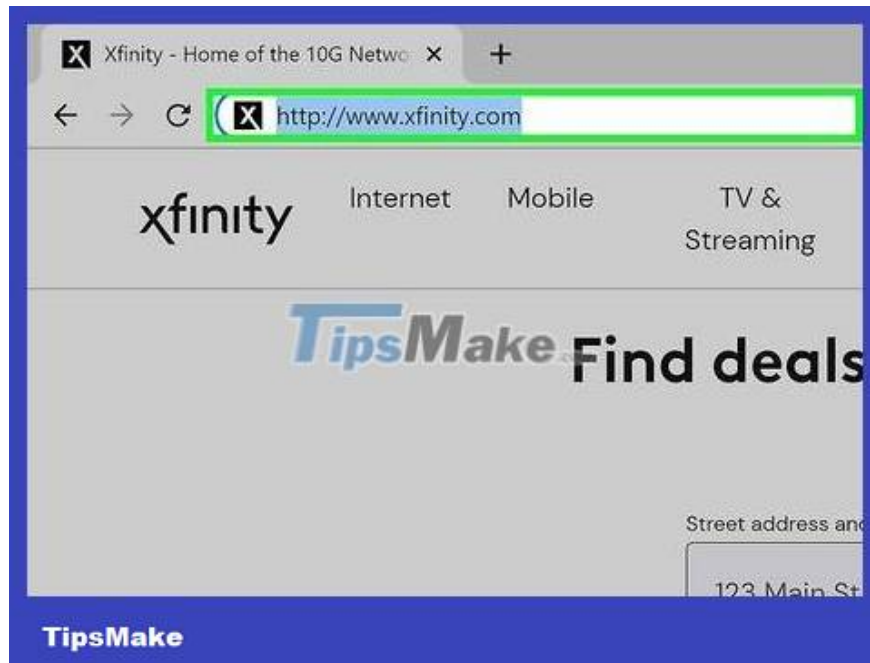


# How to Find Incoming Mail Servers

To receive mail in email readers such as Outlook, Thunderbird or email applications on your phone, you need to collect incoming mail server information, including incoming mail server address, software port and device protocol type. server (POP3 or IMAP). It sounds difficult, but actually everything is available and very easy to find once you know where it is hidden.

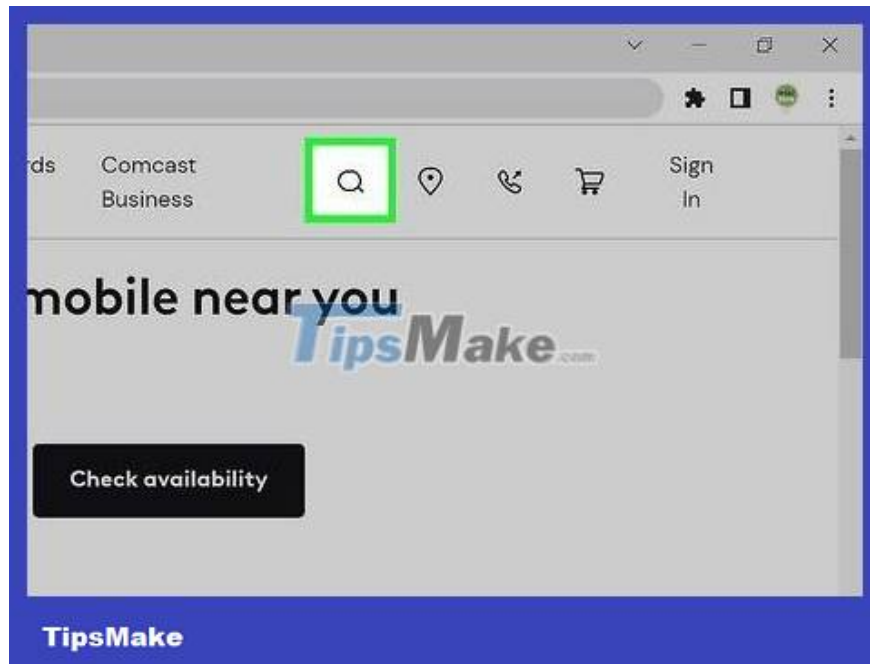
## With email provided by your internet service provider



