ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

KumoMTA

The Insider's Guide

Open-source mail server for high-volume, self-run email sending



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among email sending services, read from KumoMTA's own pages.

Made by Kumo Corp · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.2
GPA



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

ToolGPA put this guide together from KumoMTA's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on KumoMTA'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

2.2

GPA, above 14 of the 50 other email sending services we grade

KumoMTA is an open-source mail transfer agent for enterprises and high-volume senders that run their own sending infrastructure. It is configured with Lua scripting and can connect to webhooks, AMQP, Kafka, Vault, Prometheus and Grafana. The software is free; the vendor sells support as yearly sponsorships priced by message volume.

> "It's configured in Lua scripting on your own servers, so it suits engineers."
>
> From our grade for ease of use

To get you started, here are **9 things to know about KumoMTA**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

1 **Best for a free high-volume mail server you run yourself**

KumoMTA is an open-source mail transfer agent for high-volume senders running their own infrastructure, configured in Lua.

2 **Paid plans start at $416.67 a month when paid by the year**

As its pricing page puts it: $5,000 per billion messages per year for Silver support.

3 There is a free plan

The software and all its features are free under the Apache 2 license; community support runs through a Discord server.

4 It runs on Linux

Linux.

5 High-volume sending

The vendor says a single server can send several million messages an hour, and that it can scale out with Docker and Kubernetes.

6 Lua policy scripting

Behavior is set in Lua scripts, with policy helpers for common configurations.

7 Integrations for operations

Supports webhooks, AMQP, Kafka, Vault, Prometheus, Grafana and direct database access.

8 A 2.2 GPA, above 14 of 50

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

9 Keep it

To replace KumoMTA you would be making mail servers with a good name among inbox providers. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

KumoMTA at a glance

PRICING
Free plan, from $5,000 per billion messages per year for Silver support

FREE PLAN
Yes

FREE TRIAL
None stated

RUNS ON
Linux

MADE BY
Kumo Corp

CATEGORY
Email Sending Services

OUR GRADE
2.2 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for a free high-volume mail server you run yourself

KumoMTA is an open-source mail transfer agent for high-volume senders running their own infrastructure, configured in Lua. The software is free, but you run it yourself, and paid support starts at $5,000 per billion messages a year.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD — **KumoMTA** — Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	The software is free under Apache 2, but you host it yourself, and paid support starts at $5,000 per billion messages a year.
Free plan and trial	B	Every feature is free to run, with community help on Discord. You do need your own server to use any of it.

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Features	B	High-volume sending, Lua policy scripting, traffic shaping and IP pools, with hooks into Kafka, AMQP, Prometheus, Grafana and Vault. Nothing in the listing shows a gap in the job.
Ease of use	D	No store rating on record. It's configured in Lua scripting on your own servers, so it suits engineers.
Platforms and integrations	C	Software for your own servers, listed for Linux, with Docker and Kubernetes. No dashboard or hosted version.
Grade point average		Fair, out of 4.0 **2.2**

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 KumoMTA is for

- ✓ Fits if you're an engineering team running your own high-volume sending
- ✓ Works for senders moving off a commercial mail server who can write Lua

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you want a point-and-click setup, since configuration is done in Lua
- ✗ Tight if you need support: Silver is business hours only, and Enterprise has no published price
- ✗ Not for you if you want a hosted service, as you run it yourself
- ✗ Watch out: the pages don't say which operating systems are supported

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Email platforms and enterprises that want to own their sending infrastructure
- ✓ Teams moving off a commercially licensed MTA such as PowerMTA or Momentum
- ✓ Engineers comfortable configuring a server with Lua scripts

Worth knowing

- ⓘ It is software you run yourself on your own servers; the pages do not say which operating systems are supported.
- ⓘ Support is priced per billion messages a year with no server limit; Silver is business hours only, and Enterprise has no published price.
- ⓘ Configuration is done in Lua scripting, so it suits engineers, not a point-and-click setup.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

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

$416.67

A month to start, paid by the year.
There is a free plan too

KumoMTA has a free plan. Paid plans start at $5,000 per billion messages per year for Silver support.

> **Every feature is free to run, with community help on Discord.**

From our grade for free plan and trial

COMMUNITY

$0

Free software with every feature. Help comes from the community Discord server; you host it yourself.

SILVER

$5,000

per billion messages per year

Business-hours support (9-5 US Eastern) by email and portal, a shared sponsor Discord channel and help with basic configuration.

GOLD

$10,000

per billion messages per year

Support 8-7 US Eastern, a 24/7 critical-issue SLA, a private Discord and help with custom Lua policy.

ENTERPRISE

Custom

24/7/365 support, telephone support, a private Discord or Slack channel and refactored policy scripts. No price is stated; contact the vendor.

The free plan

The software and all its features are free under the Apache 2 license; community support runs through a Discord server.

Read from kumomta.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: Linux

Open-source mail server for high-volume, self-run email sending. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: open source, self-hostable, public API, transactional email.

