

Unix System Administration

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Email

- One of the primary uses of the internet
 - Aside from porn
- Mail routing almost as complicated as IP
 - Enter MX records from DNS
- Email system consists of parts called 'agents'
 - Each agent is responsible for a part of the system
- Five different agents
 - user, submission, transfer, delivery, access
- Mail servers perform two roles (usually)
 - submission and transfer agents

Email and DNS

- Email closely tied to DNS information
 - Many rules for mail routing based on DNS info
 - MX records, reverse PTR records, A records, etc
- MX records are the routing table for email
 - Like layer two's information
 - `netstat -nr`
 - Maintained by the admin of the domain
- Can restrict mail based on PTR records
 - IF A record \neq PTR record, don't route mail
 - For incoming hosts!