# Edit MX Entry

*(WHM >> Home >> DNS Functions >> Edit MX Entry)*


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## Overview

A mail exchanger (MX) entry determines which server receives mail for a domain name. The *Edit MX Entry* interface allows you to configure the entry for each destination mail server.

## How to edit MX entries

To edit your server's MX entries, perform the following steps:

1. From the *Choose a Domain to Edit* menu, select the name of the domain for which you wish to configure MX entries.
2. Click *Edit*. A new interface will appear.
3. Select the *Email Routing* setting that you wish to use. For more information, see the Email Routing table below.
4. Enter the desired settings for each MX entry in the *MX Entries* section.
5. Click *Save*.

## Email Routing

You can select any of the following *Email Routing* settings for your mail exchangers:

| Setting | Description |
|---|---|
| *Automatically Detect Configuration* | Select this setting to allow the system to choose the most appropriate *Email Routing* setting, based on a query of the MX record.<br><br>The system queries the MX record and uses the following criteria to determine the *Email Routing* setting:<br><br>• If the lowest priority mail exchanger points to an IP address on this server, the system selects the *Local Mail Exchanger* setting.<br>• If a mail exchanger with a higher priority points to an IP address on this server, the system selects the *Backup Mail Exchanger* setting.<br>• If there are no mail exchangers that point to an IP address on this server, the system selects the *Remote Mail Exchanger* setti ng.<br><br>**Note:**<br>The system **cannot** perform automatic detection for this setting if the MX entry does not resolve (for example, if you mistype a domain name or enter one that does not exist). If the MX entry does not resolve and the *Email Routing* setting is *Automatically Detect Configuration*, the system generates a warning and defaults to the last known *Email Routing* setting. |
| *Local Mail Exchanger* | Select this setting to cause the server to always accept mail for the domain. |
| *Backup Mail Exchanger* | Select this setting to cause the server to accept mail for the domain and store it until a higher priority (lower number) mail server becomes available. |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Remote Mail Exchanger* | Select this setting to cause the server to **never** accept mail for the domain.<br><br>**Note:**<br>The system **always** assigns the lowest priority value to *Remote Mail Exchanger* mail servers. |

**Note:**
For the *Automatically Detect Configuration* setting to treat additional IP addresses as local, you **must** add them to the list of local IP addresses. Add IP addresses to the list in WHM's *Configure Remote Service IPs* interface (*WHM >> Home >> IP Functions >> Configure Remote Service IPs*).

### MX Entries

You can configure the following values for each MX entry:

| Setting | Description |
|---|---|
| *TTL* | This integer value specifies the time to live (TTL). TTL indicates how long a particular record remains in memory, in seconds, before it refreshes. This value defaults to `14400`. |
| *Priority* | This integer value represents the priority order of the mail server, in relation to other MX entries. The lower the *Priority* value, the higher the server's priority. This value defaults to a value that is `10` higher than the highest existing MX entry's priority.<br><br>• The servers with the lowest *Priority* values act as the primary mail servers.<br>• Servers with higher *Priority* values serve as secondary mail servers.<br>• If multiple mail servers have the same *Priority* value, the system distributes mail at that *Priority* value to those servers randomly. |
| *MX Destination* | Enter the name of the mail server (for example, `mail.example.com`). |

### Add and delete MX entry text boxes

- To add a new MX entry text box, click *Add Another MX Entry Field* . A new row will appear.
- To delete a row, click *Delete* next to that MX entry.

**Note:**
The bottom MX entry text box is **always** a new MX entry, and displays the label *(new)* in the furthest right column.

## Additional documentation

Suggested documentation For cPanel users For WHM users For developers

- Edit DNS Zone
- Edit MX Entry
- Delete a DNS Zone
- The servicedomains Script
- Edit Zone Templates

- Zone Editor
- Email Routing
- Track DNS

- Edit DNS Zone
- Edit MX Entry
- Server Profiles Roadmap
- How to Use MyDNS-NG
- How to Set Up Nameservers in a cPanel Environment

- WHM API 1 Functions - addzonerecord
- WHM API 1 Functions - editzonerecord
- UAPI Functions - DNS::has_local_authority
- UAPI Functions - DCV::check_domains_via_http
- WHM API 1 Functions - has_local_authority