

Google protects Gmail users from sending regrettable notes

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Google is making it easier to steer clear of the trouble that can be caused by a misdirected or inappropriate email.

An option to cancel the delivery of an email within 30 seconds of hitting the send button is now a standard safeguard in Google's Gmail as part of a settings change made this week.

The "undo send" feature had already been available for the past six years in Google's experimental labs, but that required Gmail users taking extra steps to get it.

Gmail accountholders will now be able to activate the protection in Gmail's settings. The tool delays the delivery of emails from five to 30 seconds after the send button is pressed to give users a fleeting chance to retrieve an email mistakenly sent to the wrong person or an ill-conceived communique.

Google inserted the "undo send" feature last month into an email management application called "Inbox" designed for mobile devices.

Gmail, started 11 years ago, is the far more popular email service. It now boasts more than 900 million accountholders worldwide, according to statistics that Google released last month.

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