However, their email clients suck — most look like they stopped updating their user interface in 2003. They often have terrible UX. Gmail, on the other hand, is fantastic — it looks great, it works great, you already have one and know how to use it.

Gmail is free.

Google does a very good job of securing the Gmail service itself from third party attacks. (Of course, this is different than securing your account from an attack, where you bear a lot of the responsibility based on what password you select and what additional measures you put in place to protect your account.)

Gmail also has arguably the best **spam protection** engine.

Why not use G-Suite?

$60 per year, per account, for every domain you own? That might be expensive.

1. Get a Custom Domain

The first step is to get a domain name from a reputable domain name registrar.

I recommend Cloudflare Registrar – a service for registering domain names that doesn't mark up the price for doing so. It offers essentially the same services as other domain name registrars but without markups, without increased renewal fees and comes with additional security features. In essence, Cloudflare Registrar is free — the only cost is what is charged by registries and by ICANN.

Ensure your DNS has email forwarding

In this guide, I will be considering Namecheap.com and Cloudflare. They both have it.

If your DNS doesn't have this feature consider using Cloudflare: it comes with a tonne of benefits you can consider transferring your domain to Cloudflare or changing your authoritative nameservers to Cloudflare's.

2. Receiving Mail

This will automatically forward the incoming traffic to any destination inboxes you wish.

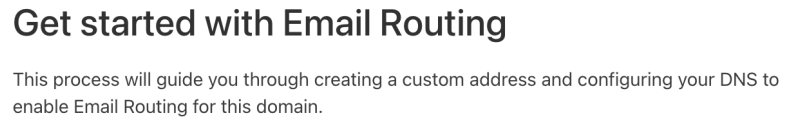
You can effectively start receiving Emails in any of your domains for any number of custom addresses you want and forward the messages to any existing destination mailboxes (Gmail, Outlook, etc).

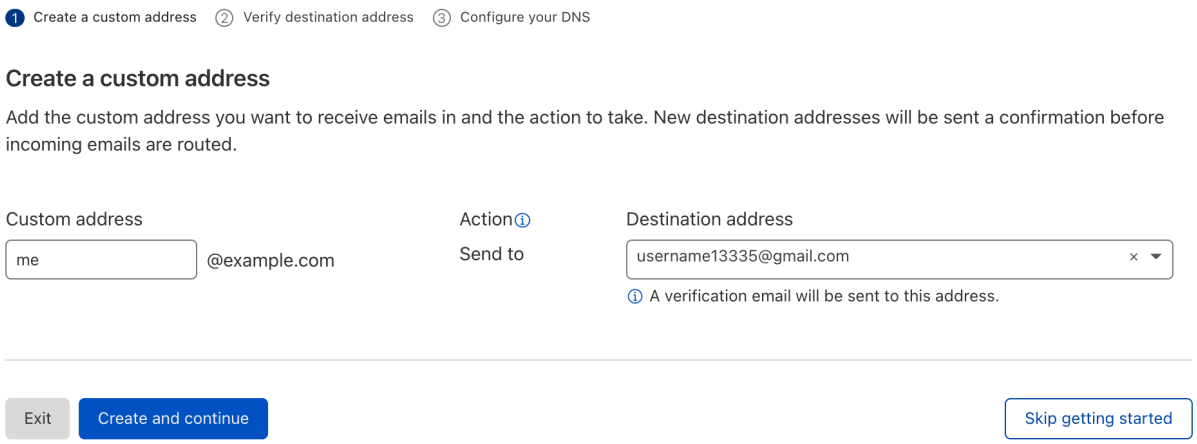
With Cloudflare

Log in to your Cloudflare Dashboard and select your zone and click "Email" in the left navigation panel.