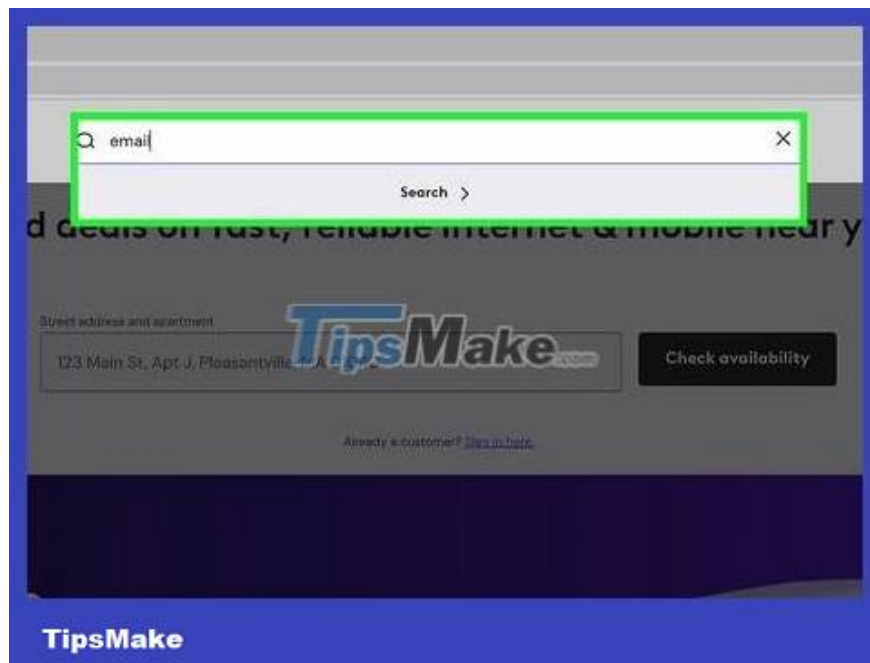
**Go to the website of your internet service provider (ISP).** This is the website of the company that provides you with internet connection and email services. Note that this method is only for people using email provided by their carrier and is not applicable to web-based email services (like Hotmail or Gmail).

For example, if you use an email address provided by Comcast Xfinity (e.g. your\_name@comcast.net), go to <http://www.xfinity.com>. Centurylink users will go to <http://www.centurylink.com>.

It's possible that your carrier does not provide email addresses to users. This is usually clearly stated on their website.



**Click the 'Help' or 'Support' link.** These links are often placed in a prominent place on the websites of most carriers.



**Find 'email'.** Type email in the search box and press ? Enter. Look for a link similar to 'Set up email software' among the returned results.

If there's no general 'email software' link, tap one of the more specific links, such as 'Setting up Outlook' or 'Setting up Mac Mail' ). All email setup support files include incoming mail server information.

Xfinity users can click on the 'Internet' link, then 'Email and Web Browsing'. In the search results, click 'Using Email Client Programs with Comcast Email'.

### Learn More About Port Numbers and POP vs. IMAP

When you're setting up your email, your program will ask for some information about email "protocols." Here are a couple of things to know:

- **Port Numbers:** Your email port is how email moves from one email server to another. To protect your security and help prevent spam, we don't support port 25. If you're using an older email program like Outlook Express, Outlook, or Mac Mail, you may have trouble sending email. Learn more about port 25.
- **POP vs. IMAP:** POP (Post Office Protocol) and IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol) are two different ways to get email in your email program. We recommend using IMAP for your Comcast.net email. POP can cause problems when checking your mail from more than one phone or computer because POP removes the mail from our server and delivers it to your device. IMAP makes it easier to sync your mail on multiple devices because your folders and mail remain on our server until you move or delete them with your device. With IMAP, the email changes you make on one device, like your smartphone, are reflected on your other devices, like your laptop.

