Frequently Asked Questions

See also FixingErrors.

- Really frequently asked questions
  - SpamAssassin is killing my server, and I use downloaded rulesets: FasterPerformance, OutOfMemoryProblems
  - Spam is getting through. How can I get new rules to improve the hit-rate? RunningSaUpdate
  - I'm getting a lot of "backscatter" / bounce messages / undeliverable email notices / etc. regarding mail I didn't send. How can I block them? VBounceRuleset
- What's new?
  - When is the next version going to be out? NextRelease
- I'm not a spammer!
  - Can you fix SpamAssassin to stop blocking mail my company sends?: StopBlockingMyMail
  - How can I avoid our newsletters being marked as spam?: AvoidingFpsForSenders
  - Spamhaus has an excellent FAQ on not angering the keepers of the blacklists: Spamhaus
- How does it work?
  - How are the scores assigned?: HowScoresAreAssigned
  - Does SpamAssassin filter email-borne viruses as well as spam?: FilteringViruses
  - What is the history of SpamAssassin?: SpamAssassinHistory
  - Why are the number of stars rounded down yet the score is rounded normally?: RoundingIssues
  - Why use rules? Statistical filters are the future?: WhyUseRules
  - Shouldn't the rules be kept secret?: PublicRules
- Using SpamAssassin...
  - How do I report spam?: ReportingSpam
  - How do I report that matched a particular accreditation rule?: ReportingSpam
  - How to filter spam mail in Outlook Express: OoFilter
  - How can I mark as spam all messages that contain a Windows executable?: MarkingAllWindowsExecutables
  - I'm seeing error messages! How do I fix them?: FixingErrors
  - What debug channels are available?: DebugChannels
  - How do I check a message's spam score?: X_Spam_Status
- Installation and configuration...
  - SpamAssassin comes with an "examples" folder documenting a few ways to set it up.
  - I sent myself spam and it didn't work / How do I test SpamAssassin?: TestingInstallation
  - How do I get SpamAssassin to delete spam and is it a good idea?: DeletingAllMailsMarkedSpam
  - Where should I put local-system-specific rules or configuration options?: WhereDoLocalSettingsGo
  - How can I change the way SpamAssassin marks up messages it considers to be spam?: ChangingMarkup
  - I want to run SpamAssassin for my large site. What specification of mail server do I need?: SitewideServerSpec
  - How can I get SpamAssassin to run faster?: FasterPerformance
  - How do I tell whether rules in my user_prefs file are active?: UserPrefRuleTest
  - I upgraded to SpamAssassin 3.0.x and suddenly subject rewriting stopped working!: SubjectRewrite
  - How can I install SpamAssassin on Windows?: InstallingOnWindows
  - How do I use SpamAssassin with SQL?: UsingSQL
  - How do I send data to a SeparateLogFile?: SeparateLogFile
  - What tools are available to help me see which rules are hitting and how efficient those rules are?: StatsAndAnalyzers
  - How do I setup Mutt to use procmail and SpamAssassin?: UsingMutt
  - How do I get SpamAssassin to stop using a blacklist to block or reject email?: StopBlockingOthersMail
  - How do I improve Accuracy of SpamAssassin?: ImprovingAccuracy
  - How do I install a reasonably recent version of SpamAssassin on RedHat or CentOS?: InstallingOnWindows
  - How do I send spam to a special folder when using Dovecot?: SendingSpamToSpecialFolder
- Want to contribute?
  - Help make SpamAssassin more accurate by automatically regularly running a script used for rule analysis and score generation: NightlyMassCheck
  - I've got some wonderful new rules that would help classify mail messages! How do I contribute them?: ContributingNewRules
  - I have a great idea for an anti-phishing rule, detecting links that claim to be linking to a different URL than their real target?: AntiPhishFakeUrlRule
  - I get lots of spam from a program called "The Bat!", so I want to write a rule to block it. Is this a good idea?: DontBlockTheBat
  - A spam message got through! Can I send it to you so you can update the filters?: DoYouWantMySpam
  - A non-spam message got flagged as spam. Should I send it to you?: DoYouWantMyHam
  - Somthing more direct / "tangible"? The CREDITS file has some more information per-developer, and/or also consider contributing directly to the ASF. (thanks, it's much appreciated!)
  - WeLoveVolunteers (somewhat redundant with this faq section).
- More questions?
  - Where should I ask questions that aren't answered here?: AskingQuestions
  - How do I report a bug?: ReportingBugs