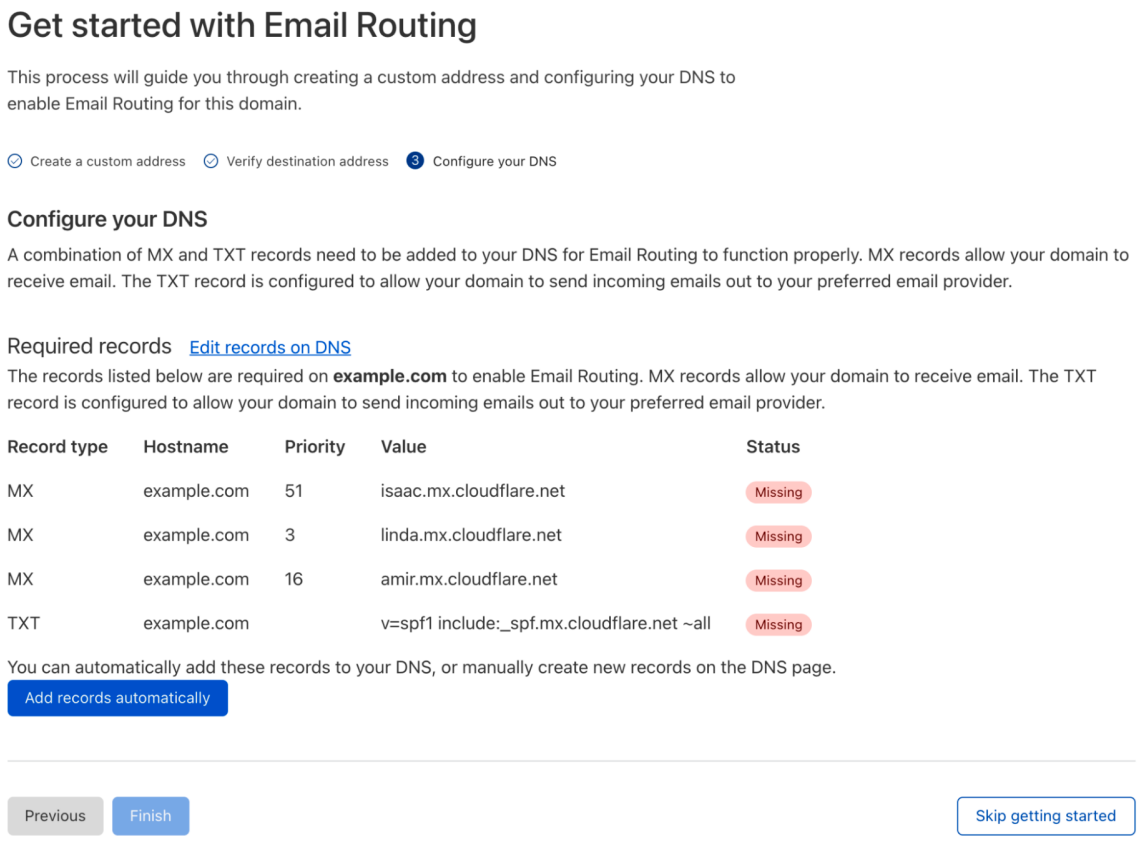
Create a custom email address or your domain (in my case me@example.com) then type in the destination email address (your Gmail address - in my case, username13335@gmail.com).

This step will trigger sending a confirmation email to username13335@gmail.com so that they can prove that the destination Inbox is yours. You need to open Gmail and press the verification link.

