NAME

mailtool – OpenWindows interface for the mail program

SYNOPSIS

mailtool [**–Mx**] [**–Mi** *interval*] [**–Mf** *mailfile*] [*generic-tool-arguments*] [**–v**]

AVAILABILITY

This command is available with the OpenWindows environment. **mailtool** uses the OPEN LOOK Graphical User Interface.

DESCRIPTION

mailtool is an electronic mail application that uses the standard OpenWindows interface. It provides a menu-driven facility for reading, storing, composing, and sending mail messages. Scrollable windows allow easy access to the In-Box mail files.

The full editing capabilities of **textedit**(1) are available for modifying and composing mail messages as well as text fields within command panels.

OPTIONS

-Mx Expert mode. Do not ask for confirmation after potentially damaging mail commands. This has the same effect as setting the expert variable.

-Mi *interval*
Check for new mail every *interval* seconds. This has the same effect as specifying a value for the interval variable.

-Mf *mailfile*
Start up **mailtool** with *mailfile* loaded instead of the In-Box.

-v Print out the version number of **mailtool** and exit.

generic-tool-arguments
Mailtool accepts the generic tool arguments described in **xview**(7).

USAGE

mailtool operates through the use of a set of command panel buttons, message windows, menus, and other components that conform to the OPEN LOOK Graphical User Interface Functional Specification. Mail messages are edited using the menus and commands of the **textedit** program. For more information about the general usage of OPEN LOOK software applications, see the OpenWindows documentation. For more information about **textedit** conventions, see the **textedit** man page.

Command Panel Buttons

The **mailtool** command panel is located near the top of the main window, under the window header. Press MENU on a command panel button to reveal the menu for that button. Certain menu functions are accelerated, and may be activated directly from the keyboard by holding down the Meta key and the appropriate accelerator key. The accelerated functions are so indicated.

File >

Load In-Box [Meta o]
Used to read mail from the user's system mail file into **mailtool**.

Print [Meta p]
Sends copies of all the selected mail items to your default printer. If there are no selected items, **mailtool** sends copies of those items

you are currently viewing.

Save Changes [Meta s]
Causes all the deletions and changes you have made to the mail file to become permanent and opens your **In-Box** for any new mail.

Done
Save your changes and close **mailtool** to an icon. When **mailtool** is next opened, the **In-Box** will be reread.

Mail Files...
Bring up the Mail Files... scrolling list of your mail files. This popup allows you to create, delete, rename, add messages to, and view mail files.

View >

Messages >
Displays messages you have selected.

Abbreviated Header
Strips unnecessary header fields from the messages you view. Specify these fields by adding them to the **Hide** list in the **Message Window** Property Sheet in **mailtool**.

Full Header
Displays the currently selected messages with all of the message header fields.

Previous Determines the message preceding the last one displayed and displays it. The message is chosen from all the messages in the current mail file.

Next Determines the message following the last one displayed and displays it. The message is chosen from all the messages in the current mail file.

Sort By >

Time and Date
Sorts the messages in chronological order.

Sender Sorts the messages alphabetically by sender.

Subject Sorts the messages alphabetically by subject.

Size Sorts the messages by size (smallest to largest).

Status Sorts the messages by status: first read, then unread, and finally new.

Message Number
Sorts the messages by message number, in increasing order.

Find... [Meta f]

From: Enter text that is in the **From** field (mail address) of the message you want to find. Capitalization is ignored.

To/Cc: Enter text that is in the To or Cc field (mail address) of the message you want to find. Capitalization is ignored.

To: Enter text that is in the To field (mail address) of the message you want to find. Capitalization is ignored.

Cc: Enter text that is in the Cc field (mail address) of the message you want to find. Capitalization is ignored.

Subject: Enter text that is in the Subject field of the message you want. Capitalization is ignored.

Find Forward
After entering text for **From:** , **To/Cc:** , **To:** , **Cc:** , **Subject:** , or any combination of the above, click SELECT on **Find Forward** to locate the next message that matches the text.

Find Backward
After entering text for **From:** , **To/Cc:** , **To:** , **Cc:** , **Subject:** or any combination of the above, click SELECT on **Find Backward** to locate the previous message that matches the text.

