

Deleting OS X 10.4.x Server mail users

This documentation is based on a Mac OS X 10.4.2 Server install, **but has been updated to address certain inconsistencies in 10.4.7**. Updates are identified by a **bolded red asterisk ***.

Before the proper steps can be taken to delete a mail user a onetime change must be made to the **imapd.conf** file. ***Make this change as the root user** (duh, shouldn't have left this out before).

Open **/etc/imapd.conf** via your favorite text editor. (I like using BBedit over SFTP connection). The first line of the file should contain a list of admins, and you should see **cyrusimap** in there already. You need to add the shortname of an administrative user on your server to the end of that list. **IMPORTANT**: You must also enable mail for this administrative user. I added the **admin** user that I create whenever I setup an OS X server. It should look like this:

admins: cyrusimap, admin (be sure to separate user short names with a comma ***and a space**, very important)

****save the changes, and they will take effect immediately**

The next set of steps will be used for the actual deletion of the mail user and its mail data, and is dependent upon having direct access to the terminal on the server itself or ssh access from a remote machine. You will use the shortname of the administrative user entered into the **imapd.conf** wherever you see **admin**.

1. In the terminal type:

cd /usr/bin/cyrus/admin/ (do not replace this instance of **admin** with your administrator short name)
su admin .cyradm (this may prompt you to enter your password for the **admin** user)

2. Now you're in the Cyrus Admin terminal and your prompt should be: **cyradm>**. Now we need to tell the Cyrus Admin tool which server to administer, so type:

connect localhost (this will definitely ask you for your admin password, it may also ask for an **IMAP pass**, which is the same)

3. Now your prompt should be: **localhost>**. Use the **lm** command at the prompt to show you the list of user mail folders. Before you can delete a user's mail folder(s) you must give your admin user permission to access and delete the user's mail. Let's say the user I want to remove has a shortname of **testuser**, you would type:

sam user/testuser admin all (this will give **admin** permission to **testuser's** mail folders and sub mail folders)

***sam 'Other Users/testuser' admin all** (include the apostrophes)

dm user/testuser (this will delete **testuser's** actual mail folders and sub folders from the filesystem)

***dm 'Other Users/testuser'** (include the apostrophes)

exit (this will leave the Cyrus Admin terminal and your normal command prompt will return)

4. In the **Server Admin** tool goto **Mail -> Maintenance -> Accounts** and verify that the deleted user no longer exist in the **Accounts** list. You may need to press the **Refresh** button before the account deletion is viewable.

5. Now you may delete the user from the **Workgroup Manager**.

Written by:

Ben Masters

Systems Admin

o5ben@mac.com