

CrossBox Server

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Requirements

Intro

Even though CrossBox is highly portable, make sure that your server satisfies the listed server requirements.

Supported Operating Systems

CrossBox Server runs on **any x86-64 (64 bit) Linux** based operating system that has **glibc version 2.17 and up**.

Listed below are minimum required distribution versions. Versions **equal to or greater than** the ones listed below are fully supported:

- RedHat/CentOS/CloudLinux 7
- Ubuntu - 16.04 LTS xenial
- Debian - 9 stretch
- Fedora - 30
- OpenSUSE - 15.1
- Arch Linux
- Slackware - 14.2
- Gentoo
- Mint - 18.3 sylvia

You can check you glibc version by running

```
❯ ldd --version
```

via the command line interface.

Hardware Requirements

CrossBox Server can run on a small virtual machine, a big dedicated server, or anything in between.

CPU and memory requirements vary depending on the version you'll be running, the number of enabled features, and the number of concurrent users.

Standalone Version

The standalone version comes with everything prepackaged and preconfigured. It is intended for installing and running on a fresh, clean server.

Bare-minimum (use only core features):

- **1 CPU**
- **512 MB** of RAM
- **5GB** of Disk Space

Following features require additional memory when enabled:

- Anti-Spam - **250 MB** of RAM
- Anti-Virus - **600 MB** of RAM
- TURN/STUN - **50 MB** of RAM
- Document Converter (CDC) - **100 MB** of RAM
- TrustedLink (email assets SSL proxy) - **50 MB** of RAM

To run a standalone version with all features enabled, we recommend you install CrossBox on a server with at least 1 CPU and 2GB of RAM.

Control Panel Version

It's common for servers that utilize a control panel to have many of the needed services like MTA, mail server, anti-spam service, and anti-virus already running and in place.

Therefore, when installing on a server that's running cPanel, DirectAdmin, or Plesk, we auto-detect and use the following services automatically:

- MySQL
- Exim
- Dovecot
- MailScanner
- ClamAV
- CSF
- FirewallD
- UFW
- Solr

This effectively reduces the total memory needed for CrossBox to run to just 512 MB of RAM, when used alongside the control panel.

Supported Control Panels

[cPanel](#), [Plesk](#), and [DirectAdmin](#) currently have deep-integrations available.

However, you can still use CrossBox with [any control panel](#) due to its plug and play nature, but unlike with the supported control panels, some functions are not automated and may require manual action.

Hardware Calculation

If you want to calculate your CPU and RAM resources in advance, here are the numbers:

1CPU, 2GB RAM for 100 concurrent users.

For example, if your plan is to host 100 concurrent users, you'll need:

- 1 CPU
- 2GB RAM

If your plan is to host 200 concurrent users:

- 2+ CPU
- 4GB+ RAM

Software Dependencies

You don't need to install any new software dependencies for CrossBox to work. It comes pre-compiled and runs isolated from the rest of the system.

It won't ask you to install anything via your system's package manager other than core packages like locale package etc. We do not interfere with other software/packages/libraries you may already have running on the server.

Firewall

Most of the time firewall will be configured with what's installed on the machine. However, this may not be the case with custom firewall configurations. We only support CSF, UFW, Firewalld. If CrossBox is not accessible, but **crossbox status** says all services are running, the most common reason for limited connectivity is your firewall.

When installing **panel version** of CrossBox, these ports must be free:

100 - TCP IN/OUT CrossBox default port
80 - TCP IN/OUT
443 - TCP IN/OUT
3478 - TCP and UDP IN/OUT TURN
5349 - TCP and UDP IN/OUT TURN Secure
49152:65535 - UDP IN/OUT Port range for TURN

When installing **standalone version** of CrossBox, these ports must be free:

25 - TCP IN/OUT SMTP Local Delivery
80 - TCP IN/OUT CrossBox HTTP
100 - TCP IN/OUT CrossBox default port
110 - TCP IN/OUT POP3
143 - TCP IN/OUT IMAP
443 - TCP IN/OUT CrossBox HTTPS
465 - TCP IN/OUT SMTP Secure
587 - TCP IN/OUT SMTP
993 - TCP IN/OUT IMAP Secure

995 - TCP IN/OUT POP3 Secure
3478 - TCP and UDP IN/OUT TURN
5349 - TCP and UDP IN/OUT TURN Secure
49152:65535 - UDP IN/OUT Port range for TURN

If any of these ports are taken, the installer will likely fail. Make sure you disable/remove all services that bind to these ports.

Or if otherwise configured, as CrossBox allows custom ports in the configuration settings.

Master and Slave servers

Entire cluster must be able to communicate with each other through 80/443 and default 100 port (unless configured differently). If Master server cannot connect to slave servers, login and other services will not work.

Other Requirements

Hostname

Make sure that before installing CrossBox your server has a resolvable hostname.

