingfrom=1,disableshared=1"
- # /usr/local/etc/rc.d/courier-authdaemond.sh restart
- You can see account options for an account using "authtest *username*", and list all accounts together with their options using "authenumerate -o"

- The available options are:
- disableshared=1
- Disable shared folder functionality (hides the 'key' icon in sqwebmail). Shared folders need additional setting up, and only work for systems with virtual accounts.
- disablepop3=1 disableimap=1 disablewebmail=1
- Disable these types of access from this account
- wbnochangingfrom=1
- Webmail: disable ability for users to set the From: header on outgoing mail
- wbnochangepass=1
- Webmail: disable ability for users to change their passwords
- wbusexsender=1

- Webmail: add an X-Sender: header to outgoing mail
- wbnoimages=1
- Webmail: use a text-only interface
- wbnodsn=1
- Webmail: disable the "return receipt" functionality (Exim does not support this so we must disable it anyway)