But if you'd still like to use POP, use these settings in your email program:

- Incoming Mail Server Name: **pop3.comcast.net**
- Incoming Mail Server Port Number: **995 (POP3 with SSL)**
  - Incoming Mail Server Port 110 is no longer supported. Make sure to use port 995 instead. You can check this in your email program's **Settings, Advanced Settings** or **Preferences** menu.

**TipsMake**

**Decide whether to use POP3 or IMAP.** It's possible that your carrier has both options, POP3 and IMAP. If you check your mail on multiple devices (like phones and computers), use IMAP. If you only check mail on one computer or phone, you should use POP3.

Although almost all carriers offer the POP3 protocol, many of them do not support IMAP. For example, Centurylink only supports the POP3 protocol for home users.

If your goal is to receive mail sent to an email address provided by your carrier using a web-based email application such as Gmail or Outlook, use POP3. Most carriers limit mailbox capacity at some point, and POP3 keeps your mailbox free by deleting copies on your carrier's servers.

POP Account Settings  
abc@comcast.com (Not you?)

Incoming mail  
Server:  Port:   
 This server requires an encrypted connection (SSL/TLS)  
 Require logon using Secure Password Authentication (SPA)

Outgoing mail  
Server:  Port:   
Encryption method:   
 Require logon using Secure Password Authentication (SPA)

Message delivery  
 Use an existing data file  
 Browse...

Go back

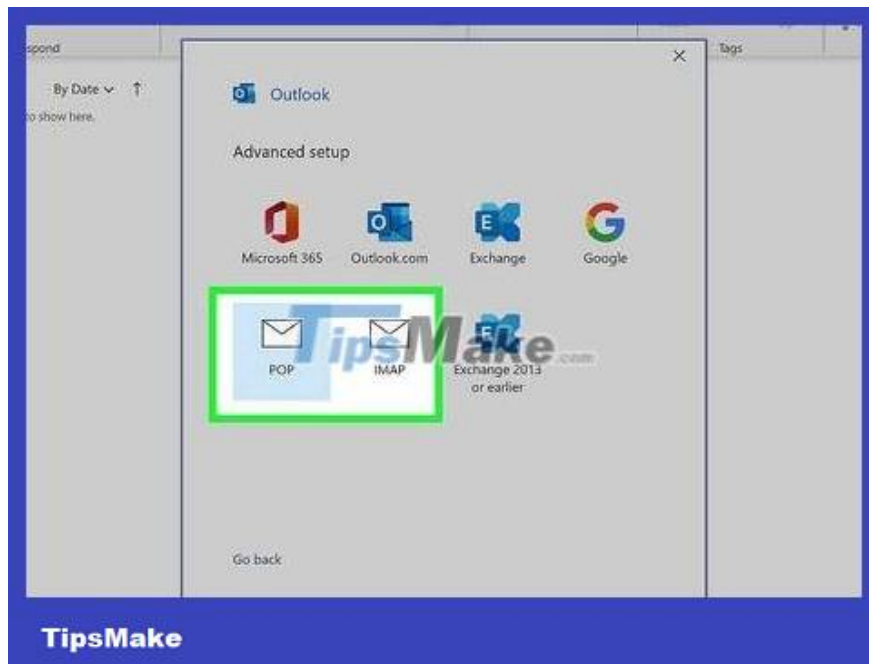
**TipsMake**

**Enter the port and mail server address into your email reader program.** Most carriers use the standard POP3 port (110) for incoming mail. If the carrier supports secure POP, the port is usually 995. With carriers that support secure IMAP, the port is usually 993.

For example, Comcast Xfinity's POP3 server is `mail.comcast.net`, and its port is 110. If your mail software supports it, you can also use the secure POP protocol by switching to port 995.

Comcast Xfinity also offers IMAP in both regular and secure forms. The server is `imap.comcast.net` and the port is 143 (or 993 in the case of secure IMAP).