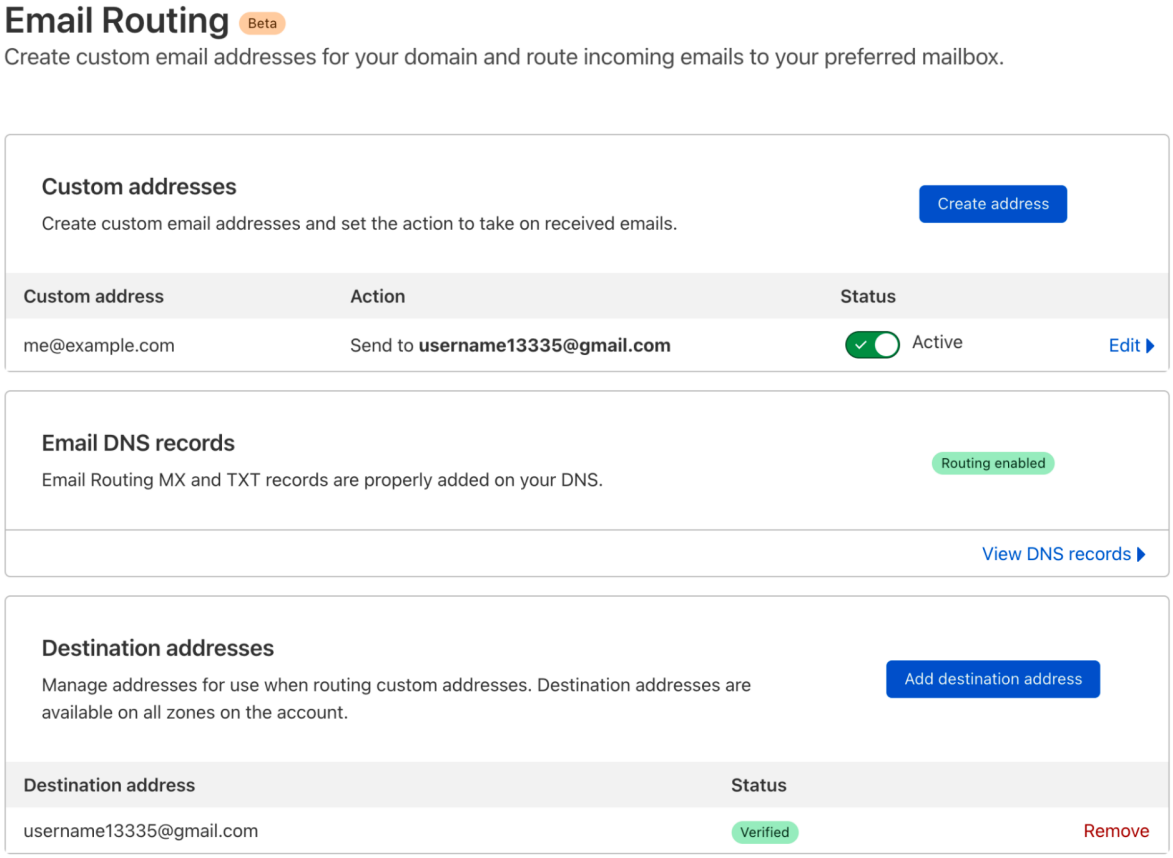




Then, in the last step, you need to configure your zone MX and SPF DNS records. They will do this automatically for you. Just press **"Add records automatically"**.



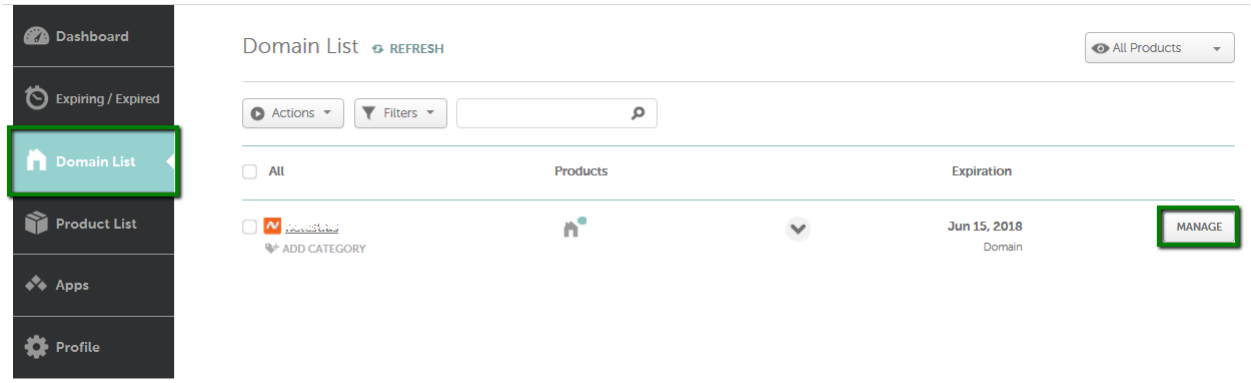
That’s it, Email Routing is now configured, and you can start sending emails to me@example.com and read them at username13335@gmail.com in Gmail.



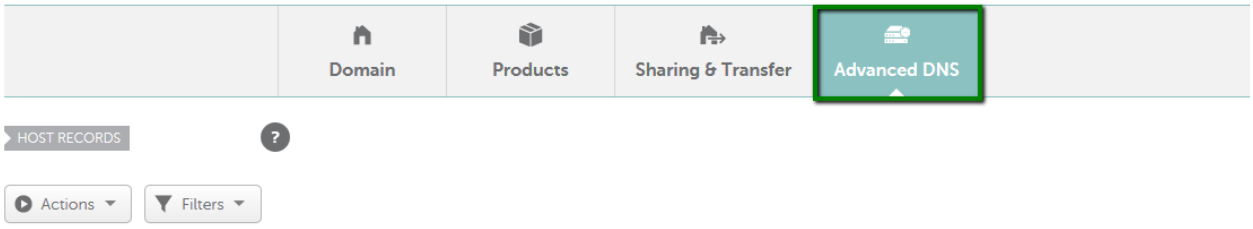
That's it!

