ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

hMailServer

The Insider's Guide

Free open-source mail server that runs on Windows



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among email apps, read from hMailServer's own pages.

Made by hMailServer · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

1.8
GPA



Contents

01 Welcome
What it is, who it suits, its grades and the ten things to know first

02 What it costs
Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

03 What it does
Its main features, where it runs, what it works with and who makes it

04 Where it stands
Its grades against its category, and whether to keep it or make your own

05 The alternatives
The tools it is most often weighed against, side by side

06 Quick answers
The questions people ask about it, each answered in a line or two

07 About ToolGPA
Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

ToolGPA put this guide together from hMailServer's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on hMailServer's page too, where it is kept up to date. Checked Nov 13, 2026.

Welcome

What it is, who it suits, its grades and the ten things to know first

1.8

GPA, above 2 of the 122 other email apps we grade

hMailServer is a mail server for Windows that handles IMAP, POP3 and SMTP. It has no mail interface of its own, so users read mail in an email client or in a separate webmail system. It is released under the AGPLv3 license and managed through an administration tool or a web front end.

To get you started, here are **8 things to know about hMailServer**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

> "
>
> **You install and administer a server yourself, and add a webmail separately.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

1 **Best for a free mail server for Windows**

hMailServer is a free open-source mail server that runs on Windows.

2 **It is free**

hMailServer has no paid plan at all. Free and open source under the AGPLv3 license, with no paid plans.

3 **It runs on Windows**

Windows.

4 **Standard mail protocols**

Supports POP3, SMTP and IMAP4, so it works with most email clients and with webmail systems that use IMAP and SMTP.

5 **Spam and virus filtering**

Built-in score-based spam checks include SPF and SURBL, and it can attach to ClamAV, SpamAssassin or ASSP.

6 **Administration tools**

hMailServer Administrator adds domains and accounts and changes settings. A web front end, hMailServer WebAdmin, covers the same tasks.

7 **A 1.8 GPA, above 2 of 122**

That is against the other email apps we grade, on value, the free plan, features, ease of use and platforms.

8 **Keep it**

hMailServer is free, so making your own would save you nothing.

hMailServer at a glance

PRICING Free	FREE PLAN Yes
FREE TRIAL None stated	RUNS ON Windows
MADE BY hMailServer	CATEGORY Email Apps
OUR GRADE 1.8 GPA, weak	

The report card

Best for a free mail server for Windows

hMailServer is a free open-source mail server that runs on Windows. It has no built-in webmail, support is a community forum, and the latest stable release is 5.7.1.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD	hMailServer	Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	Free, but it needs a Windows server of your own.
Free plan and trial	B	Free under the AGPL with no paid plans. You supply the Windows machine.
Features	C	Standard mail protocols, spam and virus filtering, domains, routing and backup. It's a server only, with no webmail, so you add one.
Ease of use	D	You install and administer a server yourself, and add a webmail separately.
Platforms and integrations	D	Windows only. The site lists no Linux or macOS build.
Grade point average		Weak, out of 4.0 **1.8**

An A is worth 4 points, a B 3, a C 2, a D 1 and an F nothing. The GPA is the average of the five.

Who hMailServer is for

- ✓ Fits if you already run a Windows server and want mail on it
- ✓ Works for admins who add Roundcube or SquirrelMail on top

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you don't run Windows, as there's no Linux or macOS build
- ✗ Skip it if you want webmail included, since it's a server only
- ✗ Skip it if you want direct help from the developers, as support is a community forum
- ✗ Watch out: 5.7.1 is the latest stable, with 5.7.2 still a beta

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Administrators who want a free mail server on Windows
- ✓ Small businesses, schools and hobbyists hosting their own domains
- ✓ Setups that pair the server with Roundcube or another webmail

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Runs on Microsoft Windows only; the site lists no Linux or macOS build.
- ⓘ It is a server only, with no built-in webmail, so a separate webmail or mail client is needed.
- ⓘ Support comes through a community forum, not from the developers directly.
- ⓘ The latest stable release on the download page is 5.7.1; 5.7.2 is listed as a beta.

What it costs

Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

Free

No paid plan at all

hMailServer is free to use.

> "Free, but it needs a Windows server of your own.
>
> From our grade for value for money

HMAILSERVER

$0

Free to download and run on your own Windows server under the AGPLv3 license.

