

BARRACUDA SPAM SOLUTION

How does the Barracuda Quarantine work?

Barracuda filters all email suspected to be SPAM and sends it to your inbox in a simple weekly quarantine summary, which looks like this:



Account:

This is your quarantine summary from the Barracuda Spam Firewall.

You have **114** messages in your spam quarantine inbox. The most recent 50 of which are displayed below.

- Click on the **Deliver** link to have a message delivered to your mailbox.
- Click on the **Whitelist** link to have a message delivered to your mailbox and whitelist the sender so that his/her messages will no longer be quarantined.
- Click the **Delete** link to have the message deleted from your quarantine.

Date Received	From	Subject	Actions
07/13 15:39	dacia Wales <phtad@g@hutka.cz>	Profit with IGTS-watch it consultative	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/13 10:35	"网通通信集团" <ip@cnc-voip....>	免费网络电话 宽带电话 0.18元/分钟, 拨打...	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/13 08:38	Harry <wont@eyehealth.com>	Platinum Stox Reports	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/13 08:04	"Amado Johnson" <internetpa...>	Professional Financing with ease	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/12 21:21	"bytbb@163.com" <bytbb@163...>	来自海外的客户...	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/12 19:13	"GILLES" <pillcheapestatsk...>	Your refill order	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/12 14:26	"Winfred Riley" <Scot.Schm...>	Re: Account # 89372R	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/12 10:35	"Doug Feliciano" <zpistole...>	what happend to you?	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/12 08:43	Jack <whitest@mcardle.com>	Hot Shot Stox Info	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/12 08:12	"New Single" <mesingle@al...>	Thousands of New Singles	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/11 14:01	"Odessa Quinones" <quinone...>	Platinum Stock Newsletter	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/11 13:29	"Property Evaluation" <pe...>	What's your property worth?	Deliver Whitelist Delete
07/11 10:59	"Chance J. Craft" <ccraft_...>	Emerging Growth Opportunity	Deliver Whitelist Delete

Within the SPAM summary, you will have the option of delivering each message to your inbox (if it was filtered inappropriately), adding a quarantined sender to your "Whitelist" (which identifies the sender as non-SPAM so that it will never be filtered again), or deleting the message from quarantine entirely.

At the end of the summary email, you will also have the option of viewing all of your quarantined messages and managing your filtering preferences.

Barracuda will be deployed at Mitchell College on December 16, 2005. In the beginning, it is important to review the quarantine report weekly to make sure that non-SPAM email is delivered properly to your inbox. As you use this service for a longer period of time, you may need to do this less frequently.

If you have any questions about or problems using Barracuda, please contact the LITS Support Center by phone at 860-701-5190 or by email at supportcenter@mitchell.edu.

How does Barracuda identify SPAM?

The Barracuda Spam Firewall provides comprehensive spam-blocking. The methods and techniques used by the Barracuda Spam Firewall are constantly updated (via hourly Energize Updates), to keep up with changes that spammers and virus writers are constantly making.

Some of the algorithms employed to block spam are listed below with a short description.

Technique	Description
Blacklisting of websites & domains	Barracuda Central maintains an up to date list of the largest and most aggressive known spammers. This list is maintained by both Barracuda and other anti-spam groups. This list is automatically updated on each Barracuda Spam Firewall.
Keyword scanning of emails	This can be configured on a per user basis. Our scanning methods include a scoring system such that emails are scored based on a number of criteria. If the score is above a threshold, then that email is flagged as spam. The Barracuda Spam Firewall comes with default criteria and thresholds but you may change these.
Checksum technology	Barracuda Central monitors email traffic through the Internet and uses checksum technology to keep track of the number of times a particular message has appeared on the Internet. If a message has appeared very broadly, it would be categorized as known spam. Checksums of known spam messages are utilized by the Barracuda Spam Firewall to block spam messages.
Message authenticity checking	Several algorithms are utilized to verify the authenticity of a message. Some of these are simple checks to verify that the "from address" is authentic. Some are more complex relating to SMTP protocol.
Blacklists and Whitelists	Domains, IPs, and email addresses can be blocked or whitelisted (allowed through). These lists may be maintained on a per user basis or on a corporate basis.
Rate controls	Rate controls are utilized to stop denial of service attacks as well as dictionary based spam attacks. These are integrated and automatic in the Barracuda Spam Firewall.
Bayesian Algorithms	Bayesian filters are personalized to each user and adapt automatically to changes in spam. To determine the likelihood that an email is spam, these filters use Bayesian analysis to compare the words or phrases in the email in question to the frequency of the same words or phrases in the intended recipient's previous emails (both legitimate and spam).
Spam Fingerprint Checking	Fingerprinting techniques examine the characteristics, or fingerprint, of emails previously identified as spam and use this information to identify the same or similar email each time one is intercepted. These real time fingerprint checks are continuously updated by Barracuda Central and provide a method of identifying spam with nearly zero false positives.
Intention Analysis	Intention Analysis is used to look at the objective or goal of the email. If the objective of the email is to sell something, try and have you click on a commercial link, or get you to take a particular action that is indicative spam, the email will be categorized as spam

NOTE: Description of filtering techniques and description taken from the Barracuda website:

http://www.barracudanetworks.com/ns/products/anti_spam_tech.php on 7 December 2005 at 12:40 p.m.