PTR (Reverse DNS)

We recommend that the server has a valid PTR (Reverse DNS) record that matches the server's hostname. A valid PTR record is important for good e-mail delivery.

Most VPS/Dedicated server providers allow you to edit a PTR record via the control panel they provide.

Root Access

A root user account and SSH access are required to install a CrossBox Server.

Web Terminal with root user access can also be used (for example WHM Terminal).

Home Directory

Your system needs to have a /home directory. If it doesn't exist, CrossBox Installer will automatically create it.

Let's start

Are you ready to get started?

- Continue to [Quick Installation Guide](#) and have CrossBox up and running in a couple of minutes.

Quick Installation

Intro

First, please make sure that you checked out the [Requirements](#) before you start with the installation.

To install CrossBox you need to have a valid and active license. If you don't have one, you can purchase it [here](#).

Here we will show you how to install CrossBox on a **single server**. If you plan to install CrossBox on multiple servers, please head out to our [CrossBox Cluster documentation](#) to learn how you can unify communication across different servers and configurations.

Installation

Run the Command

SSH into your server and run the following command as *root*:

```
✓ sh <(curl https://cdn.crossbox.io/install.sh || wget -O - https://cdn.crossbox.io/install.sh)
```

Then proceed to log in with your CrossBox.io account:

```
root@cpanel1:~# sh <(curl https://cdn.crossbox.io/install.sh || wget -O - https://cdn.crossbox.io/install.sh)
% Total    % Received % Xferd  Average Speed   Time    Time     Time  Current
   Dload  Upload  Total    Spent    Left    Speed
100  521    100  521    0    0    2128    0  --:--:--  --:--:--  --:--:--  2135
% Total    % Received % Xferd  Average Speed   Time    Time     Time  Current
   Dload  Upload  Total    Spent    Left    Speed
100 2655k  100 2655k    0    0  9683k    0  --:--:--  --:--:--  --:--:--  9656k
Extracting... Please wait...
Welcome to
```



```
Setup
Please enter your crossbox.io credentials to begin installation
You can cancel this setup any time by pressing CTRL+C
x E-mail: █
```

After a successful login, you'll find the URL that you can now use to start the installation via your web browser.

The URL will be similar to the one shown below, but unique to your installation instance:

```
Verifying installer...
INFO: (Press CTRL+C to quit)
```

```
Installer OK!
```

```
Please visit the following URL via web browser to continue the installation:
```

```
http://116.203.63.82:5000/api/v1/0/0/server/installer/run/RJAwR6Bpo08Gj3P
```

Access the Installation via the Web Browser

Open your favorite web browser and paste the URL that you copied.

Configure

Almost everything is already pre-populated for you and the entire process takes about ten minutes or often less, depending on your server's performance.

Settings	Mail	NEXT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">LicenseBrandingDetailsSSLTURN/STUNUpdatesLimitsAdminLocalizationLoggingDatabaseMailOtherInstallFinish	<p>SMTP Hostname* 127.0.0.1 <small>Use 127.0.0.1 if the SMTP is on this server. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>SMTP Port* 465 <small>SSL/TLS port for SMTP. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>IMAP Hostname* 127.0.0.1 <small>Use 127.0.0.1 if the IMAP is on this server. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>IMAP Port* 993 <small>SSL/TLS port for IMAP. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>POP3 Hostname* 127.0.0.1 <small>Use 127.0.0.1 if the POP3 is on this server. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>POP3 Port* 995 <small>SSL/TLS port for POP3. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>In addition to SSL/TLS ports specified, please enter non SSL/TLS ports that this server advertises</p> <p>SMTP Port* 587 <small>Insecure port for SMTP. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>IMAP Port* 143 <small>Insecure port for IMAP. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>POP3 Port* 110 <small>Insecure port for POP3. Cannot be changed after the installation.</small></p> <p>Max Size of the Email Message* 25 <small>The maximum amount of megabytes an email message can be. This does not override your mail server settings, it just shows that limit to the users inside of the application.</small></p>	

Detailed Help

If you're not sure what to enter in a certain field during the installation, just click on the "**Learn more**" link which is displayed beneath it:

Use SSL

SSL is **recommended**. Cannot be changed after the installation. [Learn more.](#)

By clicking it, you'll be taken directly to that option's more [detailed documentation](#).