With Namecheap

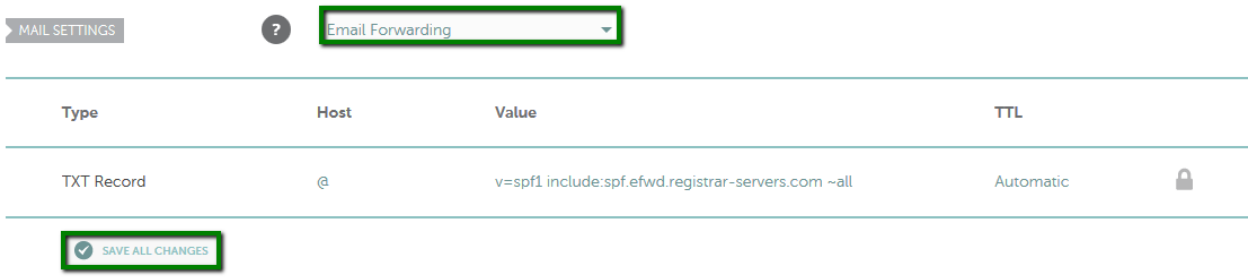
Sign in to your Namecheap account (The Sign In option is available in the header of the page). Select **Domain List** from the left sidebar and click on the **Manage** button next to your domain.



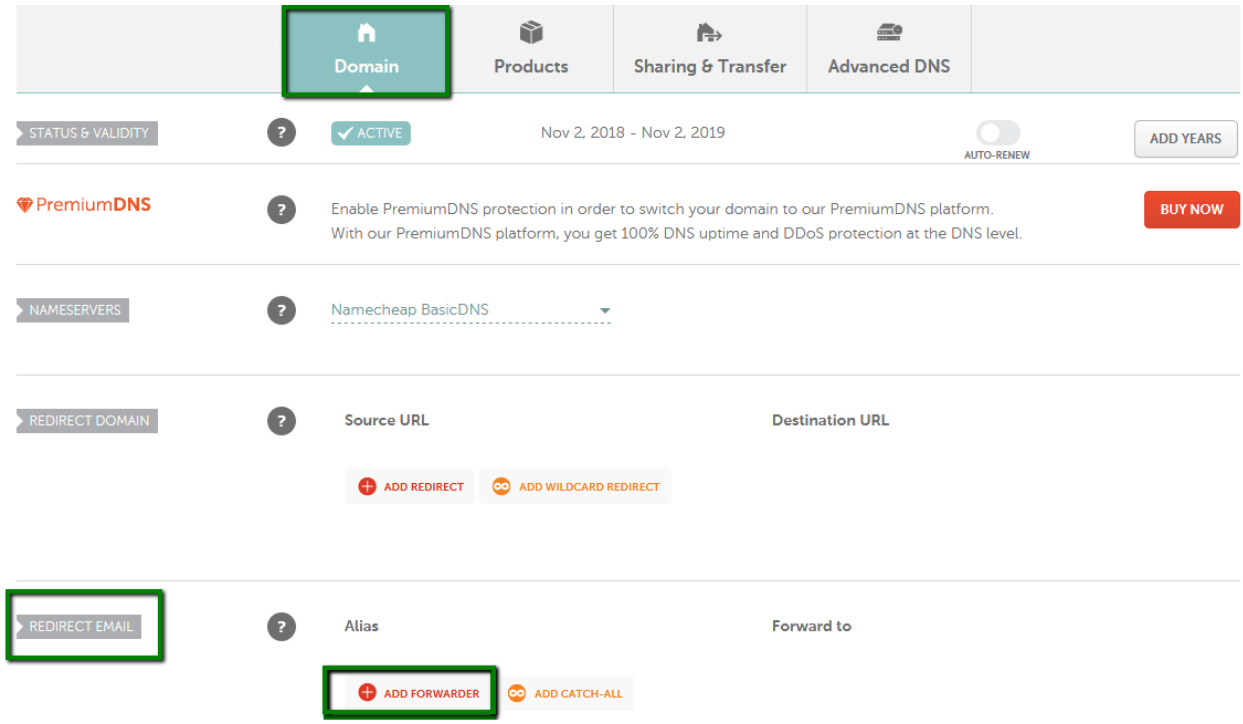
Navigate to the **Advanced DNS** tab at the top of the page:



