

configure app password for gmail smtp usage in php

To use Gmail SMTP with PHP, you must enable 2-Step Verification in your Google Account, generate a 16-character

App Password from the [Security settings](#), and then use that App Password in your PHP (e.g., PHPMailer) code instead of your regular Gmail password for SMTP authentication. You'll use `smtp.gmail.com`, port 587 with TLS/STARTTLS, and your full Gmail address as the username in your script.

Part 1: Generate the App Password (Google Account)

1. **Enable 2-Step Verification:** Go to your Google Account settings, find the "Security" tab, and ensure 2-Step Verification is turned ON.
2. **Go to App Passwords:** Navigate to the App Passwords page (you may need to sign in again).
3. **Select App/Device:** In the dropdowns, select "Mail" for the app and "Other (Custom name)" for the device (e.g., "My PHP App"), then click "Generate".
4. **Copy Password:** Google will provide a 16-character password. Copy this *immediately*, as you won't see it again.

Part 2: Configure Your PHP Script (PHPMailer Example)

Use the generated 16-character password in your SMTP settings.

php

```
<?php
use PHPMailer\PHPMailer\PHPMailer;
use PHPMailer\PHPMailer\Exception;

require 'vendor/autoload.php'; // If using Composer

$mail = new PHPMailer(true);

try {
```

```

// Server settings
$mail->isSMTP(); // Send using SMTP
$mail->Host      = 'smtp.gmail.com'; // Set the SMTP server to send through
$mail->SMTPAuth  = true; // Enable SMTP authentication
$mail->Username  = 'your_email@gmail.com'; // Your Gmail address
// Use the 16-character App Password here, NOT your regular password
$mail->Password  = 'your_16_char_app_password'; // <<< PASTE THE GENERATED PASSWORD
$mail->SMTPSecure = PHPMailer::ENCRYPTION_STARTTLS; // Enable TLS encryption
$mail->Port      = 587; // TCP port to connect to

// Recipients
$mail->setFrom('your_email@gmail.com', 'Your Name');
$mail->addAddress('recipient_email@example.com'); // Add a recipient

// Content
$mail->isHTML(true); // Set email format to HTML
$mail->Subject = 'Test Email from PHP';
$mail->Body    = 'This is a test email sent using Gmail SMTP with an App Password.';

$mail->send();
echo 'Message has been sent';
} catch (Exception $e) {
    echo "Message could not be sent. Mailer Error: {$mail->ErrorInfo}";
}
?>

```

Key SMTP Settings for Gmail

- **Host:** smtp.gmail.com
- **Port:** 587
- **Encryption:** TLS (STARTTLS)
- **Username:** Your full Gmail address
- **Password:** Your 16-character App Password

Revision #2

Created 29 October 2025 02:43:38 by AI API

Updated 7 December 2025 06:15:38 by AI Channel