## In Gmail



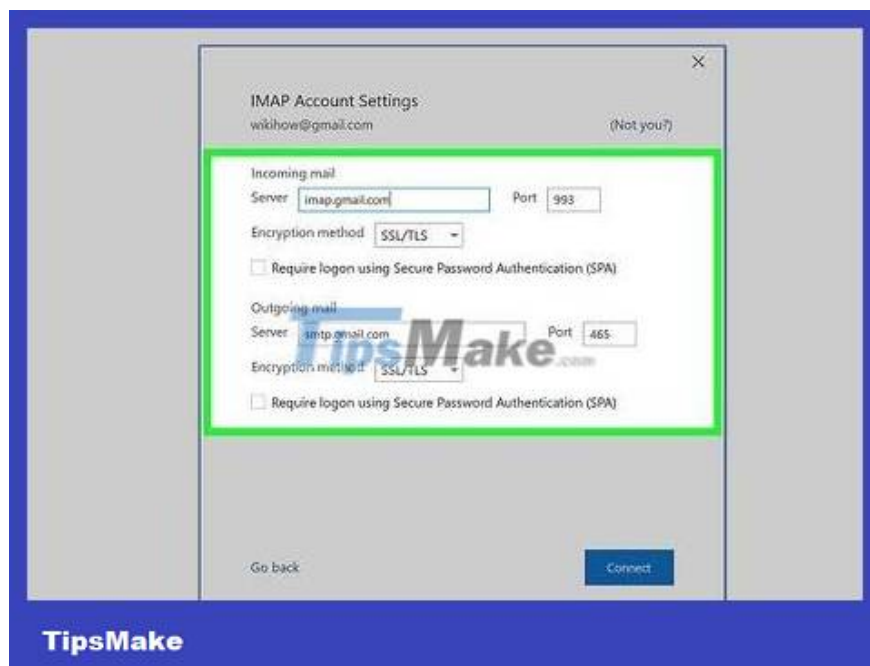
**Choose between POP and IMAP.** Gmail supports both POP and IMAP. Thanks to that, you can check Gmail on other applications.

IMAP is recommended with Gmail, because you can check your email on `gmail.com`, and also on the mail client.

You can use POP, but understand that once your mail reader shows you mail from Gmail, you won't be able to log in to Gmail from your browser to read and reply to that mail.



**Turn on POP or IMAP in Gmail.** Sign in to Gmail (in a web browser) and open the Settings menu. Click the 'Forwarding and POP/IMAP' link and select 'Enable IMAP' or 'Enable POP', depending on your needs. Click 'Save Changes' when finished.



**Type the incoming mail server name and port into your email software.** The IMAP server is `imap.gmail.com` and the port is 993. The POP server is `pop.gmail.com` and the port is 995.

The login name and password for mail setup are the same login name and password that you still use to log in to Gmail.

Gmail only offers secure POP and IMAP.

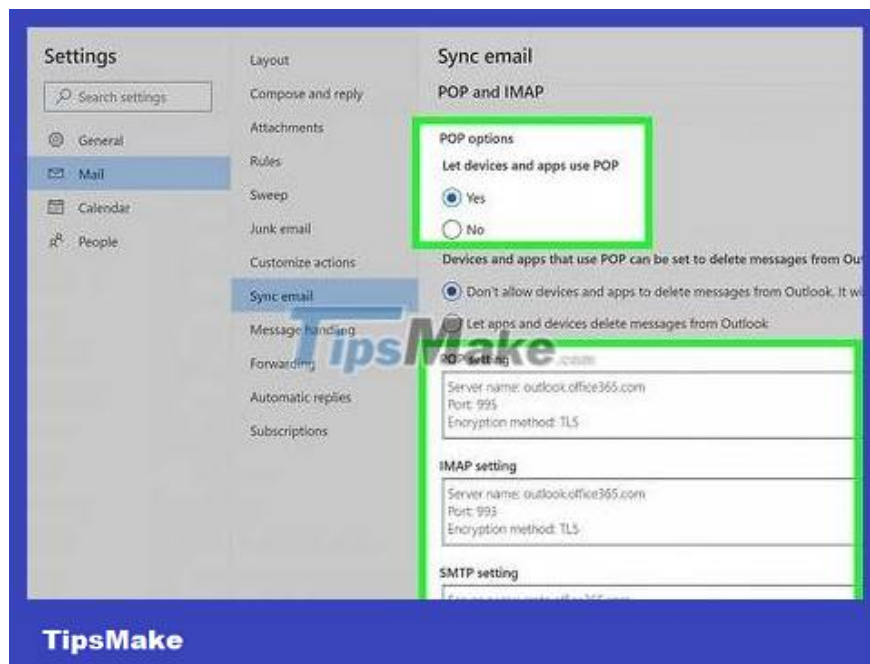
## On Hotmail/Outlook, Yahoo! Mail or iCloud Mail



