

**MIME Solutions: Using Debian's mime-support Package**  
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- RFC 1521: MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) Part One: Mechanisms for Specifying and Describing the Format of Internet Message Bodies (/usr/doc/mime-support/rfc1521.txt.gz)
  - Content-Type header values: text (subtype: plain), multipart (subtypes: mixed, alternative, digest, parallel), application (subtypes: octet-stream, postscript), message, image, audio, video
  - Content-Transfer-Encoding values: 7bit, quoted-printable base64, 8bit, binary, x-token
  - Security: content-types that can cause the remote execution of any actions in the recipient's environment are the primary security concern
- RFC 1522: MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) Part Two: Message Header Extensions for Non-ASCII Text (/usr/doc/mime-support/rfc1522.txt.gz)
- RFC 1524: A User Agent Configuration Mechanism For Multimedia Mail Format Information (/usr/doc/mime-support/rfc1524.txt.gz)
  - \$HOME/.mailcap, /etc/mailcap
  - Content-Type (type/subtype); view-command; Commands (**priority**, view, compose, composetyped, edit, print, test, needsterminal, copiousoutput, description, textualnewlines, x11-bitmap, nametemplate, X-whatever); ...
  - Use the first “matching” line (both a matching content-type specification and the success of any test in the test field) for the MIME configuration information.
  - Use %s to identify the name of a file for the MIME data
  - Use %t to identify the content-type of the MIME data
- \$HOME/.mime.types, /etc/mime.types: Associate MIME Content-Type with filename extensions
- Debian package maintainers information
  - Packages place their mailcap entries in /usr/lib/mime/packages/package
  - Packages run update-mime(8) in their postinst (see manpage for code)
- The system administrator can place special entries in /etc/mailcap.order (mailcap.order(5)) to order the entries in /etc/mailcap. Then run update-mime(8) manually.
- Example mailcap entries:

```
application/postscript; /usr/bin/X11/gv '%s'; test=test -n "$DISPLAY";
application/ghostview; /usr/bin/X11/gv '%s'; test=test -n "$DISPLAY"
application/pdf; /usr/bin/X11/gv '%s'; test=test -n "$DISPLAY"
image/gif; /usr/bin/X11/xloadimage '%s'; test=test -n "$DISPLAY"; nametemplate=%s.gif
image/jpeg; /usr/bin/X11/xloadimage '%s'; test=test -n "$DISPLAY"; nametemplate=%s.jpg
application/*; xwp '%s'; edit=xwp -f '%s'; compose=xwp -f '%s'; test=test "$DISPLAY" != ""
*/*; /usr/bin/X11/xless '%s'; test=test -n "$DISPLAY";
```

- Debian 2.1 (stable) packages supporting mime-support: text/a2ps, text/catdoc, text/groff, net/lpr, web/lynx, net/-mime-support contrib/web/netscape3, contrib/web/netscape4, sound/rplay, contrib/net/rvplayer, sound/sox, tex/tetex-bin, sound/timidity, base/util-linux, editors/vim, editors/vim-tiny, editors/vim-perl, editors/vim-tcl, editors/-vim-python, non-free/graphics/xanim, x11/xbase-clients, non-free/graphics/xv, graphics/zgv
- Debian (unstable) packages supporting mime-support: text/a2ps, graphics/eeeyes, sound/freeamp, text/ghostview, graphics/gnome-gv, x11/gnome-help, text/less, x11/mgp, text/pstotext, contrib/net/realplayer, sound/soundtracker, base/tar, editors/ted, sound/timidity, base/util-linux, editors/vim-python, editors/vim-perl, editors/vim-tcl, editors/-vim, editors/vim-tty, editors/vim-tiny, web/vrweb, text/w3m, non-free/graphics/xanim, x11/xbase-clients, graphics/-xli, non-free/graphics/xv, sound/bplay, text/catdoc, text/groff, text/gv, graphics/imagemagick, graphics/ivtools-bin, devel/libgsm-bin, net/lprng, web/lynx, net/mime-support, web/mozilla, non-free/sound/mpg123, contrib/web/-netscape3, contrib/web/netscape4, graphics/paul, sound/rplay, sound/sox, tex/tetex-bin, non-free/graphics/ucbmpeg-play, sound/xmms, text/xpdf, graphics/zgv