The free plan

Free and open source under the AGPLv3 license, with no paid plans.

Read from hmailserver.com on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

Its main features, where it runs, what it works with and who makes it

1

Place it runs: Windows

Free open-source mail server that runs on Windows. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, self-hostable, workflow automation.

> "
>
> **Standard mail protocols, spam and virus filtering, domains, routing and backup.**

From our grade for features

Standard mail protocols

Supports POP3, SMTP and IMAP4, so it works with most email clients and with webmail systems that use IMAP and SMTP.

Spam and virus filtering

Built-in score-based spam checks include SPF and SURBL, and it can attach to ClamAV, SpamAssassin or ASSP.

Administration tools

hMailServer Administrator adds domains and accounts and changes settings. A web front end, hMailServer WebAdmin, covers the same tasks.

Domains, routing and backup

Lists virtual domains, routing, MX backup, multihoming, server-side rules, built-in backup and an SQL backend among its features.

COM library

A COM library lets scripts and other software drive the server, for example to create mailboxes for new employees automatically.

Where it runs

Windows

What it works with

ClamAV
SpamAssassin
ASSP
Roundcube
SquirrelMail

hMailServer is made by hMailServer.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

Its grades against its category, and whether to keep it or make your own

2/122

Other email apps it is graded above

hMailServer's GPA of 1.8 is higher than 2 of the 122 other email apps we grade, and level with 8.

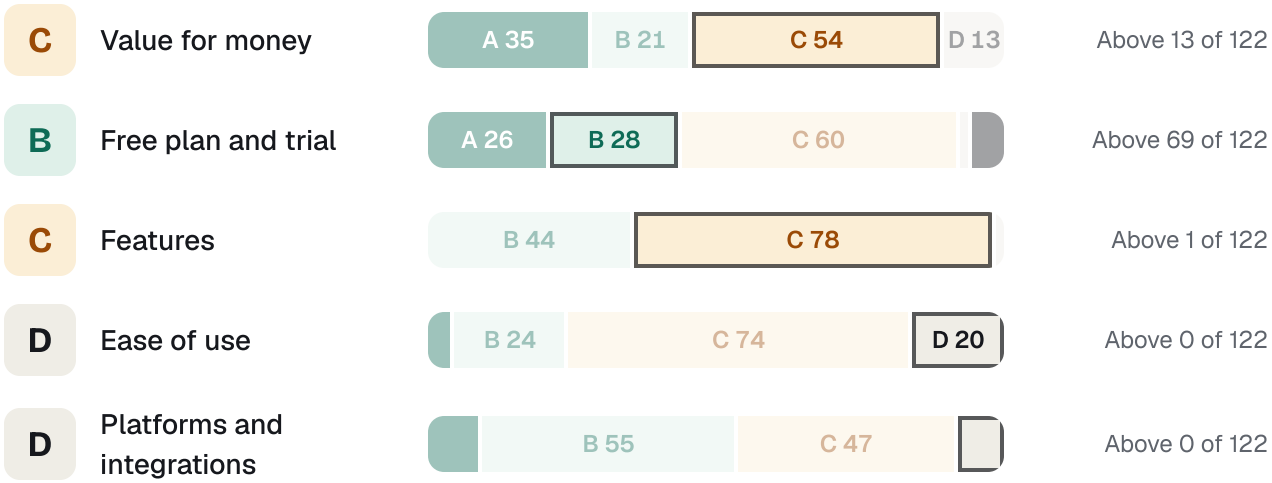
It stands best on free plan and trial (B, above 69 of 122) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

hMailServer has no paid plan.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 1.3 out of 4. Nothing scores higher for less, though at least one tool matches that score at a lower price.

