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SMTP stands for Simple Mail Transfer Protocol. It is the email sending protocol which is used on the internet. SMTP Server is a combination of hardware and software and it has been designed in such a way that it is able to send the emails to the correct destination. For sending such emails it is necessary to get connected to the internet through an email application.

Generally, SMTP functions in coordination with the POP3 server. POP3 is Post Office Protocol. At times, it is even connected to IMAP also known as Internet Mail Access Protocol. Both of these servers serve as useful tools in receiving emails. Hence, SMTP works either with POP3 or IMAP or both.

Actually, when you send an email, the emailing application or the computer you are using sends a message to the SMTP Server, this server then reads the message regarding its destination and other information. Finally, the server forwards the mail to the recipientâ€™s mail server when the destination has been determined. These servers are programmed in such a way that there is no need for you to send any additional information to them. As soon as an email is sent by you they start functioning accordingly. But for instance, if they are not able to detect the recipientâ€™s address, they keep on sending the mail to the recipientâ€™s address repeatedly for three or four days. If all the sending attempts fail then a delivery failed report is generated and sent to the sender of the mail.

There are many free email service providers which can be used to send and receive emails. However, if you use any service in which SMTP server download is not required then your free email service provider looks after everything. However, if you want to use your own SMTP set up so as to control the process of email messaging yourself then you will require an SMTP Server to be downloaded. Once the server is downloaded you will be required to configure it as per your requirements. For instance, if you have to send bulk messages for the purpose of promotion then you will have to configure the server in such a way that it is able to handle sending of bulk mails efficiently so that they do not blocked on their way to the destination. But due to increase in the number of emails sent for marketing purposes you may have to face some technical problems, therefore, configuring should be done properly.

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