

Configure send-only mailserver for Systemmails

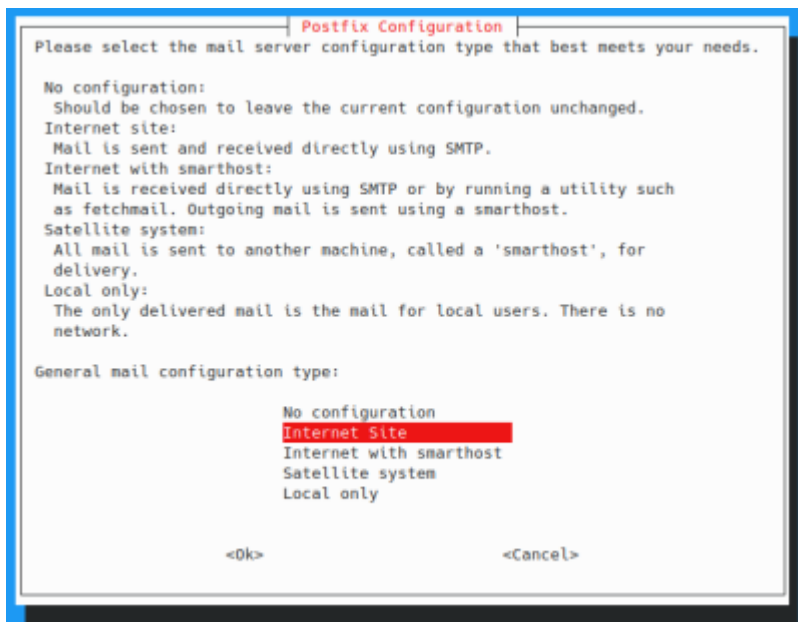
This guide shows how to install a send-only mailserver using postfix on Debian to automatically send emails e.g. of unattended-upgrades or cron-jobs.

Postfix configuration

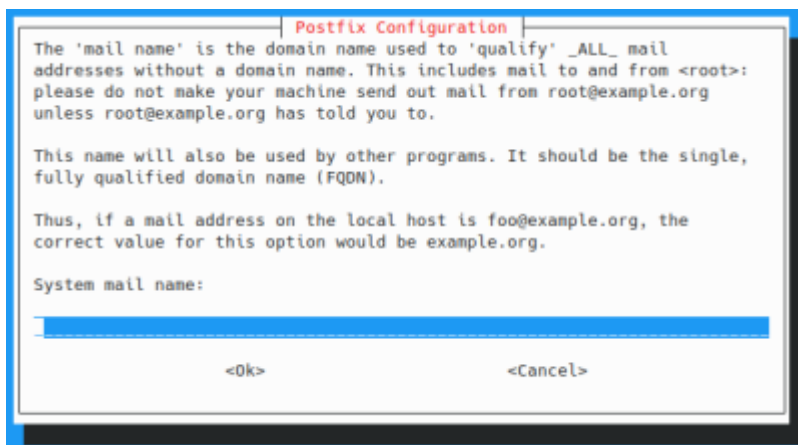
1. Install postfix and mailutils:

```
apt install postfix mailutils
```

2. Configure postfix as Internet site:



Then enter the systemmail-name e.g. test.server.com:



3. Verify correct host-file entry:

It is important that the first DNS name of the local server (127.0.1.1) contains the domain, otherwise some mail servers will reject the mails sent from this server because they can't verify the domain. So in our case the `/etc/hosts` file should look like this:

```
127.0.0.1    localhost
127.0.1.1    test.server.com test

# The following lines are desirable for IPv6 capable hosts
::1        ip6-localhost ip6-loopback
fe00::0    ip6-localnet
ff00::0    ip6-mcastprefix
ff02::1    ip6-allnodes
ff02::2    ip6-allrouters
```

If `test` would stand before `test.server.com` the system mails could be rejected.

4. Test the configuration:

```
sudo echo "Postfix Send-Only Server" | sudo mail -s "Postfix Testing"
<address-where-the-mail-should-be-send-to>
```

Set receiver address

The receiver addresses of the system mails are configured in `/etc/aliases`, the content *can* look like this:

```
# See man 5 aliases for format
root:                <target-mail-address>

postmaster:         root
nobody:             root
hostmaster:         root
webmaster:          root
www:                root
```

After changing `/etc/aliases`, run the following command to update the aliases database:

```
newaliases
```

Configure crontab emails

If the receiver address is properly configured through the `/etc/aliases` file, just add `MAILTO=root` to the top of each crontab file that should send emails.

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