Start the Installation

After you click the "**Install**" button, CrossBox will start setting everything up. You can track the progress in real-time as shown below:

Settings	Install	INSTALL																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> License Branding Details SSL TURN/STUN Updates Limits Admin Localization Logging Database Mail Other Install Finish 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Check</th> <th>Result</th> <th>State</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Disk requirements</td> <td>You have enough disk space to install</td> <td>OK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PTR record</td> <td>Reversed dns returned cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org and your provided hostname is cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org</td> <td>OK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Application ports</td> <td>All needed ports are available</td> <td>OK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mail blacklists</td> <td>Did not pass these checks: b.barracudacentral.org, bb.barracudacentral.org, bl.nszones.com, dyn.nszones.com, spam.dnsbl.sorbs.net</td> <td>WARNING</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RAM requirements</td> <td>You have enough ram to install: Needs 495MB + 200MB (for operational tasks) of total 6938MB RAM</td> <td>OK</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Overview</p> <p> App Name: CrossBox App system name: CrossBox App Description: For the Win App Product URL: https://crossbox.io </p> <p> Desktop App Name: CrossBox Android App Identifier: io.crossbox.mail iOS App Identifier: io.crossbox.mail </p> <p> URL: https://cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org SSL enabled: true </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Installation in progress Please wait...</p>	Check	Result	State	Disk requirements	You have enough disk space to install	OK	PTR record	Reversed dns returned cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org and your provided hostname is cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org	OK	Application ports	All needed ports are available	OK	Mail blacklists	Did not pass these checks: b.barracudacentral.org, bb.barracudacentral.org, bl.nszones.com, dyn.nszones.com, spam.dnsbl.sorbs.net	WARNING	RAM requirements	You have enough ram to install: Needs 495MB + 200MB (for operational tasks) of total 6938MB RAM	OK	
Check	Result	State																		
Disk requirements	You have enough disk space to install	OK																		
PTR record	Reversed dns returned cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org and your provided hostname is cpanel1.myhostingcompany.org	OK																		
Application ports	All needed ports are available	OK																		
Mail blacklists	Did not pass these checks: b.barracudacentral.org, bb.barracudacentral.org, bl.nszones.com, dyn.nszones.com, spam.dnsbl.sorbs.net	WARNING																		
RAM requirements	You have enough ram to install: Needs 495MB + 200MB (for operational tasks) of total 6938MB RAM	OK																		

Finish the Installation

You can now navigate to the application URL and log in with your admin email address and password.

Settings	Finish	FINISH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> License Branding Details SSL TURN/STUN Updates Limits Admin 	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Your application is ready.</p> <p>Application URL: https://mail.example.org Login as admin with credentials: Admin e-mail: myadmin@email.com Admin password: Password you selected</p> </div>	

Options in Details

Server

Tweaking CrossBox Server to fit your needs is as easy as enabling and disabling features with a simple checkbox click. CrossBox will auto-detect if some kind of a control panel is already installed on the server and will auto-adjust itself. Here we have listed all the options and associated help descriptions.

Hostname



CrossBox will try to automatically resolve a hostname of the server it's being installed onto.

However, make sure that before installing CrossBox you have a valid PTR (Reverse DNS) record that matches your hostname and that your hostname can be successfully resolved.

Public IP Address



CrossBox will try to automatically resolve an IP address of the server it's being installed onto.

App Port

Enter a Port number that CrossBox will bind to and listen on.

If you're installing master server this option is disabled and ports 80/443 are enforced. Otherwise, you can specify a custom port.

Please make sure that App port(s) are not used by some other software running on the server.

If you have a firewall in place, please make sure that binding to these ports is allowed.



App Port cannot be changed after the installation.

SSL

We strongly recommend that you enable the SSL feature. Not only it will help protect data being sent over the network from prying eyes, but it is also needed for audio and video calls to work. It is very easy to set up and you have four options to choose from:

- Generate SSL certificates automatically (by using Let's Encrypt Certbot)
- Select from an auto-detected list (will scan the system for existing certificates)
- **this is visible if the installer detects SSL certificates**
- Enter .crt/pem .key paths (lets you enter paths to certificate files)
- Upload .crt/pem and .key files (lets you upload certificate files)

TURN/STUN Server

CrossBox uses Coturn as a fast and reliable TURN/STUN server. It is responsible for streaming audio and video data during the CrossBox audio/video conference and for relaying media traffic when persons attending the call can't reach each other directly via the peer-to-peer protocol. This is most often the case when the person is behind a corporate firewall.

Overall, enabling a TURN/STUN server will greatly improve the quality of audio and video calls. The CrossBox Installer will give you the ability to choose if you wish to enable TURN/STUN integration and will also allow you to decide where it should be hosted.

You can choose to install it on the same server as CrossBox or you can enter an external server to offload audio and video streaming to a separate machine in the case you have thousands of concurrent calls being made.

i If you plan on having more than 50 people streaming audio and video at the same time, please make sure that you allocate enough CPU/Network resources for your TURN/STUN server. The other approach would be to offload media streaming to a Coturn server hosted on another machine, by choosing "Use external coturn server" and filling in *Host* and *SSL Host* fields.

Coturn Non-SSL Port

Enter a non-SSL port that Coturn will use. The default Coturn non-SSL port is 3478.

