

Barracuda Filtering

Written by Administrator

Friday, 03 September 2010 05:38 - Last Updated Wednesday, 22 September 2010 09:35

<p>Spam filtering now enabled on yk.com & tamarack.nt.ca mail accounts!</p> <p>Find out how you can configure the spam filter to best suit your personal needs. </p> <p>◆</p> <p></p> <p>Barracuda Spam Filtering:</p> <p align="left">The Barracuda Spam Firewall filters spam before it reaches our mail server, meaning that you can filter your spam message before even downloading them. This saves you time and bandwidth, and it works even with your web-mail interface.</p> <p>Configuring Barracuda Spam Filtering:</p> <p align="left">Step 1: Create an account.
To begin setting up your personal filtering settings you will need to create a user account on the Spam Firewall. To do this, go to <a mce_style="color: #660000; font-family: Arial; font-weight: bold" mce_href="http://barracuda.yk.com:8000" href="http://barracuda.yk.com:8000/" style="font-family: Arial; color: #660000; font-weight: bold;">http://barracuda.yk.com:8000 . You will see a login page similar to this:</p> <p></p> <p align="left">Follow this by entering your full e-mail address as your username. If you have a "@yk.com" address, use your username "@tamarack.nt.ca"</p> <p align="left">For instance, if your account name is johndoe@yk.com, you would enter the username johndoe@tamarack.nt.ca. </p> <table bgcolor="#c0c0c0" width="80%" cellpadding="0" bordercolor="#000000" cellspacing="0" border="1" id="table6"> <tr> <td>Technical Note: Currently most all yk.com addresses are set up as aliases to tamarack.nt.ca accounts where your mailbox exists. </td> </tr> </table> <p align="left">Then click the "Create New Password" button. An e-mail coming from "Barracuda Spam Firewall" will be sent to your e-mail account. This message will contain information to log in: Your username, your password, and a link to quickly log in. </p> <p align="left">Step 2: Setting Personal Settings
By default, the barracuda is making no decisions as to what spam to delete from your account. This is to ensure that messages you wish to receive aren't accidentally removed.</p> <p align="left">Click the link in your "User Quarantine Account Information" e-mail that was sent in step 1. It will bring you to a page with a Quarantine Inbox tab and a Preferences Tab. The quarantine inbox is where messages that the barracuda isn't quite sure about are stored for you to review.</p> <p></p>

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 For now, click on the Preferences Tab, and then the Spam Settings header.

This will bring you to a page with the following information. By default you will be using the system defaults so you wont be able to change your scoring settings. To be able to do that, Click "No" to "Use System Defaults" and then click "Save Changes" in the Spam Scoring Heading.

 This is where you can modify your spam settings, and allow the Barracuda to block spam messages from ever getting to you. Be cautious when setting these settings as they could cause valid e-mails to be discarded if set too strictly.

Each action has a score from 0 to 10. When a message is received it is analyzed and given a score, if the barracuda is very sure the message is not spam, it is given a score close to 0. If the barracuda is very sure that the message is spam, it is given a score of 9 or higher. A message that is scored between 1 and 9 the barracuda is unsure about. The closer to 0, the more likely the message is not spam, the closer to 9, the more likely that it is.

Each action will occur to messages above the score set. For instance, a Tag Score of 1.5 means that all messages rated over 1.5 will be tagged with the words [SUSPECTED SPAM]. A score of 0 should never be used since it means that all messages will have that action taken on them. A score of 10 means that the action will never be performed. (For instance, to remove any tagging and filtering, set all scores at 10)

The actions do the following:

- Tag: Precedes the suspected message with [SUSPECTED SPAM] and delivers it to your mailbox.
- Quarantine: Does not deliver the message to your mailbox. Instead, delivers it to your Quarantine box. You will get a daily message telling you which messages have been quarantined, and allowing you to tell the barracuda which messages are spam, and which message are not so that it is able to more accurately determine in the future.
- Block: Does not deliver to your mailbox. Deletes the message completely.

A typical configuration may have a low tag score, a moderate quarantine score, and a high block score so that the fewest messages get blocked by the filter, and you have the option to use the quarantine to train the filter to better classify your messages.

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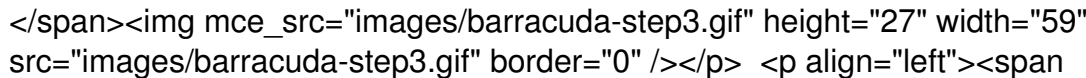
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Arial; color: #660000;">The other typical configuration would be to set the quarantine score at 10 so that no mail is ever quarantined, but then you will rely on the mail plug-in to train the filter.

Step 3: Using the Mail Plug-In (Advanced)
If you use Microsoft Outlook and you are comfortable installing plug-ins for it, you can download a plug-in for your mail client that will let you classify your messages as spam/not-spam without having to log in to the barracuda. To do this, go to <http://barracuda.yk.com:8000> and click on the "Get Mail Plugins Here" link. Download one of the two options and run the installer that is downloaded.

You will notice a couple of buttons in Outlook the next time you start it up.

To classify messages as spam, or not spam, select the messages you wish to classify, and then click the green arrow if you want to let the barracuda know that messages like the ones you have selected should not be classified as spam in the future, or click the red arrow if you want to let the barracuda know that a message should be classified as spam in the future.