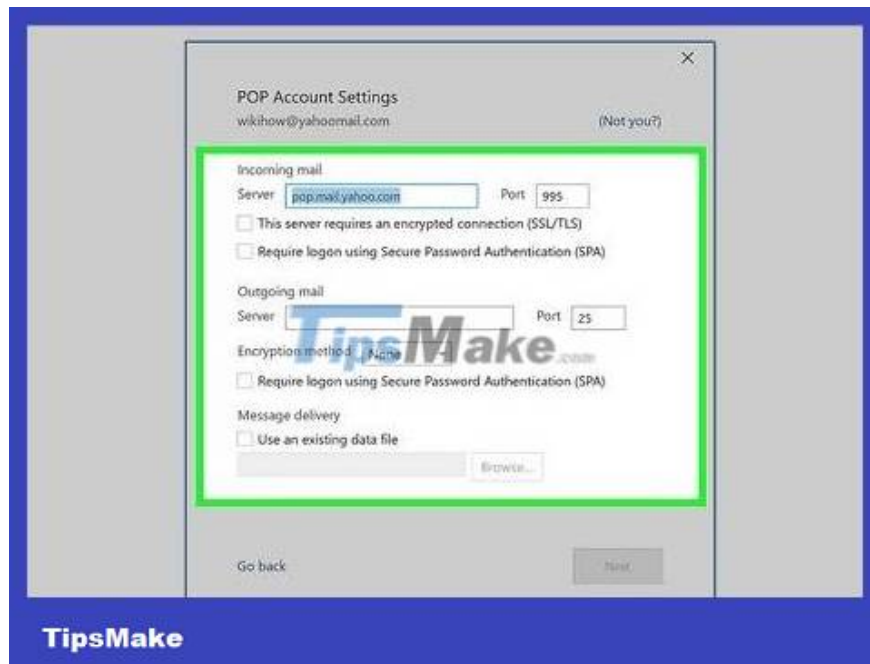
**Choose between POP3 and SMTP.** Hotmail/Outlook and Yahoo! Mail has POP3 and IMAP incoming mail servers. iCloud only supports IMAP.

Choose POP3 if you only plan to check your email in one place (like an app on your computer or phone).

Use IMAP if you want to read emails in multiple applications (or both want to read emails in the email application and want to use its web version (such as <http://www.hotmail.com>) to read and reply).



**Configure POP3 settings for Hotmail/Outlook.** IMAP, iCloud and Yahoo! Mail can skip this step. If you want to use POP3, log in to Hotmail/Outlook on the web, click the Options gear and select 'Options' from the menu. Go to 'Managing your account' and click 'Connect devices and apps with POP'. Select 'Enable' under POP and press 'Save'.



**Type the incoming mail server address and port into your mail reader software.** To ensure your safety, both Outlook, iCloud and Yahoo! all use only secure POP3 and IMAP connections.