Coturn UDP Port Range

You may leave the default value. If not, please enter a port range in format 12345:13456. The default value is 49152:65535.

Updates

CrossBox has a built-in update system that keeps your installation up to date and automatically updates CrossBox when new updates are available.

At what hour to perform an update

Enter an hour when you wish to check for updates. Uses a 24h format and accepts a number between 0 and 23. 0 means 00:00.

Application Limits

Max Number of Workers

Max number of CPU cores that the application will utilize. Depending on the application traffic/usage you can specify a maximum number of workers based on the number of cores your server has.

i Each worker takes about 70-100 MB of RAM.

Max Request Size

In megabytes, enter maximum request body size that the end user can send. For example, users won't be able to upload a file larger than what's defined here. The default value is 1024MB.

Chat Channel Max Participant Count

The maximum number of participants allowed in a chat channel. Increase this if you plan on having more than 50 persons attending. This is a per one channel (room) limitation.

CrossBox Admin

Admin E-mail Address

Admin e-mail address. You may use any email address you want.

Admin Password

This password should be very complex.

Localization

Default Language

Choose the default language for the App. If you want to add your own language, you can do so by translating a language file and sending it back to us. We will then ship it with the next update.

Logging

Error Reporting

In case of an error, the server will securely send us the traceback and the message - so our team can detect and fix the issue ASAP, with an aim of minimizing the bug's impact on larger audiences.

MySQL

Use CrossBox MySQL database

Enable if you don't have a MySQL server already running on the server.

If you enable this feature, CrossBox will use its own MariaDB (MySQL) server for storing users' data. Otherwise, it will try to connect to a MySQL server already running on the system and use that server for storing database data.

You can also uncheck this option to enter MySQL server details manually. This is useful if you're connecting CrossBox to remote MySQL server or a MySQL Cluster.

 **Root MySQL user is required.** The root privileges are required because CrossBox manages the creation of users' databases.

Mail

Enable mail server integration

CrossBox has two ways of integrating with a mail server:

1. Use the mail server already running on the machine (for example when installing on a cPanel/Plesk/Direct Admin server)
2. Automatically install and set up a CrossBox mail server (when installing a bare metal/standalone version, or a mail server is not found on the server)

In the first case, the installer will try to find locally available IMAP/SMTP servers and use those for everything related to email.

In the second case, you'll be able to enable or disable following mail server features:

Enable Anti-Virus Service

Enable this if you want an anti-virus to scan emails for malicious content. Currently, only ClamAV is supported. If you have ClamAV already running on the server, CrossBox will use that one automatically.

 **ClamAV requires 600 MB of RAM.**

Enable Anti-Spam Service

Enable this if you want an anti-spam service to check whether the e-mail being sent/received is spam or not. Automatic spam/ham learning is also enabled with this service.

 Enabling this service requires an additional 250 MB of RAM.

E-mail Message Max Size

Enter the maximum allowed email message size in megabytes. Generally, it should not exceed 50MB.

Automatically create postmaster@ and admin@

This can save you some time by creating often needed email addresses automatically for you.

Other

Google Analytics

To track App usage in real time you need to enter a valid Google Analytics Tracking ID in UA-XXXXX-Y format.

CrossBox Document Converter (CDC)

Service that allows users to view (.docx, .doc, .xls, .ppt + many others) without having to download the files on their device. Users can also download PDF versions of various formats that are supported. This service requires at least 100MB of RAM

Branding

Branding is a great way to white label CrossBox as your own product or service. You can give it a custom name, upload your own logo and change the color scheme to best match your brand. Also, branding addon allows you to have a fully branded CrossBox Client Apps (Web, Desktop, Android & iOS).

 Branding feature is most useful for service and hosting providers.

App Name

Enter a custom name for the application.

App Description

Enter a custom Application slogan or a motto. This is usually shown beneath the App Name.

App Product URL

URL of the web page advertising the application. Users are taken to this URL when they want to find out more about the App.

Theme

Lets you brand the App with your own color scheme. Apart from that, you can also upload your own App logo. Image for the logo should be in a PNG format with 1024x1024 px dimensions. CrossBox will then use that image to create logo versions of different dimensions used throughout the application.

iOS and Android App Settings

iOS and Android sections let you define App manifests that Apple and Google stores require when publishing the Apps. You will need to fill in a couple of details:

- **App Identifier** (This is the Application ID. For example, com.example.appname)
- **App Author** (The name of the Author)
- **App Author E-mail** (E-mail address of the author)
- **App Support URL** (URL where you provide customer support)
- **App Store URL** (URL for downloading iOS app)
- **Play Store URL** (URL for downloading Android app)

Push Notifications

This enables push notifications for your branded CrossBox Android and iOS Apps. They keep your end users up to date with new emails, chats, calls, files, and reminders.