Find the **Mail Settings** section and select **Email Forwarding** from the drop-down menu. MX records will be set automatically once you save all changes:



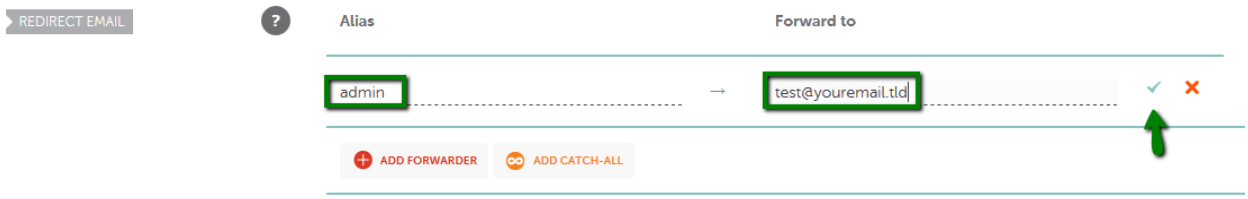
Choose the **Domain** tab on top of the page and scroll down to the **Redirect Email** section. Click on the **Add Forwarder** button:



Fill in both the **Alias** and **Forward to** fields with the corresponding information and click on the checkmark icon to save the changes. *Alias* is the name of your forwarding mailbox. For example, if you are forwarding all emails sent to *admin@yourdomain.tld* to your destination email address, you will need to put *admin* in the *Alias* field (it is also possible

to forward the same alias to several email addresses).

Make sure that the *Forward to* field contains your full destination email address as well.



Please allow about an hour for newly created mailboxes to be completely set up on the forwarding mail server.

That's it!

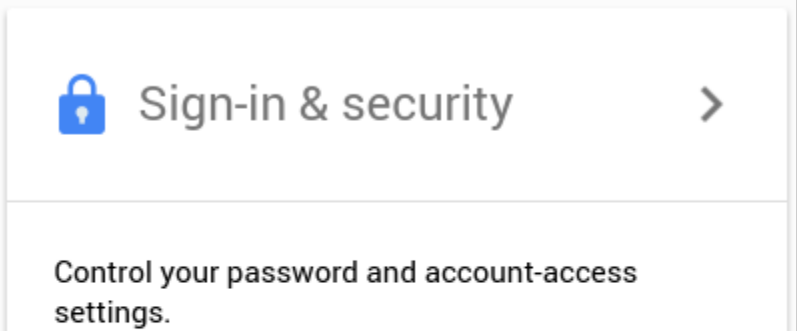
3. Sending Mail

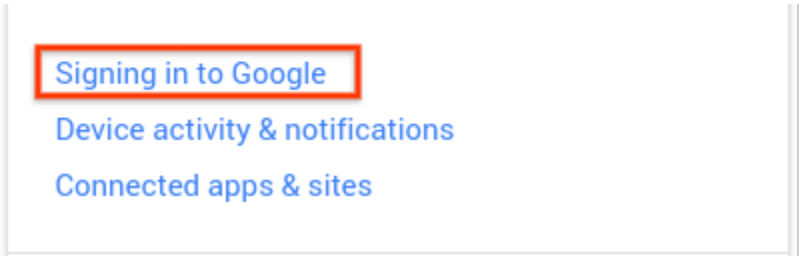
Set up Google App Password

Set up an App Password for your Gmail account to allow you to use the Gmail SMTP servers securely.