> **High-volume sending, Lua policy scripting, traffic shaping and IP pools, with hooks into Kafka, AMQP, Prometheus, Grafana and Vault.**
>
> From our grade for features

High-volume sending

The vendor says a single server can send several million messages an hour, and that it can scale out with Docker and Kubernetes.

Lua policy scripting

Behavior is set in Lua scripts, with policy helpers for common configurations.

Integrations for operations

Supports webhooks, AMQP, Kafka, Vault, Prometheus, Grafana and direct database access.

Traffic shaping and IP pools

A customer quote on the site names traffic shaping and IP pool automation as the parts it builds on.

Migration guides

The site has a migration center with pages for moving from Momentum, PowerMTA, Halon, SendGrid and Hurricane MTA.

Open source

Released under the Apache 2 license, with the source code on GitHub.

Where it runs

Linux

What it works with

Kafka
AMQP
Prometheus
Grafana
Vault
Docker
Kubernetes

KumoMTA is made by Kumo Corp.

Where it stands

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

14/50

Other email sending services it is graded above

KumoMTA's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 14 of the 50 other email sending services we grade, and level with 10.

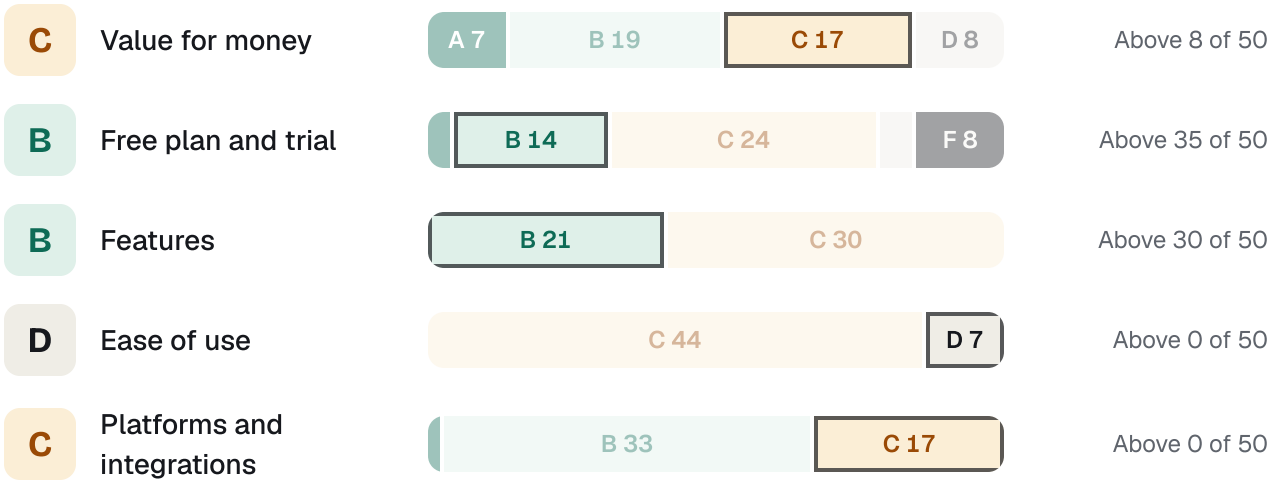
It stands best on free plan and trial (B, above 35 of 50) and worst on ease of use (D, above 0).

Its paid plans start at $416.67 a month when paid by the year, against a middle price of $15 for the category: 40 of the 41 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.0 out of 4. 30 tools score higher and cost less.

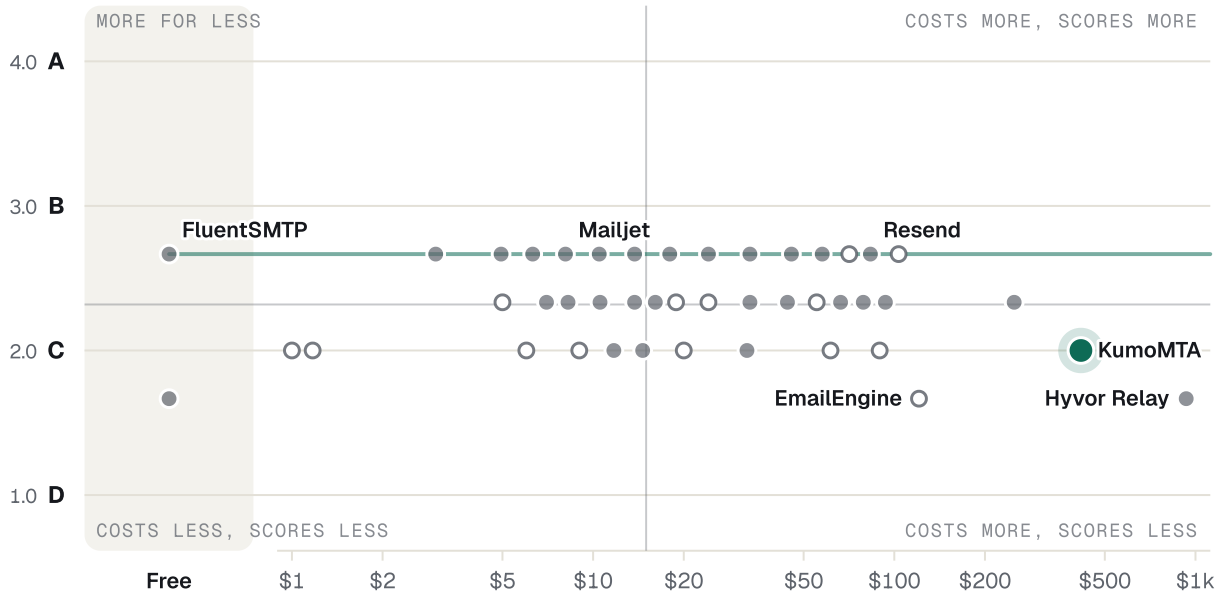
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 51 email sending services we grade, cut by the letter each got. KumoMTA's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 44 email sending services. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. KumoMTA 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

