

SMTP Configuration:

Setting Up IIS

Your local IIS instance has to be properly configured in order to successfully send an email message through its SMTP mail server. Even if you install IIS, the SMTP mail server installation is optional and must be explicitly added to the installation. If you are not sure whether or not the SMTP mail server is installed, open up the IIS control panel and check for the installation; if it is installed you will see a reference to the Default SMTP Virtual Server in the tree view (Figure 2):

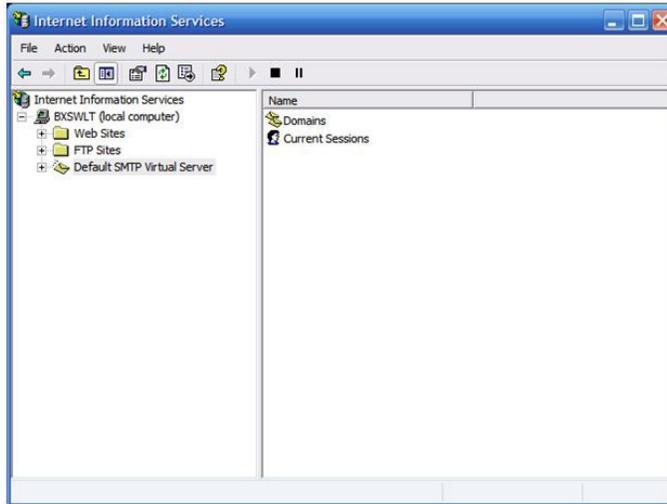


Figure 2: Default SMTP Virtual Server Installed

If the server is not installed, you will need to use the Add and Remove Windows Components function in the Add and Remove Programs control panel to add the SMTP server to your IIS installation. If you need to do this additional installation, once you've opened the Add and Remove Windows Components, click on Internet Information Services (IIS) to highlight it and then click on the Details button (Figure 3). This will open an IIS dialog; examine this dialog to locate SMTP Service and click on it to place a check mark on the box (Figure 4). Once this item has been checked, click on the OK button to install the SMTP server.



Figure 3: Windows Components Wizard

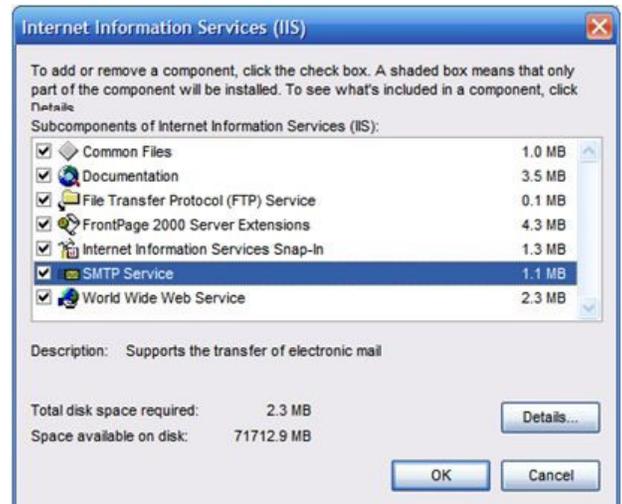


Figure 4: Adding the SMTP Service to IIS

Once the default SMTP server has been installed or verified; you can now configure it to send email. In order to configure the SMTP server, open the IIS control panel, locate the default SMTP server icon in the treeview, and select and right click the icon. Once the context menu has been displayed, locate Properties and click on it to open the properties menu.

Once the Default SMTP Virtual Server Properties dialog is displayed click on the Access tab (Figure 5):



Figure 5: SMTP Property Dialog

Select the Authentication button to display the authentication options (Figure 7):

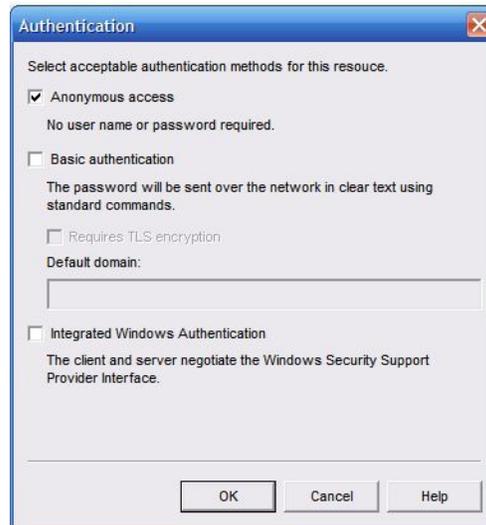


Figure 6: \Authentication Options

Make sure that the Anonymous access option is checked and that all other options are unchecked; in some instances you may wish to use the other options but in most cases involving a public website this is the option you'd want. Once you have verified this setting, click OK to close this dialog.