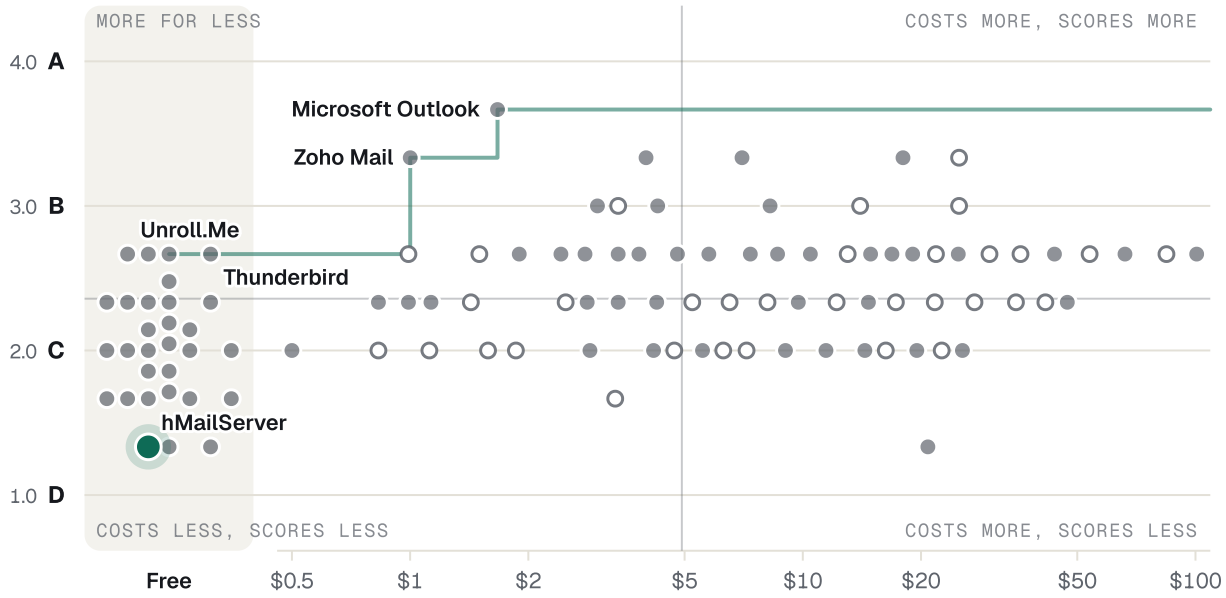
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 123 email apps we grade, cut by the letter each got. hMailServer's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 107 email apps. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. hMailServer is the marked dot.



What paid plans start at, a month (each step along is roughly double) ⍰

Keep it, or make your own?

Whether this is something you could build for yourself with an AI app builder, and what you would give up.

Keep it

hMailServer is free, so making your own would save you nothing.

And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces. That makes this kind of software worth paying for, not this one in particular: 112 of the 122 other email apps grade higher.

What you could not

- ✕ Connections to other products, each kept working as those products change.
- ✕ A real app for Windows. Something home-made would be a web page.

What this rests on. hMailServer's listing: what it does, where it runs, what it plugs into and what it costs. It is a judgement about the kind of software this is. We have not built a replacement for it, and making your own means looking after it too. How we decide, and every tool's verdict.

The alternatives

The tools it is most often weighed against, side by side



MDaemon, SmarterMail, Axigen, IceWarp and iRedMail

The 5 tools hMailServer is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

M

2.0 GPA

MDaemon

Free trial

Email server for Windows with webmail and Outlook connector.

- hMailServer has a free plan. MDaemon does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only MDaemon lists a web app.
- Only MDaemon lists a macOS app.

hMailServer and MDaemon compared in full

2.2 GPA

SmarterMail

Free plan · from $550

Business mail server for Windows and Linux with webmail.

- Only SmarterMail lists a web app.
- Only SmarterMail lists a Linux app.
- hMailServer is open source, according to its own site.

hMailServer and SmarterMail compared in full



2.2 GPA

Axigen

Free plan

Mail server with calendars and webmail for Windows and Linux.

- Only Axigen lists a web app.
- Only Axigen lists a Linux app.
- hMailServer is open source, according to its own site.

hMailServer and Axigen compared in full



2.6 GPA

IceWarp

Free trial · from $1.50/mo

Business email, chat, files and meetings, cloud or self-hosted.

- hMailServer has a free plan. IceWarp does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only IceWarp lists a web app.
- Only IceWarp lists macOS, iOS and Android apps.

hMailServer and IceWarp compared in full

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1.8 GPA

iRedMail

Free plan · from $499/yr

Open-source mail server installer for Linux and BSD.

- Only hMailServer lists a Windows app.
- Only iRedMail lists a Linux app.
- hMailServer also covers workflow automation.

hMailServer and iRedMail compared in full

Quick answers

The questions people ask about it, each answered in a line or two

12

Questions, each answered in a line or two

The short version of everything above, for when you only need the answer. Each one is told in full in its part of the guide.

