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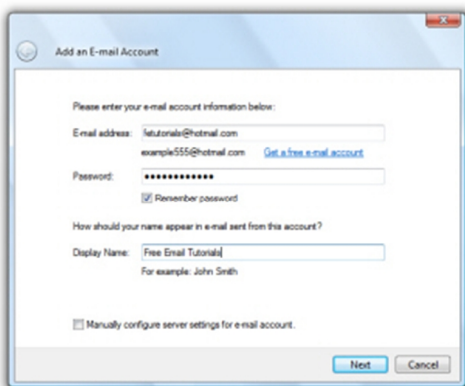
Windows Live Mail & Hotmail — This tutorial explains how to setup your Hotmail email account in Windows Live Mail. This still lets you check your Hotmail emails from a web browser like Internet Explorer, but gives you the convenience to check them from a full-fledged desktop email application. Using Windows Live Mail also means that it will store local copies of your Hotmail emails, which allows you to read emails offline, for example.

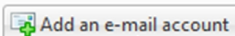
Windows Live Mail is free, and available for both Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7. If you are using an older version of Windows, you will still be able to check your Hotmail emails from a web browser like Internet Explorer or Firefox.

Setting up Hotmail in Windows Live Mail

The process of setting up your Hotmail account in Windows Live Mail is as streamlined as it gets. You will be able to read Hotmail emails and send emails within 30 seconds, literally.

The first time you launch Windows Live Mail after installation, you will be greeted with the "Add an E-mail Account" dialog, or wizard. In the case of a Hotmail account, you only need to supply three fields to be able to use Hotmail from Windows Live Mail. Here are the information you will need for your Hotmail account setup:





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If the new email account wizard does not appear, locate the "**Add an e-mail account**" button in Windows Live Mail's left pane; click this button to open the email account wizard.

Enter your Hotmail account information

In the first field ("**E-mail address**"), enter your full Hotmail email address in the following format: yourUserName@hotmail.com. Windows Live Mail's new email account setup wizard displays a "Get a free e-mail account" text link right below the email address field; clicking this link will open your web browser to a page that lets you create your own Hotmail email account in a few steps. Simply ignore this link if you already have a Hotmail account you would like to use.

E-mail address:
example555@hotmail.com [Get a free e-mail account](#)

The second field ("**Password**") is requesting your Hotmail account's password; it is safe to supply it to Windows Live Mail. By default, Windows Live Mail will remember your Hotmail password for you; if you prefer to supply your password every time (useful if you share a family computer), just uncheck the "**Remember password**" checkbox.

Password:
 Remember password

The last field requested is "**Display Name**": this field will be used to show the name you pick when you send emails from Windows Live Mail using your Hotmail account. The display name can be anything you like, and does not have to resemble at all your Hotmail user name (the user name is the portion of your email address which comes before "*@hotmail.com*").

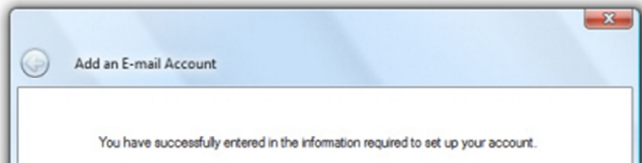
How should your name appear in e-mail sent from this account?

Display Name:
For example: John Smith

Notice the "**Manually configure server settings for e-mail account**" checkbox: by default, Windows Live Mail will try to configure your email accounts on its own. In the case of a Hotmail email account, Windows Live Mail always knows how to configure your account.

Finalize your Hotmail email account setup

Click Windows Live Mail's Next button; you finished setting up your Hotmail account. If Windows Live Mail could successfully connect to Hotmail's servers, it will give you the following confirmation:



If Windows Live Mail does not give you this confirmation, it either means that your Hotmail password was incorrect, that your Hotmail email address has a typo, or that your Internet connection was faulty. Otherwise, your are ready to use your Hotmail account.