Select All After entering text for **From:** , **To/Cc:** , **To:** , **Cc:** , **Subject:** or any combination of the above, click SELECT on **Select All** to select all messages that match the text.

Edit >

Cut [Meta x]
Deletes the selected mail messages, placing copies in the **Clipboard.**

Copy [Meta c]
Copies the selected mail messages, placing copies in the **Clipboard.**

Delete Deletes the selected mail messages, without placing copies in the **Clipboard.** If no mail messages are selected, the messages currently being viewed are deleted.

Undelete >

Last Restores the last message deleted to your mail header display. This may be done until all messages deleted since the last commit are restored. This option also restores messages deleted through cut and move commands.

From List...

Causes a popup window to appear. This popup contains a list box that has all the mail items that have been deleted since the last commit operation. You can select any number of these, and press the **Undelete** button on the command frame. All the selected items will be returned to the mail header window.

Properties... [Meta i]

Bring up the **mailtool** property sheets. You can modify most of the options to **mailtool** through the property sheets.

Compose >

This panel button allows users to create new mail to be sent, reply to existing messages with or without including the current message, and to forward messages as needed.

New [Meta n]

Opens a composition window without the message headers being filled in. If an unused mail message window currently exists on the screen, it will be brought forward to be used and no new window is created. If an unused mail composition window currently exists and is fully displayed on the screen, there will be no change in the display.

Reply > Opens a composition window with the message headers filled in appropriately and allows you to write and deliver your response. If an unused mail message window currently exists on the screen, it will be brought forward to be used and no new window is created. If an unused mail message window currently exists and is fully displayed on the screen, its headers will be updated. Options to this submenu are described below:

To Sender Opens a composition window. In the window, the address field contains the originator's address for the selected message and the subject field contains the subject line for the selected message, preceded by "Re: ".

To All Opens a composition window. In the window, the address field contains addresses for the person who sent the selected message as well as all the people that the selected message was sent to. The subject field contains the subject line for the selected message, preceded by "Re: ".

To Sender, Include

Opens a composition window. In the window, the address field contains the originator's address for the selected message. The subject field contains the subject line for the selected message, preceded by "Re: ". The window also contains the selected message in the body of the new message.

To All, Include:
Opens a composition window. In the window, the address field contains addresses for the person who sent the selected message as well as all the people that the selected message was sent to. The subject field contains the subject line for the selected message, preceded by "Re: ". The window also contains the selected message in the body of the new message.

Forward Opens a composition window. In the window, the subject field contains the subject line for the selected message. The window also contains the selected message in the body of the new message, and it contains the attachments (if any) of the selected message in the attachment pane.

Vacation Lets you compose a message that is automatically delivered in response to incoming messages. Use this when you can't read your mail for a period of time and want your message to be responded to automatically. Only one response is sent to each originator over a one-week period.

The Composition Window

This window has its own control panel with the following buttons.

Include >

Bracketed Pastes the currently selected messages into the body of the message you are composing. The included messages are bracketed with special lines.

Indented Pastes the currently selected messages into the body of the message you are composing. Each line of the included message is indented, using the standard indentation string. The indentation string may be modified in the Mail Tool Property Sheet for the Compose Window.

Templates >
Lists the available templates that you can include if any are installed. You can add and remove templates in the Mail Tool Property Sheet for Templates.

Deliver >

Quit window
Mails the message you have composed and then dismisses the compose window.

Close window
Mails the message you have composed, clears the compose

window, and then closes the compose window to an icon.

Clear window
Mails the message and then clears the compose window to prepare it for re-use.

Leave message intact
Mails the message and leaves the message in the compose window.

Headers > Selecting an option affects the headers of the mail message.

Aliases... Bring up the Mail Tool Property Sheet for Aliases. From this property sheet, you can add, delete, or change your local mail aliases.

Add/Delete Bcc:
Adds or deletes the Bcc: line from the message you are composing.

Add/Delete Custom:
Adds or deletes a custom header line from the message you are composing. You will see one menu item for each custom header you have installed. You can install or remove custom headers in the Mail Tool Property Sheet for the Compose Window.

