

Supporting IMAP and POP3 with Dovecot

LPIC-2: Linux Engineer (202-450)

Objectives:

At the end of this episode, I will be able to:

1. Describe the Dovecot IMAP and POP3 server and its intended uses.
2. Install and configure Dovecot on a Linux email server.

Additional resources used during the episode can be obtained using the download link on the overview episode.

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- Supporting IMAP and POP3 with Dovecot
 - Introduction to Dovecot
 - Installing Dovecot
 - Configuring Dovecot for User Access
 - Introduction to Dovecot
 - <https://www.dovecot.org/>
 - Popular opensource POP3 and IMAP4 server
 - Post Office Protocol
 - Internet Mail Access Protocol
 - POP3
 - Basic email client service
 - No folder support
 - Email not intended to stay on server long term
 - IMAP4
 - Advanced email client service
 - Folder support
 - Read/unread status synchronization between client and server
 - Installing Dovecot
 - `sudo apt install dovecot-pop3d dovecot-imapd`
 - `sudo systemctl enable --now dovecot`
 - Configuring Dovecot for User Access
 1. `sudoedit /etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-auth.conf`
 - `disable_plaintext_auth = no`
 - `auth_mechanisms = plain login`
 2. `sudoedit /etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-mail.conf`
 - `mail_location = maildir:~/Mail`
 3. `sudoedit /etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-master.conf`
 - `unix_listener /var/spool/postfix/private/auth {`
 - `mode = 0666`
 - `user = postfix`
 - `group = postfix`
 - `}`
 - Enabling TLS support in Dovecot
 - `sudoedit /etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-ssl.conf`
 - `ssl = yes`
 - `ssl_cert = </etc/dovecot/private/dovecot.pem`
 - `ssl_key = </etc/dovecot/private/dovecot.key`
 - Alternate ports

- 110 POP3 Unencrypted
- 995 POP3/S
- 143 IMAP4 Unencrypted
- 993 IMAP/S
- Firewall access
 - sudo ufw allow "Dovecot POP3"
 - sudo ufw allow "Dovecot IMAP"
 - sudo ufw allow "Dovecot Secure IMAP"
 - sudo ufw allow "Dovecot Secure POP3"
- Testing Dovecot
 - telnet 127.0.0.1 110
 - user dpezet
 - pass password123
 - list
 - retr 1
 - quit
 - telnet 127.0.0.1 143
 - Configure a client like Thunderbird