

# A Change Is As Good As A Rest

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You may've noticed that I've changed my primary email address. Why?

Well you might also have noticed that of late, I've been experiencing a bit of bother with our Google overlords. For a while I can send email using **valar.uk.net** to GMail email addresses and then after some arbitrary amount of time I'm suddenly labelled a spammer and every attempt thereafter is blocked outright.

Today I witnessed something new on Google Postmaster Tools. It seems that Google are taking in to account the **uk.net** domain over which I have no control. Bonkers.

Postmaster Tools

Domain\*  
valar.uk.net

We've launched a new version of the Spam dashboard that offers improved data coverage and visualization

Dismiss

Compliance status

Spam

Feedback Loop

Authentication

Encryption

Delivery Error

Visit old Postmaster Tools

Compliance status

This dashboard shows [email sender requirements](#) compliance for your domain and subdomains. [Learn how to use the Compliance Status dashboard](#). Last updated Wed, Feb 5, at 12:00 AM.

To be deemed compliant, the primary domain, [uk.net](#), must meet all the requirements.

Requirement	Status
SPF and DKIM authentication <span>?</span>	<div><div>SPF and DKIM authentication successfully set up</div><div>SPF prevents spammers from sending unauthorized messages that appear to be from your domain. Receiving servers use DKIM to verify that the domain owner actually sent the message.</div><div><div>This domain : valar.uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div><div><div>Primary domain : uk.net</div><div><div>Not compliant</div></div></div></div></div>
From: header alignment <span>?</span>	<div><div>From: header aligned with SPF or DKIM</div><div>For direct email, the domain in the sender's From: header must align with either the SPF domain or the DKIM domain. This is required to pass DMARC alignment.</div><div><div>This domain : valar.uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div><div><div>Primary domain : uk.net</div><div><div>Not compliant</div></div></div></div></div>
DMARC authentication <span>?</span>	<div><div>DMARC authentication successfully set up</div><div>DMARC lets you tell receiving servers what to do with messages from your domain that don't pass SPF or DKIM: Do nothing, quarantine, or reject</div><div><div>This domain : valar.uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div><div><div>Primary domain : uk.net</div><div><div>Not compliant</div></div></div></div></div>
Encryption <span>?</span>	<div><div>TLS encryption successfully set up</div><div>TLS encrypts messages for security and prevents unauthorized access of your messages when they're in transit</div><div><div>This domain : valar.uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div><div><div>Primary domain : uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div></div></div></div>
User-reported spam rate <span>?</span>	<div><div>User-reported spam rate is below 0.3%</div><div>Spam rate of 0.3% of higher will severely impact your deliverability — your messages might be rejected or sent to spam</div><div><div>This domain : valar.uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div><div><div>Primary domain : uk.net</div><div><div>Not compliant</div></div></div></div></div>
DNS records <span>?</span>	<div><div>Forward and reverse DNS records successfully set up</div><div>Your sending IP address must have a PTR record. The hostname in the PTR record must have a forward DNS that refers to the sending IP address.</div><div><div>This domain : valar.uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div><div><div>Primary domain : uk.net</div><div><div>Meets requirement</div></div></div></div></div>

Is this the reason I'm randomly blocked? It's the most likely answer to me at the moment, given that there isn't much else forthcoming from Google.

I've sent test emails to GMail contacts using **fafflords.co.uk** this morning and all have been received successfully. I didn't really want to make this change (it's Google's unilateral decision, nothing I've done) but at least for me it isn't as much hassle as say for a company with a **uk.net** 'primary' domain who deals with people using GMail?

Interestingly the **uk.net** and **uk.com** domains have an IP address and they're one and the same (at the time of writing), however **co.uk** yields no output.

```
$ host uk.net
uk.net has address 54.153.56.183
uk.net mail is handled by 0 .

$ host uk.com
uk.com has address 54.153.56.183
uk.com mail is handled by 0 mx-01.emailme.com.

$ host co.uk
$
```

**net** and **com** are top-level domains (TLDs). Internet domain name registries can then create second-level domains such as **uk** for these TLDs, hence **uk.net** and **uk.com**.

Any road up, with my change of primary email address now in effect I shouldn't have to worry about GMail rejections and that big red button anymore. This is beside the point of course but what else can I do?

Thanks for reading.

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