 GCM is not recommended anymore. Please use FCM - Firebase Cloud Messaging. **We strongly recommend that you use FCM for both Android and iOS versions.**

 When using FCM, you need to obtain **FCM Sender ID** and **FCM Key**. Please follow this [blog post](#) to find out how to obtain these.

If, however, you must use GCM, then you'll need to fill in GCM Sender ID and GCM Key. To obtain these, please [start here](#).

We do not recommend using APNs, use FCM instead. If you insist on using APNs, then you'll need to obtain APNs certificate as explained in "[Generate an APNs client TLS certificate](#)" and then upload it by using "Upload APNs Certificate" upload box during the installation.

Admin Area

Intro

CrossBox features a simple to use administration interface which is used for managing a CrossBox server.

Accessing Admin Area

To access the administration, visit your CrossBox URL and log in by using your admin credentials.

Restoring access to Admin Area

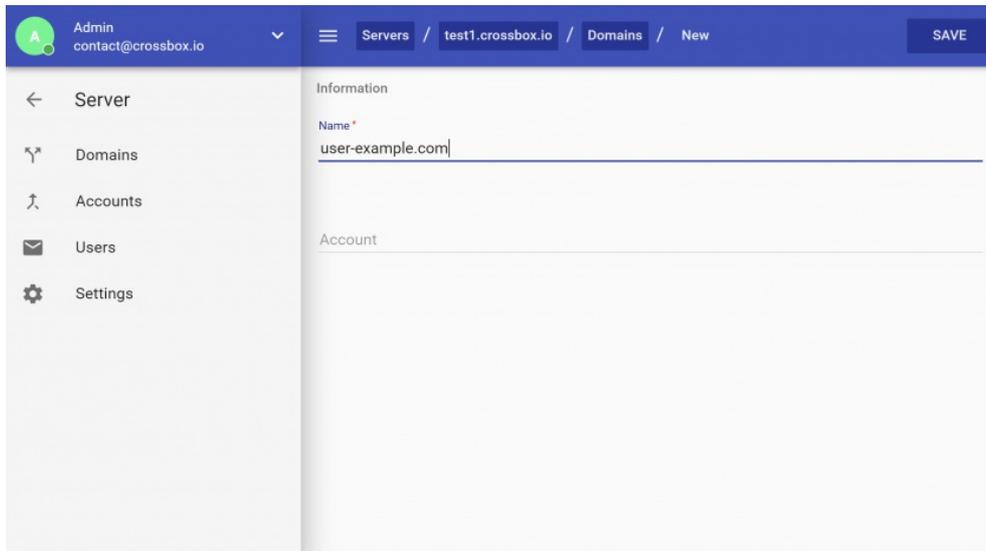
If you lost or forgot your admin credentials, these are the CLI commands that you can run via SSH (as root) to restore them:

```
$: crossbox info - get general information about the CrossBox installation
```

```
$: crossbox admin password - change admin password
```

Adding a Domain (Standalone only)

- Go to Admin -> Servers
- Pick a server where you want the domain to reside
- Go to Domains -> Click on the FAB button in the bottom-right corner
- Fill in the form:



The screenshot shows the CrossBox admin interface. The top navigation bar includes the user profile 'Admin contact@crossbox.io', a menu icon, and the breadcrumb 'Servers / test1.crossbox.io / Domains / New'. A 'SAVE' button is in the top right. The left sidebar contains navigation items: Server, Domains, Accounts, Users, and Settings. The main content area is titled 'Information' and contains a form with a 'Name*' field containing 'user-example.com' and an 'Account' field which is currently empty.

- A **name** is the domain's name.
- An **account** is a Linux user that you wish to associate with the domain. If you don't have one, please add a Linux user first by going to the "Accounts" in the side nav.
- Make sure that the domain's DNS zone has an **MX record pointing to the CrossBox server**.

✓ After you click Save, the domain will be created and you can proceed to add e-mail addresses by creating your first CrossBox user.

When submitted, the form will also output DNS records for DKIM, SPF, and DMARC. **Make sure you add these to your domain's DNS zone so the outgoing emails can be correctly signed, which maximizes the deliverability:**

Adding a CrossBox Account and Email Address (Standalone only)

