

# Webmail and groupware comparison

This page is *mainly* to compare all **active and mature** Open Source (thus self-hostable) webmail solutions that you can install and **manage email from any server with standard email protocols** (IMAP, SMTP, JMAP). The assumption is that you already have at least one mail server (and often more than one) and you just want to install a webmail, and perhaps replace a desktop email solution like Thunderbird.

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Here are the main active and mature Open Source standalone webmail options:

- [Roundcube](#)
- [SnappyMail](#) (RainLoop fork)
- [Cypht](#)

Special cases:

- [Nextcloud Mail](#) requires Nextcloud (And in Nextcloud, you can pick other options like the module for SnappyMail). See also [WikiSuite vs Nextcloud](#)
- [Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware](#) (which bundles Cypht)

Some related solutions are added because they have a close connection with one of the solutions above

- [Kolab](#) is added because it uses [Roundcube](#) and has massively contributed to it in the last few years..
- [Virtualmin](#) is added because it is the mail stack of WikiSuite (And Tiki is also a WikiSuite [component](#))

	Roundcube	Kolab	SnappyMail (RainLoop fork)	Nextcloud	Cypht	Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware	Virtualmin
Type	Webmail in PHP	Full mail server stack (server and webmail)	Webmail in PHP and Node.JS	Multi-feature system which offers plugins/modules, and some of those are webmail clients	Pluggable Webmail in PHP with aggregator mindset	Multi-feature system which offers all the functionality in one app (bundles Cypht Webmail)	Admin panel for shared hosting which includes mail accounts and its own webmail (You can also install Cypht, Roundcube, etc.)

Mail server	None	<a href="#">Cyrus IMAP</a>	None	None	None	None	<a href="#">Dovecot</a>
License	<a href="#">GPLv3+ with exceptions for skins and plugins</a>	?	<a href="#">AGPLv3</a>	<a href="#">AGPLv3</a>	<a href="#">LGPL v2.1</a>	<a href="#">LGPL v2.1</a>	<a href="#">GPL</a>
Available via Packagist.org	<a href="#">No</a>	No	No	No	<a href="#">Yes</a>	No	No
Available via Docker	<a href="#">yes</a>	<a href="#">This image does not provide persistence, and is intended for testing and demo purposes</a>	?	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	No
Uses Bootstrap	<a href="#">Yes</a>	yes, via Roundcube	Yes?	<a href="#">No</a>	<a href="#">Soon</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>	<a href="#">Yes</a>
External authentication	?	?	?	Yes, via Nextcloud (social logins, oidc, ldap, others)	<a href="#">API, LDAP and others</a>	<a href="#">LDAP (Active Directory), OpenID Connect, SAML, Hybridauth Social Sign On Library, CAS, Shibboleth, etc.</a>	?
Webmail client	Yes	Yes, via Roundcube	Yes	Nextcloud mail	Yes	Yes, via Cypht	<a href="#">Usermin Webmail.</a>
How does it deal with mail accounts?	<a href="#">Only 1 external account at a time</a>	Only own accounts?	Multiple external accounts but messages are not in a unified view	Multiple external accounts in one view	<a href="#">Multiple external accounts in one view</a> , and emails can be copied/moved between accounts.	Multiple external accounts (via Cypht)	Only own accounts?

Manage Sieve	<a href="#">via a plugin</a>	Yes?	<a href="#">yes</a> but <a href="#">no GUI in demo</a>	Yes, but very basic	Yes, with a GUI <a href="#">A modern Sieve library in PHP was developer for this</a>	Via Cypht, and <a href="#">available even if server doesn't support Sieve</a>	No (uses Procmail instead)
Mail: Search throughout all folders	Yes	Yes, via Roundcube	Yes	Yes	<a href="#">assigned to a developer</a>	Missing (via Cypht)	?
JMAP support	<a href="#">No</a>	No	<a href="#">unclear</a>	<a href="#">No</a>	<a href="#">Yes, in version 2+</a>	Via Cypht	No. See <a href="#">related discussion about JMAP and Virtualmin</a>
Calendar invitations by email	?	Yes	?	Yes?	No	<a href="#">Yes</a>	No
Calendar	?	Yes	?	<a href="#">Nextcloud calendar</a>	<a href="#">very basic</a>	<a href="#">Tiki Calendar</a>	No?
CalDAV	?	Yes	?	<a href="#">yes</a>	No	<a href="#">yes</a>	?
Contacts	Yes	Yes, via Roundcube	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="#">Tiki Contacts</a> with interop with Cypht contacts	Yes
CardDAV	?	Yes	?	<a href="#">yes</a>	<a href="#">read-only</a>	<a href="#">yes</a>	?

#### Not included (yet), and why?

- RainLoop: Activity level is too low: <https://openhub.net/p/rainloop-webmail/commits/summary>, and has been forked into SnappyMail
- [YunoHost is an interesting platform to manage apps](#). It's a full mail server and you can pick between Roundcube, Rainloop, Cypht etc. Not including below because it doesn't offer a distinct webmail client.
- Horde IMP: Activity level is too low: <https://openhub.net/p/horde/commits/summary>
- [SOGoo](#): Full mail distro. Is the webmail available in standalone to connect to other email servers?
- SquirrelMail: Activity level too low: <https://openhub.net/p/squirrelmail/commits/summary>
- Linagora / OpenPaaS / Team Mail Flutter
  - OpenPaaS (from Linagora) is interesting and supports JMAP but AFAICT webmail client is not available to run as standalone:

<https://github.com/linagora/openpaas-esn/tree/master/modules/linagora.esn.messaging.email>

- Linagora seems to have shifted their resources to [Team Mail Flutter](#) (For mobile apps and there is a webmail) and work has been done to support Stalwart JMAP:

<https://github.com/linagora/tmail-flutter/pull/2315>

- Team Mail Flutter is great for moving forward the JMAP ecosystem but not added above because it doesn't support IMAP and SMTP (and sadly we are not yet in a predominantly JMAP world).
- <https://github.com/afterlogic/webmail-lite-8> should be analyzed

## Wishlists

Sorted by most reactions

- [SnappyMail](#)
- [Roundcube](#)
- [Cypht](#)

## More comparison

[https://openhub.net/p/\\_compare?project\\_0=SnappyMail&project\\_1=Roundcube+Webmail&project\\_2=Cypht+Webmail&submit\\_2=Go](https://openhub.net/p/_compare?project_0=SnappyMail&project_1=Roundcube+Webmail&project_2=Cypht+Webmail&submit_2=Go)

More comparison:

- SnappyMail is the most active (in terms of code commits)
- Roundcube is the most popular
- Cypht has the smallest code base.

## Related pages

- This Roundcube blog is great: <https://kolabian.wordpress.com/>
- Why did Tiki.org pick Cypht instead of Roundcube: <https://doc.tiki.org/Roundcube-vs-Cypht>
- Roundcube and Nextcloud (2023): <https://nextcloud.com/blog/open-source-email-pioneer-roundcube-comes-aboard-nextcloud/>
- Roundcube and Kolab (2013): <https://roundcubeinbox.wordpress.com/2013/03/11/the-kolab-story/>