

ArGoSoft Mail Server Pro

Installation Guide

This how-to has the objective of making an easy installation of ArGoSoft Mail Server Pro 1.8.1.2.
This how-to is for an NT based OS such as Win NT 4.0, Win 2000 and Win XP.

INSTALLATION:

Download Argosoft Mail Server from <http://www.argosoft.com>

Double-click on mspro.exe

Click on Setup

Select the proper OS and the Program Location. If you want a Shortcut in your start menu and/or desktop, leave checked the 2 boxes below. If not, uncheck them.

I suggest to install the Mail Server onto another partition or disk other than C:\ because the location of the Argosoft Log Files cannot be moved from the program directory.

Click on next, then on Start Installation

Click on Finish.

Ok, now the Argosoft Mail server is installed. Now let's go configure it.

It's easier than you think...

CONFIGURATION:

Double-click on the Argosoft Mail server icon, or go to: Start -> Settings -> Control Panel -> Argosoft Mail Server

The First Time you start the Application, a dialog box advises you that relay its turned off. This is normal.

Now, how to configure the mail server:

Click on the Open Lock Now you can administer the Mail Server.

First I suggest using an Administrator Password because if you fail to do so, the Mail Server is open to all. To accomplish this, click on Administration -> **Change Administrator Password**

****Important: Keep this password secure!****

I suggest also this method: Use min. 7 character length password with upper-case and lower-case Letters, Numbers, Symbols. A good example is: Lu5GH8\$d. Of course this is not so easy to remember so if you want to keep a copy... keep this copy secure too!

After that we can configure mail server.

Click on Tools -> **Options**. A box will appear. Click on General (it should be as default).

In DNS Server, insert the DNS you want or the DNS of your Provider: under WinNT/2000/XP use this: Start -> Run -> cmd.exe -> ipconfig /all . This will show you the DNS.

Now, if you want to send email, click the "Allow Relay" option.

Under the **Local Host** insert your domain name or whatever you want. This will be shown during pop3/smtp conversation.

Now, go to the **Ports** tab.

I suggest to not change this value, but if you have to change them, be sure that your provider DOESN'T block this port. If you want to disable a service set the appropriate port to 0. (For Ex. If you don't want to use Finger set Finger to 0). **Pay attention to Web Interface.** This mail server has a built-in Web Server also. It runs under this port so, if you have any other Web Server installed into the same machine (IIS, Apache, etc.) be sure that this port doesn't have the same value. I suggest your default Web Server to run on port 80, and Argosoft on 8080.

Now move to the **Logging** tabs.

Generally I check all the them except the "Log Web Commands" that fills the log with the HTTP requests. So I suggest to check: Log SMTP Commands, log POP Commands, Log SMTP Conversation with Exchangers, Log to file. Of course if you don't want to log the activity, don't select this option and leave it all blank (but if you don't log the activity I consider you fool. ;))

Now go to the **IP Homes** tab. This is useful if you have more than one IP address on the same PC and you want only 1 IP answer as Mail Server.

To set up you IP its easy. Click on the "... " button on the right this will show your IP addresses, double click on one, and it will be written in the text area. Click to Add.

If you have a dynamic IP leave it blank so you don't have to put in every time your IP changes.

Now go to the **Advanced** tab.

If you don't want to use finger server, check the "Do not use Finger server" box.

Under the "max. number of Delivery threads" I suggest a value of 8. If you want more speed of delivery use more threads. You have a range of threads from 1 to 12. I use 8.

The other option its as default but should works fine - maybe, if you have a slow PC, decrease the Max. No. of Outbox Messages to 200-300.

Into the **Message Size Limit** select your value. This is the single email size that can be sent. Note, if you use "Unlimited" the mail server will use more resources to run, so pay attention to this value. If you don't need to send much data I suggest selecting 5 MB as Size Limit.

Now go to the **Advanced1** tab.

The default values should work very well. If you want to know who is sending mail select "Verify Addresses of Senders" and "Perform Reverse Lookup Connection" But THIS WILL SLOW THE MAIL SERVER. I do no use it.

If you use **Autoresponder**, select how much time should be pass before the same sender send a mail (hmm... ok it's hard to explain hehehe but it's easier than you may think...). I I suggest 2 hours. If you want to autorespond to all email of the same sender use the 0 value.

The Timeout for Single Message Relay it's a value of 10 min for me. This should work fine. Of course, if you use more than 10 min. to send a mail, increase this value. I'm not sure, but I think if you use a higher Timeout value, the mail server useu more resources.

Now go to the last, **Smart Server** (it's the last because I don't use it so much.. ;))

The smart server is useful if you have a domain(s) that cannot deliver mail due to a filtering restriction of your IP. Into the Smart Server field use you preferred SMTP Server or the ISP SMTP Server. Now, if you want always to use Smart Server check the "always use smart server"

If you have only certain domains that should use the Smart Server check the “use smart server for following domains:” and add them into the field below. If your Smart Server use authentication, please insert the appropriate Username and Password. After that, click OK.

Ok, now lets go to restrict relay. Click on tools, security, **SMTP Authentication**. (NOTE: of course if you don’t select the “**Allow Relay**” button into the General Option tab you cannot use SMTP Authentication).

Select the Enable SMTP Authentication, and Use POP3 User Names and Password.

That’s all. If you prefer to have only one user name and password for relay don’t check this value and insert user and pass into the below fields: SMTP User, SMTP Password (of course confirm pass... ;))

If you want, also select the “Require Auth. for Distrib. List and Mailing List”. As default it is checked only for Distrib. List. For me its enough. After that click OK.

Go to Tools, Security, **Trusted IP Addresses**.

Here you can insert all the IP of your LAN or IP that you know the source, so it cannot be checked. You can specify a range (192.168.1.1-192.168.1.28) or a single IP (192.168.1.1-192.168.1.1). Uncheck “Disable” and then OK. Well done. With this basic Configuration, your Mail Server is quite secure.

Now we go to limit SPAM received by you. Click on Tools, Security, **Filters**. Here you can specify some keywords. If the mail server finds a “keyword” will bounce the mail back. A good blocking anti SPAM filters for me it is a list composed by: Porn, Sex, Money, Hardcore, Pics, Earn, XXX. (oh, of course if you want this kind of email, change rules! ;)) . You must write all the word in each line. After this, uncheck “Case Sensitive” and if you want more Filters (but more risk to not receive all the mail you want) check the “Scan Message Bodies”. Of course this slow the mail server....

Ok... Now your Mail Server is ready and fully operational..

Now you can create the Domain and the user accounts and start with a new Argosoft Mail Server.

LINKS:

Here some links to Receive more Stuff...

www.argostuff.net

www.argosoft.com

<http://support.sewardak.net/>

<http://www.users.bigpond.net.au/theclub/>

That’s all. If you have any suggestions please write to me:

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Byez!