To replace KumoMTA you would be making mail servers with a good name among inbox providers. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

That makes this kind of software worth paying for, not this one in particular: 26 of the 50 other email sending services grade higher. It costs $5,000 a year. KumoMTA is open source, so there is a third way: take its code and run it yourself.

What you could not

- ✕ Mail servers with a good name among inbox providers.

- ✕ A real app for Linux. Something home-made would be a web page.
- ✕ It plugs into other products, Kafka, AMQP and Prometheus among them, and has an API.
- ✕ The depth: we grade its features B, which means it covers the whole job.

What this rests on. KumoMTA'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



MailerQ, MailChannels, Bird Email and AhaSend

The 4 tools KumoMTA is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

1.6 GPA

MailerQ

Free trial · from €10,000 one-time

Self-hosted mail transfer agent for high-volume email sending.

- KumoMTA has a free plan. MailerQ does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only KumoMTA lists a Linux app.
- Only MailerQ lists a web app.

KumoMTA and MailerQ compared in full

2.8 GPA

MailChannels

Free plan · from $10/mo

Email API and SMTP relay for platforms with many downstream senders.

- Only KumoMTA lists a Linux app.
- Only MailChannels lists a web app.
- KumoMTA is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.

KumoMTA and MailChannels compared in full



2.6
GPA

Bird Email

Free plan · from $15/mo

SparkPost's successor: Bird's email API, paid from a prepaid balance.

- Only KumoMTA lists a Linux app.
- Only Bird Email lists a web app.
- KumoMTA is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.

KumoMTA and Bird Email compared in full



2.4
GPA

AhaSend

Free plan · from $10/mo

EU-hosted transactional email API and SMTP relay with a free tier.

- Only KumoMTA lists a Linux app.
- Only AhaSend lists a web app.
- KumoMTA is open source and self-hostable, according to its own site.

KumoMTA and AhaSend compared in full

Quick answers

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

13

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 KumoMTA free?

KumoMTA has a free plan. The software and all its features are free under the Apache 2 license; community support runs through a Discord server.

How much does KumoMTA cost?

KumoMTA lists 4 plans. Community: $0.

What platforms does KumoMTA work on?

KumoMTA is available on Linux.

Does KumoMTA have an Android app?

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

Does KumoMTA have an iPhone app?

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

Is KumoMTA open source?

Yes. KumoMTA is open source, according to its own site.

Does KumoMTA have an API?

Yes. KumoMTA offers a public API, according to its own site.

What does KumoMTA integrate with?

KumoMTA's listing names Kafka, AMQP, Prometheus, Grafana, Vault, Docker and Kubernetes.

Who makes KumoMTA?

KumoMTA is made by Kumo Corp.

What are the alternatives to KumoMTA?

The closest alternatives to KumoMTA in our directory are MailerQ, MailChannels, Bird Email and AhaSend.

How does KumoMTA compare with other email sending services?

KumoMTA's GPA of 2.2 is higher than 14 of the 50 other email sending services we grade, and level with 10.

Is KumoMTA good value for money?

ToolGPA grades KumoMTA C for value for money. Its paid plans start at $416.67 a month when paid by the year, against a middle price of $15 for the category: 40 of the 41 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of KumoMTA?

To replace KumoMTA you would be making mail servers with a good name among inbox providers.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from KumoMTA'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 KumoMTA'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 Kumo Corp. Prices change, so check kumomta.com before you buy.

kumomta.com/pricing
kumomta.com/about
kumomta.com/

PART 07 · ABOUT

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

KumoMTA, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/kumomta

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

Quoting this guide?

Please name ToolGPA and link to the live page, so readers can check the figures for themselves:

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ToolGPA, "KumoMTA: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/kumomta
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Know someone choosing between email sending services?

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

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded email sending services after KumoMTA, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Email Sending Services Insider's Guide

Every one of the 51 email sending services we grade, compared

FluentSMTP Insider's Guide

Free WordPress plugin for sending site email through your provider

3.2 GPA

Amazon SES Insider's Guide

AWS email sending and receiving, paid per 1,000 emails

2.8 GPA

Forward Email Insider's Guide

Open-source email forwarding and hosting for custom domains

2.8 GPA

ToolGPA

Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what KumoMTA'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. KumoMTA is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Kumo Corp. Prices and plans change: check kumomta.com before you buy.