

Email bounce handling

New in [Tiki25](#). Leveraging [rambomst/php-bounce-handler](#) and [Email filters](#), handle email bounces in Tiki: add system tracker to hold bounce information, add bounce handler lib, add sieve filters to check for bounces and add to bounce list in [system trackers](#).

Initial commit: https://gitlab.com/tikiwiki/tiki/-/merge_requests/1879

What is bounce

A bounced email, or bounce, is an email message that gets rejected by a mail server. When an email bounces, it has for some reason not reached the intended destination.

A bounced email can be either a hard bounce or a soft bounce. A hard bounce means that the email address is permanently unavailable and should not receive electronic mail. A soft bounce is temporary, and may be caused by server outages or a full inbox. Most email service providers will designate soft bounces as a hard bounce after three failed sends.

How to configure

Step 1: Configure system tracker holding bounce information

Go to [System-Trackers](#), access it from /tiki-admin.php?page=trackers and check **Email bounces tracker** then:

- Choose which tracker will store the bounced emails and statistics.
- Choose an email field that stores the email address that bounced.
- Choose an email folder field that stores the bounced messages read by Tiki.
- Choose a numeric field that stores the total number of soft bounces occurred for an email address.
- Choose a numeric field that stores the total number of hard bounces occurred for an email address.
- Choose a checkbox field that stores the blacklist state for an email address - whether Tiki should skip sending emails to that email address or not.

The screenshot shows the Tiki Admin interface for configuring the 'Email bounces tracker'. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with options like 'Admin Dashboard', 'Global Setup', 'Main Features', and 'Trackers' (which is highlighted). The main content area is titled 'Email bounces tracker' and contains a list of configuration fields, each with a dropdown menu and a status icon (info, refresh, or checkmark). The fields are: 'Choose tracker' (set to 'Email bounces'), 'Mailbox field' (set to 'email'), 'Email folder field' (set to 'emailfolder'), 'Total soft bounces field' (set to 'soft bounces'), 'Total hard bounces field' (set to 'hard bounces'), and 'Blacklisted field' (set to 'blacklisted'). An 'Apply' button is located at the bottom right of the configuration area.

Field	Value	Status
Choose tracker	Email bounces	✓
Mailbox field	email	✓
Email folder field	emailfolder	✓
Total soft bounces field	soft bounces	✓
Total hard bounces field	hard bounces	✓
Blacklisted field	blacklisted	✓

click to enlarge

Create a tracker with these fields before

Tracker Fields: Email bounces [?]

+ Add Field

↑ Import Fields

🔧 Properties

📅 Fields

📊 Trackers

☰ Items

☐	ID	Name	Type	List	Title	Search	Public	Mandatory	Actions
☐	61	name emailbounceName🔗	Text Field	☒	☐	☐	☒	☒	✗
☐	60	emailfolder emailbounceMailbox🔗	Email Folder	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	✗
☐	62	email emailbounceEmail🔗	Email	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	✗
☐	63	soft bounces emailbounceSoftBounces🔗	Numeric	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	✗
☐	64	hard bounces emailbounceHardBounces🔗	Numeric	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	✗
☐	65	blacklisted emailbounceBlacklisted🔗	Checkbox	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	✗

Save All

✕ ▾

Go

click to enlarge

Step 2: Configure the filter

Go to [Webmail](#), Click on **filters** in settings section then click on **add filter** and set other details of filter: name, priority and test. In the conditions & actions section, Add **is bounce** as a condition and select **type** of condition soft, is not soft, hard, not hard. Then click on add action and pick **add to bounce list**

Filter Name:**Priority:****Test:**

Conditions & Actions

Filters must have at least one action and one condition

Conditions

[Add Condition](#)[Delete](#)[Delete](#)

Actions

[Add Action](#)[Delete](#)

click to enlarge

Step 3: Set up cron job

Finally add **php console.php sieve:filters** command to Tiki Scheduler or a cron job

When these are configured and condition is met (using <https://github.com/rambomst/PHP-Bounce-Handler/>) item is created/updated in the bounce tracker, updating soft/hard bounce counts, the email added to the tracker email field (if configured)