Back to the Access tab, locate and click on the Relay button to display the relay options. Note that the radio button for "Only the list below" is selected, and that the local host IP address has been added to the list of computers permitted to relay through the SMTP server. Naturally this is OK for a development machine but in deployment, you would use the actual IP address of the web server. If no IP addresses are shown in the list, click on the Add button and add the IP address. Once finished, click on the OK button to accept the changes and to dismiss the dialog. (Figure 7)

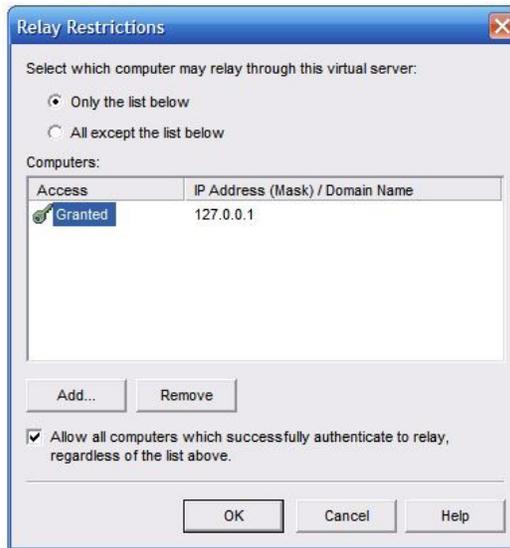


Figure 7: Relay Restrictions Dialog

Next, select the Delivery tab from the SMTP Server properties dialog (Figure 8):



Figure 8: Delivery Options Dialog

From this dialog, select the Advanced button to reveal the advanced options dialog (Figure 9):

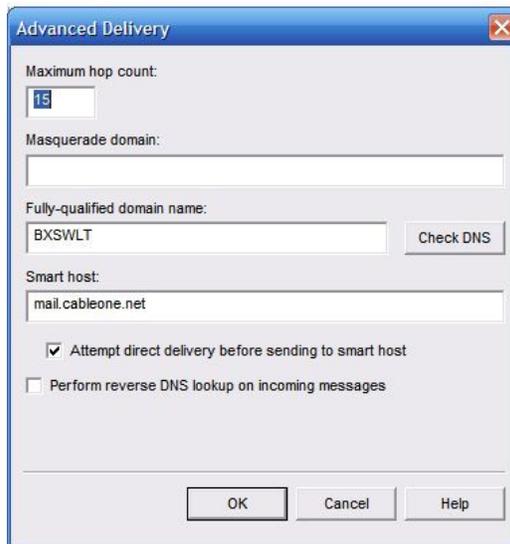


Figure 9: Advanced Delivery Dialog

From this dialog there are two points to make; first, the fully qualified domain name property should be pre-populated; you may click on the Check DNS button to validate the setting. The next option is probably the most critical item for the whole shooting match; the Smart Host property has to be set to point to a valid SMTP mail server that will permit you to relay mail. For most cases, you will key in the name of your internet provider's default SMTP mail server; the address is likely to be in the format of mail.something.com where something is the internet provider's domain name. There are two easy ways to get this, one is, if you are using Outlook, open up Outlook and pull up the information on your email account; the mail server will be listed there. The second option is to guess and you can qualify your guess by pinging the server.

If your internet providers name is foxtrot, try pinging mail.foxtrot.com; if you get a response there that is probably the one to use. If that does not work, contact your administrator and ask them for the information on the SMTP mail server; don't try to plug in an Exchange server, there will likely be an SMTP mail server out there even if your company is using an Exchange server. The only other hurdle is to make sure that the SMTP mail server will allow you to relay and again, you may need to talk to the administrator if the server bounces your mail. Once these settings are made, click on the OK button to save the settings and close the dialog.

The last thing to do is to check the security tab to make sure the accounts are properly configured; once done your security settings should look something like this (Figure 10):

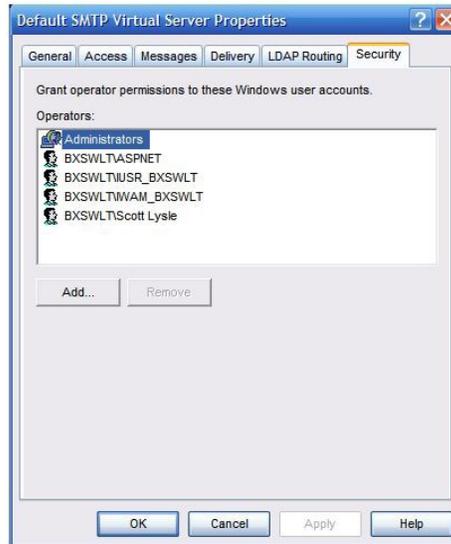


Figure 10: Security Settings for the SMTP Server

Once everything is setup, click on the OK button to save the settings and to close the Default SMTP Virtual Server Properties dialog.