Clear Clears the contents of the compose window.

Attach > Selecting an option allows the creation of a Voice or Appointment attachment.

Voice... Brings up AudioTool for adding audio attachments.

Appt... Brings up Appointment Editor for adding calendar appointment attachments.

Mailtool Variables

In addition to the variables recognized by **mailx**(1), **mailtool** recognizes those listed below. They can be set by editing your **.mailrc** file; however, since most of the variables are accessible through the Mail Tool Property Sheets, we strongly recommend that you modify them there to reduce the chance of error. Unless otherwise noted, the default for the following variables is *off.*

additionalfields
A list of header fields to access via the **Add Custom** field in the **Header** menu. This variable can be accessed through the **Custom Fields:, Header Field:,** and **Default Value:** portions of the Compose Window category in the Mail Tool Property Sheet.

bell The number of times to ring the bell when new mail arrives. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Header Window category as **Signal With:** __ Beep(s). The default is 0.

dontlogmessages
This variable controls whether or not the **log** checkbox is checked in the Compose Message window. It is ignored if the *record* variable is not set. The default is to log messages.

expert Set expert mode in which minimal confirmations are requested. This variable can be accessed through the **Request confirmations** check box in the Compose Window Category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet.

filemenu A list of files from which to initialize the **Move, Copy,** and **Load** menus. These can be absolute pathnames or pathnames relative to the directory specified in the *folder* variable. This variable is superceded by the **filemenu2** variable.

filemenu2 Same as filemenu, but if both exist, filemenu2 takes precedence. This variable can be accessed through the **Move, Copy, Load Menus:** scrolling list and the **Permanent File:** text field in the Mail Filing category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet.

filemenusize
Specifies the maximum number of entries in the **Move, Copy,** and **Load** menus. This variable can be accessed through the **Display Up To:** __ Files in Menus entry in the Mail Filing Category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet. The default is 10.

flash The number of times to flash the window or icon when new mail arrives. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Header Window Category as **Signal With:** __ Flash(es). The default is 0.

folder The directory for saving mail files. This variable can be accessed as **Mail File Directory** in the Mail Filing category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet.

headerlines
The number of lines to display at a time in the header window. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Header Window category as **Display** __ Headers. The default is 15.

hideattachments
Hide the attachments pane in the Compose Message window. This variable can be accessed through the **Defaults:** Show attachment list check box in the Compose Window category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet. The default is to show the attachment pane.

indentprefix
When indentprefix is set, the string that it is set to is used to mark indented lines from included messages. The default indentprefix is "> ".

popuplines
The number of lines in the View Message and Compose Message Windows. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Message Window category as **Display** __ Lines of Text. The default is 30.

printmail The command to use to print a message. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Message Window category as **Print Script.** The default is **lp -s**.

record The mail file in which to record outgoing messages. If *record* is set, a **Log** check box will appear on the Compose Message window. If the check box is checked, the message will be logged in the record file when it is sent. If it is not checked, the message will not be logged. The *dontlogmessages* variable controls whether or not the check box is checked by default. The *record* variable may be set through the **Logged Messages File** item in the Compose Window category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet.

retrieveinterval
The interval in seconds to check for new mail. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Header Window category as **Retrieve Every** *n* Seconds. The default is 300.

save Save contents of each Compose Message window in a dead.letter file until the message is delivered successfully. If a Compose Message window is quit, and a new one is brought up, the new window will reuse the dead.letter from the previous window. The first dead.letter file is called dead.letter, the second one is called dead.letter.1, the third dead.letter.2, and so on. The default is *on.*

showto Show the "To" field of mail messages in the Header Window if the mail is from the same user that is reading mail (eg. you).

sortfilemenu
Sort the **Move, Copy,** and **Load** menus alphabetically.

suppressautoretrieve
Do not automatically retrieve new mail messages. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Header Window category as the Automatically display headers check box. Default is to automatically retrieve new mail.

templates A list of *name:path* pairs to access via the **Include > Templates** menu. *name* appears in the menu; *path* is the file included when name is selected. This variable can be accessed in the Template category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet. By default, the calendar template is installed.

toolcols Default width of Mail Tool windows (in columns). This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Header Window category as **Display:** __ Characters wide. Default is 80.

trash The name of the trash bin, which may be accessed just like any other mail file. If set, all deleted messages are moved to the trash bin. The trash bin is emptied when you commit changes. This option degrades the performance of **mailtool** and is not recommended.