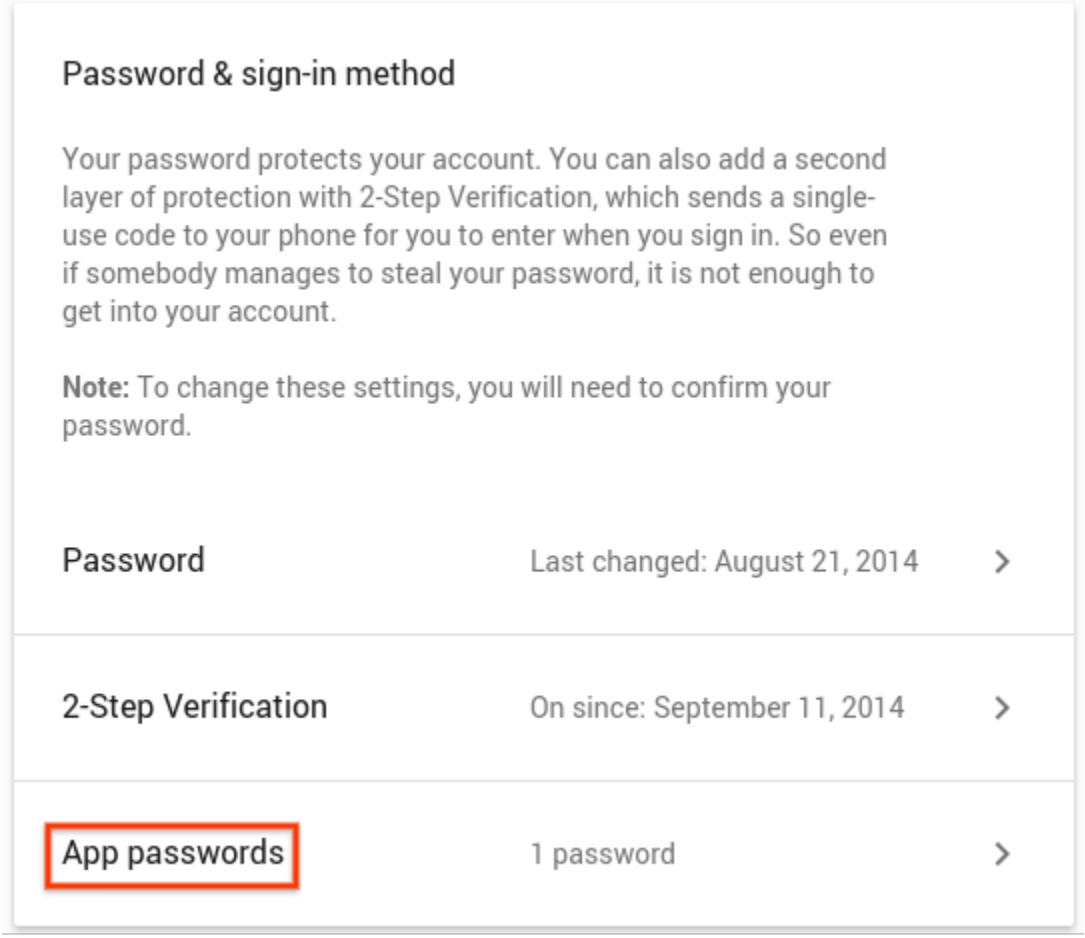
Go to the Gmail account. Click your username or user icon in the upper right corner to bring up the user menu and click **My Account**

In the Google account screen, under **Sign-in & security**, click **Signing in to Google.**