Hotmail/Outlook POP3: `pop-mail.outlook.com` port 995

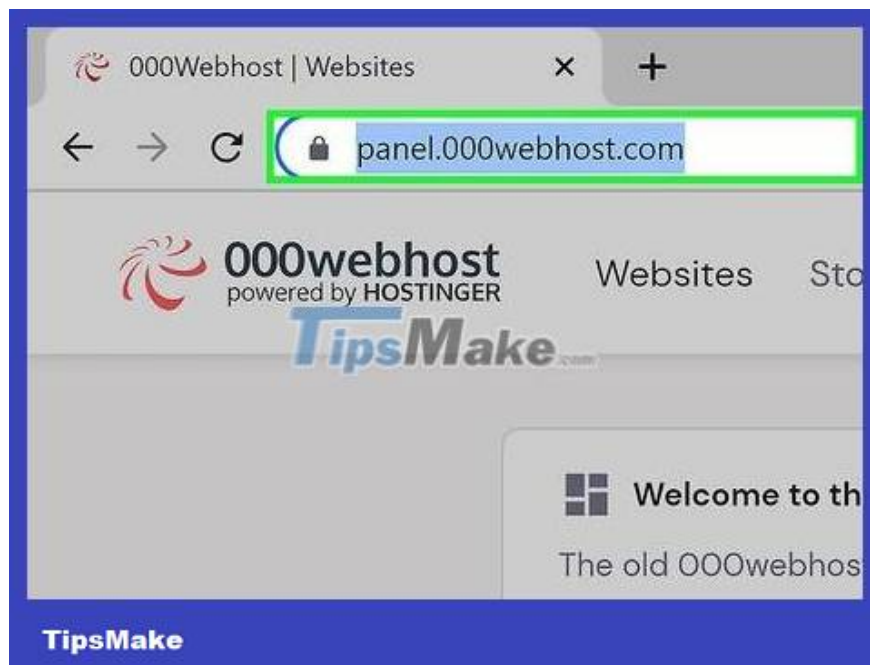
Hotmail/Outlook IMAP: `imap-mail.outlook.com` port 993

Yahoo! POP3: `pop.mail.yahoo.com` port 995

Yahoo! IMAP: `imap.mail.yahoo.com` port 993

iCloud IMAP: `imap.mail.me.com` port 993

**With personal domain name**



**Go to the website of your server space rental service - webhosting.** If you have your own domain name hosted on a webhosting service provider's server, visit their website using your browser.



**Click on the 'Help' or 'Support' link.** You can easily find the location of your service provider's incoming mail server on their support page.



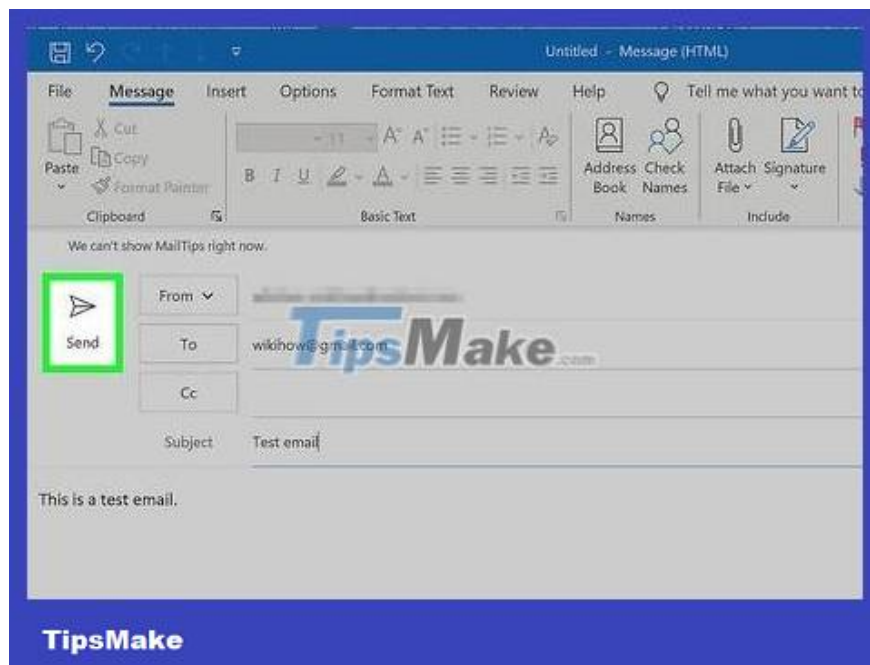
**Search with the keyword phrase 'incoming mail server' (incoming mail server).** Look for a return that says something like 'Setting up your email software' and tap it: It will include setting up your incoming and outgoing mail servers.