Is hMailServer free?

Yes. hMailServer is free to use. Free and open source under the AGPLv3 license, with no paid plans.

How much does hMailServer cost?

hMailServer lists one plan. hMailServer: $0. Prices were read from hmailserver.com on Nov 13, 2026.

What platforms does hMailServer work on?

hMailServer is available on Windows.

Does hMailServer have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. hMailServer is listed for Windows.

Does hMailServer have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. hMailServer is listed for Windows.

Is hMailServer open source?

Yes. hMailServer is open source, according to its own site. It can also be run on a server of your own.

What does hMailServer integrate with?

hMailServer's listing names ClamAV, SpamAssassin, ASSP, Roundcube and SquirrelMail.

Who makes hMailServer?

hMailServer is made by a company of the same name.

What are the alternatives to hMailServer?

The closest alternatives to hMailServer in our directory are MDaemon, SmarterMail, Axigen, IceWarp and iRedMail.

How does hMailServer compare with other email apps?

hMailServer's GPA of 1.8 is higher than 2 of the 122 other email apps we grade, and level with 8.

Is hMailServer good value for money?

ToolGPA grades hMailServer C for value for money. hMailServer has no paid plan.

Could I make my own version of hMailServer?

hMailServer is free, so making your own would save you nothing. And it is not the kind of software a weekend replaces.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from hMailServer's own pages on Nov 13, 2026, and the grades were given on Nov 13, 2026. Graded from this listing, whose facts were read from the hMailServer project's own pages on 13 November 2026. Not based on using the product, and shorter than our full reviews.

Every tool we list gets five grades, A to F, each with its reason, and a GPA that averages them. How each is decided is at toolgpa.com/grades. This guide is ToolGPA's own work; it is not made, paid for or approved by hMailServer. Prices change, so check hmailserver.com before you buy.

hmailserver.com/
hmailserver.com/download/
hmailserver.com/functionality/
hmailserver.com/contact/

About ToolGPA

Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

7,721

Tools graded, in 95 categories

ToolGPA grades software the way a school report grades a pupil: five subjects, a letter for each with the reason written beside it, and a GPA that averages them. Prices, plans and platforms are read from each maker's own pages and dated, so you always know how fresh a figure is.

Every grade, review and ranking on ToolGPA is our own judgement. No company can pay for a grade or change one. Every tool on the site has a guide like this one, free to download and pass on. It all lives at toolgpa.com.

7,721	95	739	579
tools graded	categories	price changes on record	apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

hMailServer, kept up to date

Everything in this guide, with prices and grades as they are today

toolgpa.com/tools/hmailserver

How grades are given

The rules behind every letter and every GPA

toolgpa.com/grades

Value charts

What each tool costs against what it scores, for every category

toolgpa.com/charts

Compare

Any two tools side by side, plan by plan

toolgpa.com/compare

Price changes

Every price rise and cut on record, each with its source

toolgpa.com/price-changes

Prices by country

What apps cost on the App Store in 12 countries

toolgpa.com/prices-by-country

Pay less

Every public discount: yearly billing, students, nonprofits

toolgpa.com/save

Keep or make

Which tools are worth paying for, and which you could build yourself

toolgpa.com/keep-or-make

Scan for the live page

Prices and grades as they are today

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ToolGPA, "hMailServer: The Insider's Guide",
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Know someone choosing between email apps?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/hmailserver/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded email apps after hMailServer, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Email Apps Insider's Guide

Every one of the 126 email apps we grade, compared

Microsoft Outlook Insider's Guide

Microsoft's email and calendar app for desktop, mobile and web

3.6 GPA

AOL Mail Insider's Guide

Free webmail with news and weather in a companion mobile app

3.2 GPA

BlueMail Insider's Guide

Cross-platform email client with a unified inbox and built-in AI

3.2 GPA

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Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what hMailServer's pages, its app-store listings and public reviews said on the dates shown. Grades are our judgement under the rules at toolgpa.com/grades. Every grade, review and ranking on ToolGPA is our own judgement. No company can pay for a grade or change one. hMailServer is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by hMailServer. Prices and plans change: check hmailserver.com before you buy.