Mail Tool Commands

In addition to the commands recognized by **mailx**(1) in the *.mailrc* file, **mailtool** also recognizes the following commands.

#-button
This command is used to create the four custom buttons in **mailtool**. It can be accessed through the **Custom Buttons:, Command:,** and **Label:** properties in the Header Window category of the Mail Tool Property Sheet.

#-clearaliases

This command is used to clear all the aliases defined above the current line in the .mailrc file. Mail Tool uses this command to help prevent aliases from being defined twice when it saves alias definitions to the .mailrc file.

ignore [header-field...]
Suppress displaying of the specified header fields. Examples of header fields to ignore are Status and Received. The fields are also ignored when the message is saved or printed. This variable can be accessed through the Mail Tool Property Sheet in the Message Window category by using the **Hide:** scrolling list and the **Header Field:** text field.

The .mailtool-init File

The **.mailtool-init** file is created in your home directory when a "Save Workspace" command is invoked from the Workspace menu. This file contains the current positions and sizes of mailtool's View, Compose, and Header Windows (i.e., what's currently on your screen), so on the next invocation of **mailtool** your mailtool windows will start-up with the same layouts.

The following 3 lines show the syntax of .mailtool-init's contents:

viewwin xloc *number* **yloc** *number* **width** *number* **height** *number*

compwin [iconic] xloc *number* **yloc** *number* **width** *number* **height** *number* **ixloc** *number* **iyloc** *number* **deldef** *number*

basewin filedef *number* **viewdef** *number* **editdef** *number* **compdef** *number* **repdef** *number*

The first line specifies the x and y coordinates of the top left corner of the View Window, and its width and height (all in pixels).

The second line specifies the same information for the Compose Window. In addition, the **iconic** word, if present, specify that the Compose Window will come up as an icon in the positions specified by the **ixloc** and **iyloc** parameters. The **deldef** parameter specifies the menu default of the **Deliver** button (the number 1 for the first menu item, etc.).

The third line specifies, for the Header Window, menu default items for the **File, View, Edit, Compose,** and **Reply** menus, respectively.

The .mtdeletelog File

Mailtool creates the **.mtdeletelog** file in your home directory so that it can recover the undelete list if **mailtool** is terminated abnormally while reading the spool file. The next time **mailtool** comes up after an abnormal termination, it will remember which files were deleted so you don't have to delete them again, and the undelete list is there so that you can undelete any of those messages before saving your changes. This only works if you were editing your In-Box, it doesn't work for other mail files.

Signals

SIGUSR1 If you send this signal to **mailtool, mailtool** will act as if you clicked on the **Done** button. It will save any changes, close the mail file, and iconify.

ENVIRONMENT

The following are environment variables taken from the execution environment and are not alterable within **mailtool**.

HOME=*directory*
The user's home directory.

MAIL=*filename*
The name of the initial mailbox file to read (in lieu of the standard system mailbox). The default is **/var/mail/***username*.

MAILRC=*filename*
The name of the start-up file. Default is **$HOME/.mailrc**.

FILES

/var/mail/∗ System mailboxes

/etc/mail/mailx.rc
System setup file that is read in before ˜/.mailrc.

˜/.mailrc Start-up file for **mail** and **mailtool**.

˜/.mailtool-init Start-up file for **mailtool** that contains the positions and sizes of mailtool's View, Compose, and Header Windows.

˜/.mtdeletelog File **mailtool** uses to keep track of deleted messages.

SEE ALSO

mail(1), **mailx**(1), **newaliases**(1), **sendmail**(1M), **textedit**(1), **vacation**(1), **aliases**(4B), **xview**(7)
OpenWindows user documentation
"About Mail Tool" in the Help Handbook available through the Help option on the Workspace menu.