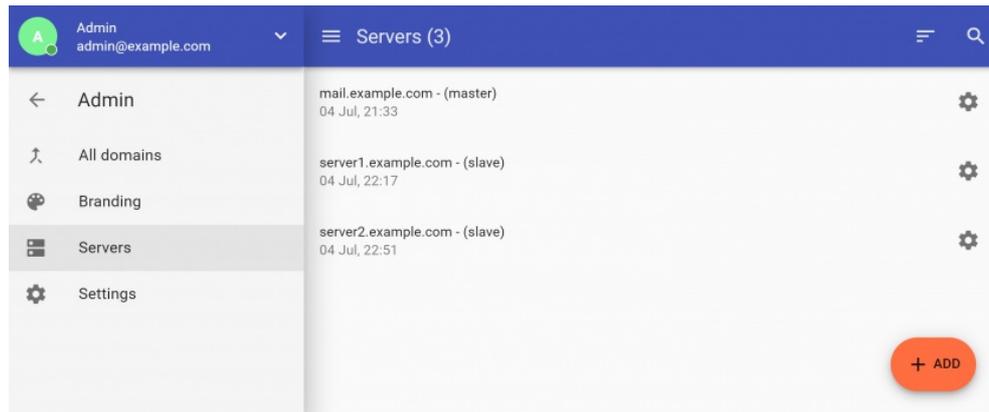
- Go to Admin -> Servers
- Pick a server where the domain resides
- Go to Users -> Click on the FAB button in the bottom-right corner
- Fill in the form:

- **Username** is the first part of the e-mail address. For example **joe.doe**
- A **domain** is the second part of the e-mail address. For example **domain.com**
- Enter the **password** user will use to access CrossBox and IMAP/POP3/SMTP protocols
- **Login active** checkbox defines if a user is allowed to log in
- **Max quota** is a quota limit that CrossBox will not allow the user to exceed

✓ After you click Save, the CrossBox user you specified will be created along with a fully functional e-mail address.

Managing a Server

To manage a CrossBox Server login to your Admin Area, and click on a server you wish to manage.

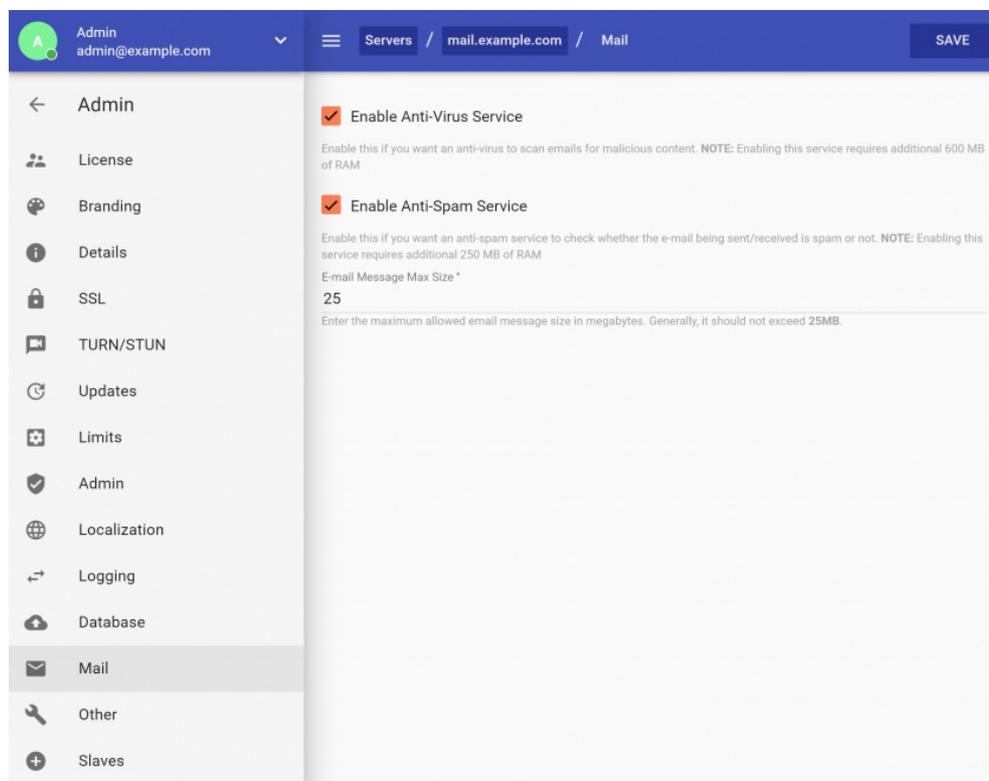


Easy to use Admin Interface lets you stay in full control over:

- Server status (stop/start/restart)
- Domains
- Users
- System Accounts

Changing Server's Settings

To change the [CrossBox Server Options](#), login to your Admin Area, pick a server you wish to modify and click "Settings".



Command Line Tools

The "crossbox" CLI Command

This is the CrossBox command line utility. Use it to view status, restart services, view logs, trigger updates, and a lot more.

⚠ A **root** user is required to run the commands.

Monitoring

📘 `crossbox stop|start|restart|status|enable|disable`

Easily stop, start, restart, enable, disable crossbox services. You can also view status of all services, for exmaple: `crossbox status`

Updating

📘 `crossbox update`

Perform a manual update check and update the application if possible.