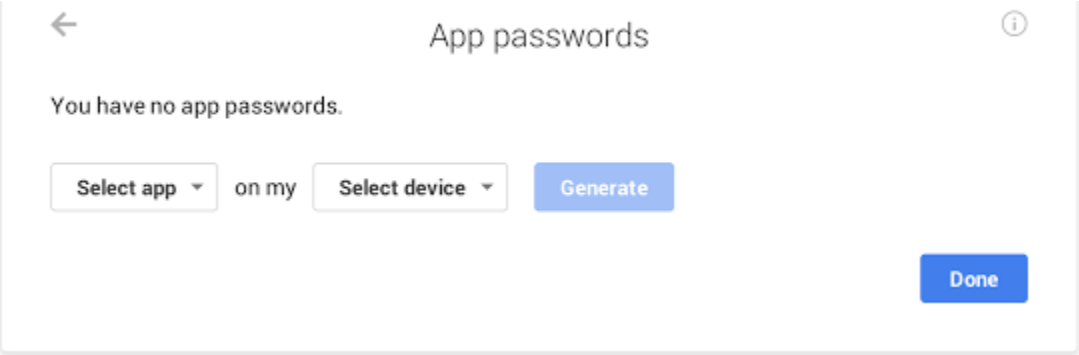


In the **Password & sign-in method** box, click **App passwords.**



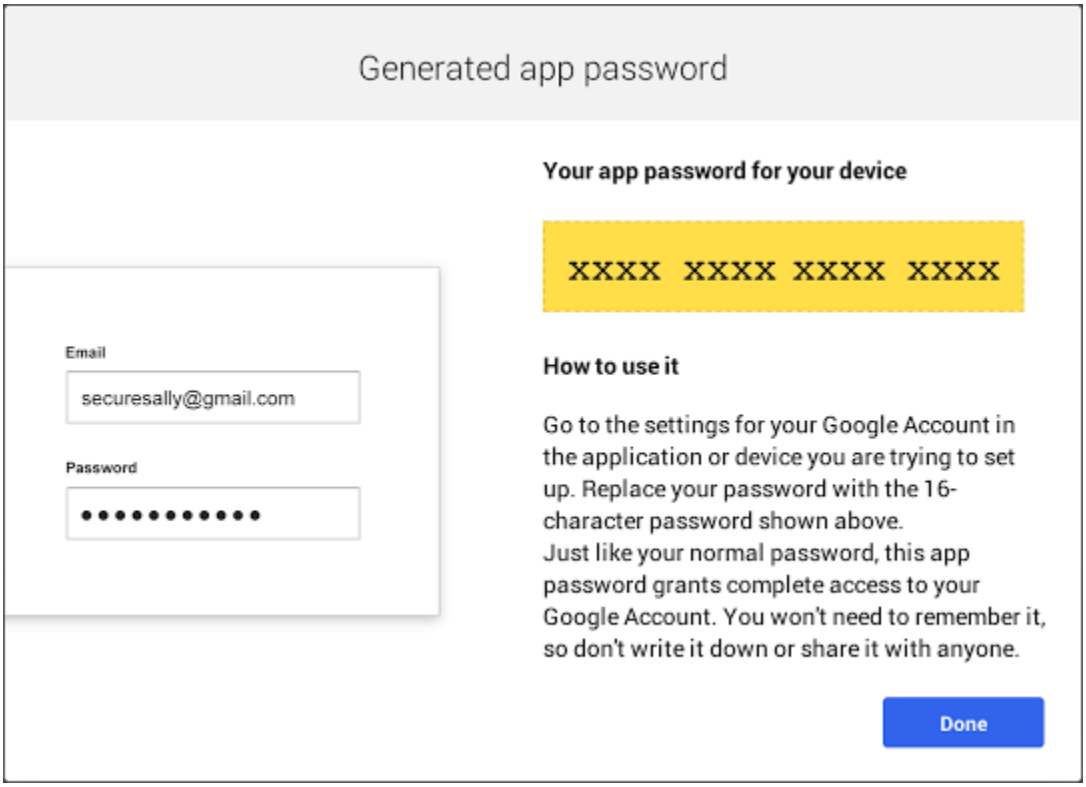
You must have **2-Step Verification** enabled for the App passwords option to be available. If it is not, click **2-Step Verification** and enable 2-Step Verification. Then continue to set the App password.

In the App passwords box, select **Mail** for the app, and select **Other** for the device.



Enter the name of your domain (or any other memorable name) for the “other” device, and click Generate.

The Generated app password box will display a **16-character password.** Copy this password. You will need it when you add your new send-as (forwarded) account.



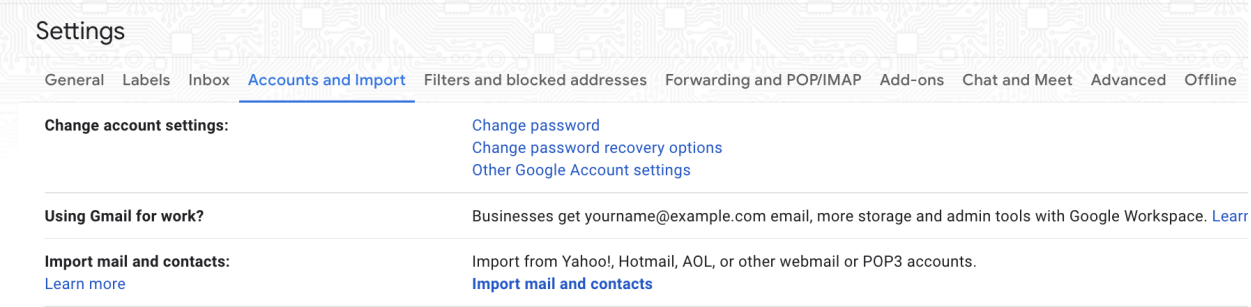
Click “Done” and return to Gmail.