If you use Hostgator or Bluehost (as well as most other webhosting providers), your incoming mail server is mail.your\_domain.com (replace 'your\_domain.com' with your domain name). POP3 port is 110 and IMAP port is 143.

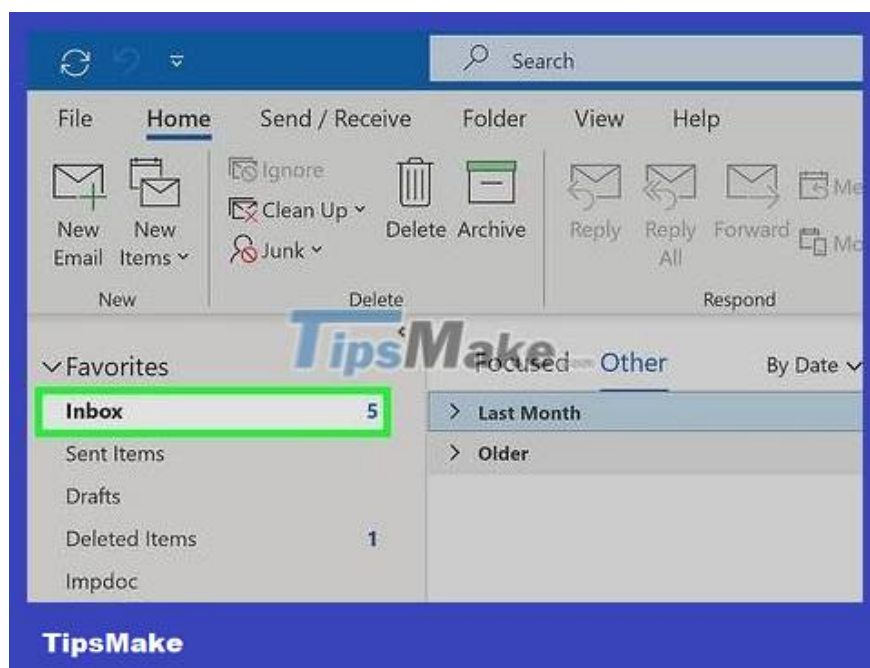
To use the secure POP or IMAP protocol on Hostgator, you need the name of the server running your site. Login to Hostgator and run Cpanel. Find the server name next to 'Server Name' on the left side of the screen. If the server name is gator4054, your secure incoming mail server will be gator4054.hostgator.com. For secure POP protocol, use port 995. Secure IMAP uses port 933.

Bluehost uses mail.your\_domain.com for secure POP and IMAP. For secure POP, use port 995. Secure IMAP uses port 993.

## **Check your incoming mail server**



**Send test mail yourself.** Once you've entered the incoming mail server address and port, send a test message to your email address. If your email client has a 'Test Account Settings' button like Outlook does, instead of following these instructions, you can just click that button.



**Check your email.** Wait a moment after sending the email yourself and checking for incoming mail.

If you use Gmail to receive IMAP or POP messages from other services, messages will arrive more slowly because Gmail only checks messages from other services about every hour. To speed things up, open your Gmail settings and click 'Accounts and Import', scroll down to POP3 or IMAP settings and select 'Check mail now'.

If you're having errors sending mail, there may be a problem with your outgoing mail (SMTP) server settings. Verify the port and SMTP address by going back to where you found the incoming mail server address and

checking it against what you entered into your email client.

Gmail's SMTP address is `smtp.gmail.com`, port 587 (or 465 for secure connections).

Hotmail/Outlook's SMTP address is `smtp.live.com`, port 25. There is no separate security port.

Yahoo's SMTP address is `smtp.mail.yahoo.com`, port 465 or 587 (both secure).

iCloud's SMTP address is `smtp.mail.me.com`, port 587. There is no separate security port.



**Find help.** If you get an error when trying to send or receive email, searching for the error online may help. There are many reasons why you might get an error, such as domain misconfiguration or authentication issues. If you're having problems with your carrier or personal domain, call technical support or look up any error messages you receive on your service provider's website.

You finished reading the article "**How to Find Incoming Mail Servers**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.