Logs

📘 `crossbox log [--lines]`

Displays all logs in real time. If it's too verbose, try using `crossbox log <service>`

`--lines`

defines a number of "last lines" to display for each log file

Service Specific

📘 `crossbox stop|start|restart|disable|enable <service>`

You can also specify several `<services>` by separating multiple services by space, so for example: `crossbox restart redis exim`

Medic

📘 `crossbox medic`

CrossBox Medic will collect all the relevant CrossBox logs from your server, send them to us and give you a unique key which you can reference when requesting support.

Utility

📘 `crossbox info`

Will tell you general information about your CrossBox installation.

📘 `crossbox admin password`

Allows you to reset the admin's password.

crossbox admin email

Allows you to reset admin's e-mail address.

crossbox changelog

Shows latest update messages.

To view full list of crossbox commands, run `crossbox -h`

Debugging

You can enable the debug mode if you are faced with a bug and you want to find out more about what the application is doing.

crossbox debug disable|normal|unsafe

Use unsafe mode only when you don't see anything indicating a problem. When using the unsafe debug mode the application may leak information, so use it with care.

NOTE: Changing the debug mode will restart all CrossBox services.

Performance Tuning

CrossBox Server

Max Number of Workers

Increase the number of workers by setting Max Number of Workers to your total CPU count. This will allow CrossBox to utilize a multi-core processing. For example, if you have a server with 8 CPUs, set this to 8.

Remember that each worker also allocates 70-100 MB of RAM. Multiply this by a number of workers and you'll get the total amount of additional RAM which the change of this setting will require.

Linux Server

For a high-performance system trying to serve thousands of concurrent network clients, default Linux kernel parameters are often too low. Consider making following changes

- Increase max open files to 100,000 from the default (typically 1024). In Linux, every open network socket requires a file descriptor. Increasing this limit will ensure that lingering `TIME_WAIT` sockets and other consumers of file descriptors don't impact our ability to handle lots of concurrent requests.
- Decrease the time that sockets stay in the `TIME_WAIT` state by lowering `tcp_fin_timeout` from its default of 60 seconds to 10. You can lower this even further, but too low, and you can run into socket close errors in networks with lots of jitter. We will also set `tcp_tw_reuse` to tell the kernel it can reuse sockets in the `TIME_WAIT` state.
- Increase the port range for ephemeral (outgoing) ports, by lowering the minimum port to 10000 (normally 32768), and raising the maximum port to

- 65000 (normally 61000). *Important:* This means you can't have server software that attempts to bind to a port above 9999! If you need to bind to a higher port, say 10075, just modify this port range appropriately.
- Increase the read/write TCP buffers (`tcp_rmem` and `tcp_wmem`) to allow for larger window sizes. This enables more data to be transferred without ACKs, increasing throughput. We won't tune the total TCP memory (`tcp_mem`), since this is automatically tuned based on available memory by Linux.
 - Decrease the VM `swappiness` parameter, which discourages the kernel from swapping memory to disk. By default, Linux attempts to swap out idle processes fairly aggressively, which is counterproductive for long-running server processes that desire low latency.
 - Increase the TCP congestion window, and disable reverting to TCP slow start after the connection is idle. By default, TCP starts with a single small segment, gradually increasing it by one each time. This results in unnecessary slowness that impacts the start of every request – which is especially bad for HTTP.

Kernel Parameters

To start, edit `/etc/sysctl.conf` and add these lines:

```
# /etc/sysctl.conf
# Increase system file descriptor limit
fs.file-max = 100000

# Discourage Linux from swapping idle processes to disk (default = 60)
vm.swappiness = 10

# Increase ephemeral IP ports
net.ipv4.ip_local_port_range = 10000 65000

# Increase Linux autotuning TCP buffer limits
# Set max to 16MB for 1GE and 32M (33554432) or 54M (56623104) for 10GE
# Don't set tcp_mem itself! Let the kernel scale it based on RAM.
net.core.rmem_max = 16777216
net.core.wmem_max = 16777216
net.core.rmem_default = 16777216
net.core.wmem_default = 16777216
net.core.optmem_max = 40960
net.ipv4.tcp_rmem = 4096 87380 16777216
net.ipv4.tcp_wmem = 4096 65536 16777216

# Make room for more TIME_WAIT sockets due to more clients,
# and allow them to be reused if we run out of sockets
# Also increase the max packet backlog
net.core.netdev_max_backlog = 50000
net.ipv4.tcp_max_syn_backlog = 30000
net.ipv4.tcp_max_tw_buckets = 2000000
net.ipv4.tcp_tw_reuse = 1
net.ipv4.tcp_fin_timeout = 10

# Disable TCP slow start on idle connections
net.ipv4.tcp_slow_start_after_idle = 0

# If your servers talk UDP, also up these limits
net.ipv4.udp_rmem_min = 8192
net.ipv4.udp_wmem_min = 8192

# Disable source routing and redirects
net.ipv4.conf.all.send_redirects = 0
net.ipv4.conf.all.accept_redirects = 0
net.ipv4.conf.all.accept_source_route = 0

# Log packets with impossible addresses for security
net.ipv4.conf.all.log_martians = 1
```

Since some of these settings can be cached by networking services, it's best to

reboot to apply them properly (`sysctl -p` does not work reliably).