Connect custom domain to Gmail

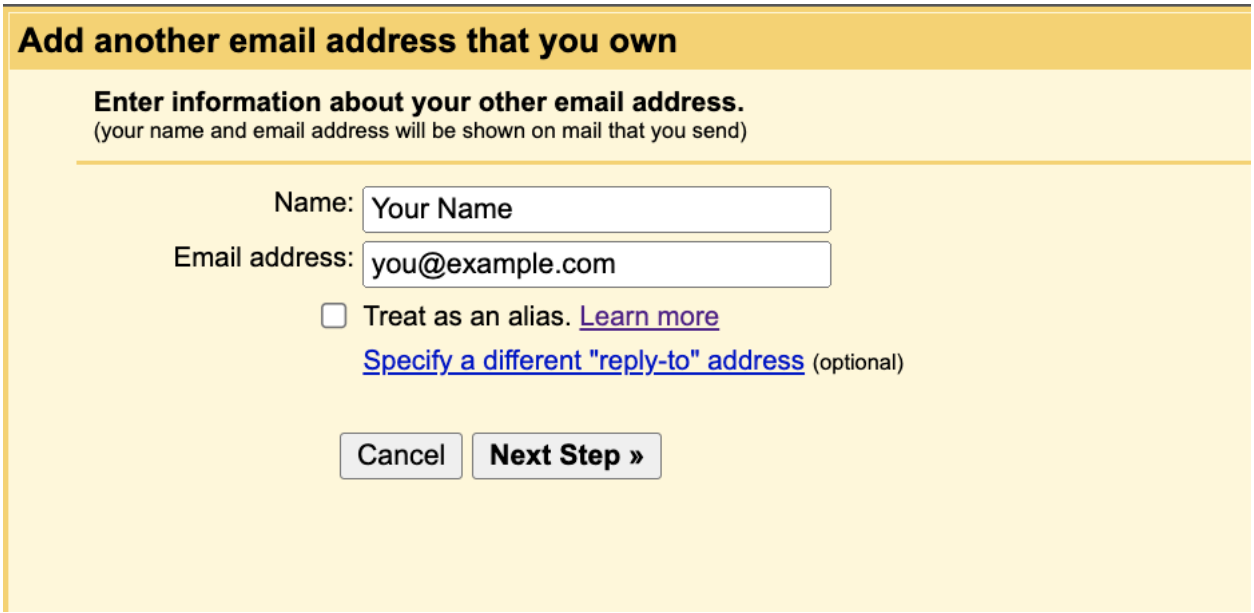
You will need to add the alias email address as an account to

your Gmail inbox.

In the top right corner of Gmail, click on the **Settings** button, then on See all settings. In the **Settings** screen, click the **Accounts and Import** tab.



Scroll down to **Send mail as** and click **Add another email address you own.** In the first **Add another email address** box, enter the name you want recipients of your email to see and the forwarded email address you are setting up (the email address you set up in step 2) and click on Next step.



Set the Gmail SMTP server as the mail server for your forwarded alias. Change the values in fields to enter the following:

- SMTP Server: `smtp.gmail.com`
- Port: `465`
- **Username:** Your Gmail account (the one you are logged in as)
- **Password:** The generated Google App Password

Click **Add Account.**

After you have successfully added the account, return to Gmail. You will see a message from **Gmail Team** with the subject **Gmail Confirmation: Send Mail As** and the address you have just added. Follow the instructions in the message to confirm the email address.

When you send mail from your Gmail account, click the triangle next to your **From** address to choose to send the message from the account you just added.

That's it!

Conclusion

You can now send and receive emails from Gmail using your domain name.

Sources:

- https://blog.cloudflare.com/migrating-to-cloudflare-email-routing/
- https://www.namecheap.com/support/knowledgebase/article.aspx/308/2214/how-to-set-up-free-email-forwarding/
- https://support.google.com/mail/answer/185833?hl=en

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