

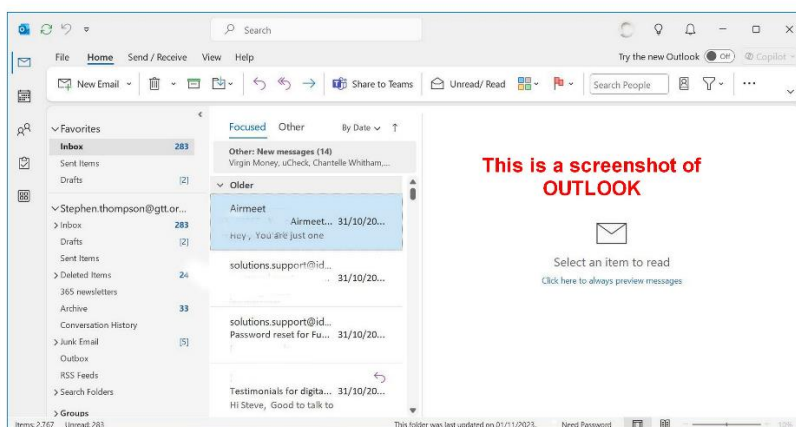
Client Email vs Webmail

Introduction:

Client email and webmail are two different approaches to accessing and managing your email, but which is the best? It all depends on several factors, as explained below, but at the end of the day, the choice is yours

Client Email (Email Client Software)

This involves downloading a dedicated program onto your computer or device to handle email. Popular examples include Microsoft Outlook, Apple Mail, Mozilla Thunderbird, and mobile apps like the iPhone's Mail app. The software connects to your email server using protocols such as IMAP, POP3, or Exchange to download and synchronise your messages locally. Almost all businesses use this method.



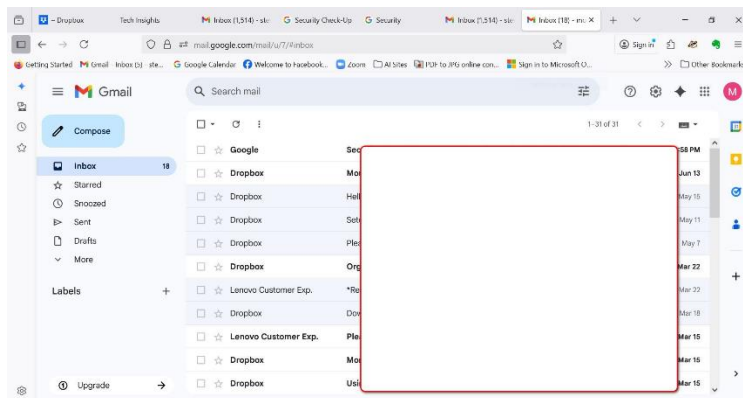
**Outlook
Client Mail**

Key characteristics:

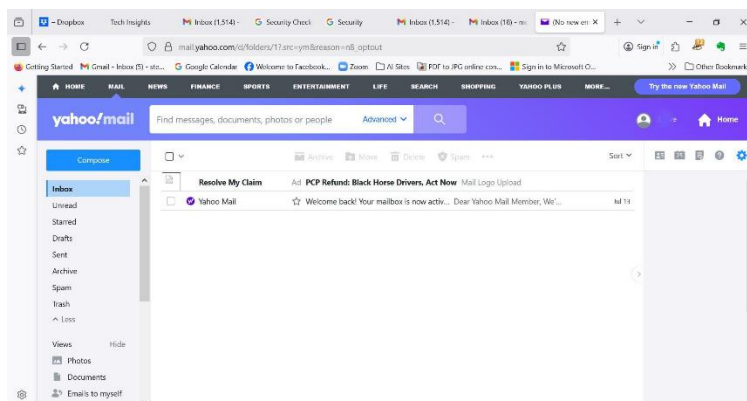
- Email is stored locally on your device
- Works offline once messages are downloaded
- Often provides more advanced features and customisation options
- Can handle multiple email accounts in one interface
- Generally faster performance for managing large volumes of email

Webmail

This is an email accessed through a web browser by visiting a website. Examples include Gmail, Yahoo Mail, Outlook.com, and most email services provided by internet service providers. Your email stays on the provider's servers, and you interact with it through their web interface.



Gmail
WebMail



Yahoo
WebMail

Key characteristics:

- Email is stored on remote servers
- Requires an internet connection to access
- Can be accessed from any device with a web browser
- No software installation required
- Automatic updates to features and security
- Built-in spam filtering and security measures

The choice between them often comes down to personal preference, technical needs, and how you use email. Many people today use webmail for convenience, while others prefer email clients for their advanced features and offline capabilities. Some users even use both - accessing webmail when away from their primary device and using a client for heavy email management tasks.

Accessing on a Smartphone:

The Email apps (Outlook & Gmail) on smartphones are **client-based mail systems**, not webmail interfaces. They are dedicated mobile applications available for both Android and iOS, designed to provide a streamlined experience for managing email, calendars, and contacts on the go.

Although you can access your email through a mobile web browser, so it then becomes web-based.

Outlook Mobile App (Client)

- Installed directly on your device via the App Store or Google Play
- Offers **push notifications**, offline access, and swipe gestures
- Supports multiple accounts (Outlook, Gmail, Yahoo, Exchange, IMAP)
- Integrates with Microsoft 365 services like OneDrive and Teams
- Uses local caching for faster performance and offline functionality

Outlook Web (Webmail)

- Accessed through a browser (Chrome, Edge, Firefox etc)
- Requires an internet connection
- Ideal for quick access from shared or public devices
- No app installation needed

So, if you're using an email app on your phone, you're working with a **native client**, optimised for mobile use and packed with features that go beyond what you'd get in a browser.

On your phone, the dedicated apps will only service their own webmail system, however, the generic apps and OUTLOOK can handle more than one email service from different providers.

Do not be confused with the term 'OUTLOOK', it means two things:

Outlook is the name of the app, and it is also the name of an email service, ie name@outlook.com

..... outlook email addresses do not have to run on outlook apps, they can work also on other makers apps.