

## The Standard Unix Mail Program

This program has a large number of commands which are summarized below. It is line oriented and somewhat difficult to use. Keep these commands handy, but learn to use an easier program like Pine.

The command "mail" will display a list of your messages and invoke the mail program. The mail prompt is the ampersand: &.

### Mail Commands By Function

Command	What It Does
q	Quit the mail program
x	Quit without making changes (like deletions)
?	Display available mail commands
[number]	Display message #[number]
+ (n)	Display next message
-	Display previous message
Enter	Display current message (marked with a >)
m	Compose a new message
r	Reply to message - to all recipients
R	Reply to message - to sender only
d	Delete a message
dp	Delete current message display next message
e	Use text editor (vi) on message
s [filename]	Save message to filename
u	Undelete previously deleted message

The tilde escape commands may be entered while composing a message. They must be the first characters on a new line.

### Tilde Escape Commands

~?	Display list of tilde escape commands
~e	Invoke text editor
~f	Read in the previous message
~h	Edit header lines, one by one
~q	Quit composition (same as ctrl-c twice)
~r	Read in the contents of a file
~s	Edit the subject line
~w	Write the current message to a file
~! [command]	Shell out and execute [command]

There are some wildcard characters you can use with mail commands, like "d \*" means delete all messages, and "d ." means delete the current message. Use man mail to find out more.

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