Mail on cPanel
Set up in six steps, about 15 minutes

Put a client's webmail on its own subdomain: **one upload**, **PHP settings**, then the **setup page** does the rest. After that, Mail **updates itself**.

`Mail by yopdesign 1.21` `Example: mail.clientdomain.com` `cPanel hosting`

TIME	PHP	ADMIN	UPDATES
~15 min	8.1+	noreply@	Automatic
per client	8.3 or 8.4 recommended	manages all mailboxes	a day after each release

Before you start

Have these five things ready; the rest happens inside cPanel and Mail.

WHAT	WHERE TO GET IT
The client's cPanel login	From the client or the hosting provider
The latest release zip	`yop-mail-<version>.zip` from apps.yopdesign.com/updates/yop-mail, or `~/Sites/_releases/`
An admin mailbox, usually `noreply@clientdomain.com`	cPanel → Email Accounts (create it first if needed)
The mail server name, usually `mail.clientdomain.com`	cPanel → Email Accounts → Connect Devices
PHP 8.1 or newer	cPanel → Select PHP Version (step 3)

1 Make the subdomain

Mail runs on its own subdomain, in a folder outside public_html.

1. cPanel → **Domains** → **Create A New Domain**.
2. Domain: `mail.clientdomain.com`. Untick “Share document root” if it's shown.
3. Document root: `mail.clientdomain.com/public`, a folder in the home directory, **not** inside public_html. Submit.
4. cPanel → **SSL/TLS Status** → tick the subdomain → **Run AutoSSL**. Wait for the green padlock (1–2 minutes).

2 Upload and unzip Mail

Only public/ may be reachable from the web; core/ and data/ stay beside it, outside.

1. cPanel → **File Manager** → open `mail.clientdomain.com` in the home directory (the folder holding `public`).
2. **Upload** `yop-mail-<version>.zip` into that folder.
3. Right-click the zip → **Extract** into the same folder. You now have `core/`, `public/` and `data/` side by side. Answer "overwrite" if asked.
4. Delete the zip.
5. Check cPanel → **Domains** → the subdomain → **Manage**: the document root ends in `/public`.

3 Set PHP version and extensions

cPanel → Select PHP Version (on some hosts: MultiPHP Manager plus PHP Extensions).

SETTING	VALUE
PHP version	8.1 or newer · 8.3 or 8.4 recommended
Extensions on	`openssl` `sodium` `mbstring` `iconv` `zip` `curl`
upload_max_filesize	`25M` (attachments up to 20 MB)
post_max_size	`30M`
memory_limit	`128M` or more

No need to memorise this. The setup page in step 4 checks every setting and says exactly what to change if one is missing.

4 Run the setup page

Open https://mail.clientdomain.com/. With no settings yet, Mail shows its setup page.

1. **Server check** runs first: PHP, extensions, writable folders, HTTPS, document root, and that apps.yopdesign.com can be reached. Fix anything red with the hint shown, then reload.
2. **Mail server** is filled in from the page address. Change it if Connect Devices showed another host. Ports stay IMAP 993 and SMTP 465.
3. **Admin mailbox**: type just the name, e.g. `noreply`; the domain is added for you. Enter its password.
4. Moving from another Mail server? Choose its backup zip under "Moving from another server". Otherwise skip it.
5. **Check and install**. Mail signs in once to prove you own the mailbox, then writes `core/config.php`.

Done That mailbox is now the **admin**, and only **@clientdomain.com** addresses can sign in. Sign in and Mail opens.

5 Connect cPanel

Needed for Accounts and Change password; email itself works without it.

1. In cPanel: **Security** → **Manage API Tokens** → **Create**.
2. Name it `yop-mail`, no expiry date. Copy the token; cPanel shows it only once.
3. In Mail, signed in as the admin: **Settings** → **Accounts** → **Connect to cPanel**.
4. Paste the token with the cPanel username (the home folder name). The cPanel address is usually `https://mail.clientdomain.com:2083`.
5. **Connect**. Mail tests the token before saving it, and the mailbox list appears.

Keep the token private. It can change every mailbox on that cPanel account, so paste it only into Mail's form, never into chat or email.

Let noreply manage accounts

`noreply@clientdomain.com` manages every mailbox once it is an **admin** and Mail is **connected to cPanel**.

1 · Make it admin
The mailbox used on the setup page is admin already (saved in `core/config.php` → `admins`). Installed with another mailbox? Add noreply to that list, or use Settings → Accounts → ⋯ → Make admin.

2 · Connect cPanel
Do the five steps above while signed in as noreply.

3 · Sign in as noreply
Settings now shows the Admin group: Accounts, Login screen, Updates and Server.

4 · Manage mailboxes
Create mailboxes, reset passwords, change storage, make others admin, delete mailboxes.

- **Same domain only:** only @clientdomain.com mailboxes can be changed.
- **Not your own account:** noreply changes its own password from the profile menu → Change password.
- **Fixed admins:** admins listed in config.php can't be removed from inside Mail.
- **Plan limit:** storage per mailbox is capped at the hosting plan's maximum.

6 Finish: look, updates, phones

Four quick settings that make it the client's own.

WHERE	WHAT TO DO
Settings → Login screen	Client logo, company name and colour, with a live preview. Turn on “Use it in the app too”.
Settings → Updates	Leave Automatic updates on **On, a day after release**. New versions then install by themselves.
Android app button	Share the download page from Mail's top bar. On first start the app asks for `mail.clientdomain.com`.
Settings → Accounts	New mailbox for each person; copy the sign-in details it shows and send them on.

Checklist

Tick these off before handing Mail to the client.

- [ ] `mail.clientdomain.com` made, document root on `…/public`
- [ ] **AutoSSL** done, page opens with https://
- [ ] **Zip extracted**: core/, public/, data/ side by side
- [ ] **PHP 8.1+** with all six extensions
- [ ] **Setup page** all green, admin installed
- [ ] **cPanel token** connected
- [ ] **noreply** is admin and sees Accounts
- [ ] **Login screen** branded
- [ ] **Automatic updates** on
- [ ] **Team mailboxes** created and sent

Troubleshooting

The problems that come up most, and the fix for each.

PROBLEM	FIX
403 Forbidden on the page	File Manager: files in public/ to `0644`, folders to `0755`. The setup page fixes most of this by itself.
Folder listing or 404 instead of setup	Document root points at the wrong folder; set it to `…/public` (step 2).
“Could not write core/config.php”	Make `core/` writable (`0755`) in File Manager, then try again.
IMAP or SMTP can't be reached	Use the host from Connect Devices. Some hosts block port 465: try SMTP 587.
apps.yopdesign.com can't be reached	The host blocks outgoing web requests: turn on curl or ask the host. Mail works; updates won't.
Accounts missing for noreply	It isn't admin yet, or cPanel isn't connected (step 5).
Attachments over 2 MB fail	Raise upload_max_filesize and post_max_size (step 3).
Old page or icon after an update	Reload once; pages are set to always load fresh.

Need a hand? Send the setup page's red items, or a screenshot, to Yopdesign at yopdesign.com