

What Email Protocols (IMAP, POP3, SMTP) Are and How They Work

IMAP

IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol) is a remote mailbox access protocol. It provides you with the comfort of accessing your mailbox from anywhere at the cost, that your mail needs to be stored on the server.

POP3

POP3 (Post Office Protocol 3) is a mail retrieval protocol. You can use it to download mail from the mail server to your local computer. If you wish to use your mailbox from multiple locations, use of IMAP is recommended.

SMTP

SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol) is a protocol for sending mail. For it is not very resistant to spoofing, multiple technologies have been implemented to alleviate the problem.

Revision #2

Created 25 October 2023 12:46:49 by DotRoll Knowledge Base

Updated 18 May 2026 11:23:15 by DotRoll Knowledge Base