Open File Descriptors

In addition to the Linux `fs.file-max` kernel setting above, we need to edit a few more files to increase the file descriptor limits. The reason is the above just sets an absolute max, but we still need to tell the shell what our per-user session limits are.

So, first edit `/etc/security/limits.conf` to increase our session limits:

```
# /etc/security/limits.conf
# allow all users to open 100000 files
# alternatively, replace * with an explicit username
* soft nofile 100000
* hard nofile 100000
```

Next, `/etc/ssh/sshd_config` needs to make sure to use PAM:

```
# /etc/ssh/sshd_config
# ensure we consult pam
UsePAM yes
```

And finally, `/etc/pam.d/ssh` needs to load the modified `limits.conf`:

```
# /etc/pam.d/<g class="gr_gr_808 gr-alert gr_spell gr_inline_cards gr_run_anim ContextualSpelling ins-del
multiReplace" id="808" data-gr-id="808">sshd</g>
# ensure pam includes our limits
session required pam_limits.so
```

You can confirm these settings have taken effect by opening a new ssh connection to the box and checking `ulimit`:

```
ulimit -n
100000
```

TCP Congestion Window

Finally, let's increase the TCP congestion window from 1 to 10 segments. This is done on the interface, which makes it a more manual process than our `sysctl` settings. First, use `ip route` to find the default route, shown in bold below:

```
route
default via 10.248.77.193 dev eth0 proto kernel
10.248.77.192/26 dev eth0 proto kernel scope link src 10.248.77.212
```

Copy that line, and paste it back to the `ip route change` command, adding `initcwnd 10` to the end to increase the congestion window:

```
route change default via 10.248.77.193 dev eth0 proto kernel initcwnd 10
```

To make this persistent across reboots, you'll need to add a few lines of bash like the following to a startup script somewhere. Often the easiest candidate is just pasting these lines into `/etc/rc.local`:

```
defrt=`ip route | grep "^default" | head -1`
ip route change $defrt initcwnd 10
```

Hardware

- More CPUs means more concurrency
- More than 4GB of RAM is often not required, even with high concurrency
- Faster Disk means faster IO, therefore we always recommend having an SSD

Uninstall

✔ Run the command **crossbox uninstall**

This command will completely erase CrossBox from the machine, including user data generated by CrossBox.

After 10 seconds the uninstallation will begin - once this step starts you should not interrupt the script as it might not completely delete the software. Depending on the amount of work and performance of the machine the uninstallation might take from a few seconds to several minutes

Migration

Server migration

This is a guide on how to migrate the CrossBox instance to a new server

Preparation

Make sure that you do the following steps before the migration starts:

- If you are just going to move the entire disk to another machine, you should read the following guide: <https://crossbox.io/documentation/page/post-machine-migration>
- The new server should have rsync, ssh installed and a default public key generated
- The old server ssh public key must be added to the new server
- The new server should have the same hostname and PTR (rDNS) as the old one
- Change your A/CNAME record to the new server ip address
- On your old server, ping the new server hostname, it should resolve to the new ip address
- **If you are moving CrossBox from a panel**, you should **first** migrate the user data and the panel itself. **CrossBox should be migrated last.**
- Plan a complete outage of the server during the migration period for at least an hour. Speed of the process is determined by the data transfer between the old and the new server.

Steps

Run the following command on the old server:

```
crossbox move newhostname.com
```

The command will inform you what's going to happen with each step.

When migrating panel integrated installations, only CrossBox core data will be copied to the new server. The end user data will not be copied, because panel migration tools will do that for you.

Standalone, or master server / node CrossBox installations are migrated completely (excluding the situations where you have special configurations, like custom MySQL hosting, file hosting etc)

After the command completes, you will have to wait at least 10 minutes until the CrossBox recognizes the changed machine and readjusts it's internal configurations. Make sure that all needed incoming and outgoing ports are allowed.

Check the CrossBox status command to verify all services are up:

```
crossbox status
```

The CrossBox instance should be accessible via relevant hostname and port combinations based on your installation configuration.

Post machine migration

If you just migrated your disk to another machine with a different ip, you should do the following set of commands:

```
crossbox config set -k public_ip_address -s "new_ip_address"  
crossbox sync all
```

After that you should wait at least 10 minutes until CrossBox recognizes the new environment.

Then you should verify if all services are running:

```
crossbox status
```

Make sure all firewall rules are working correctly and check if the instance is accessible once again.