



1971

Computer engineer Ray Tomlinson sends the first electronic mail message.

SEND

1976

Queen Elizabeth II becomes the first head of state to send an electronic mail message.



1978

The first electronic advertisement is sent over a network of government and university computers.



1982

The word "email" is first used.

EMAIL

1982

The first ever smiley "emoticon" is invented by Scott Fahlman.



1997

Warner Bros. releases You've Got Mail which grosses \$250 million at the box office.



1997

Microsoft Outlook is released.



1997

Microsoft buys Hotmail for about \$400 million.



1996

A few companies including the fledgling Hotmail begin to offer free, use-anywhere, internet email.



1989

Elwood Edwards records the iconic AOL "Welcome," "Files's done," "Goodbye," & "You've got mail!"



1998

The word "spam" is officially recognised in the Oxford English Dictionary.

SPAM.

1999

A fraudulent email claims that Bill Gates plans to share his wealth with Internet users starts to circulate. It is shared by millions!

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2003

George W. Bush signs into law the CAN-SPAM Act, the US' first national standards for sending commercial emails.

SPAM.

2004

LOL and other Internet acronyms are officially recognised in the Oxford English Dictionary.

LOL!

Aa

2004

Federal Trade Commission codifies email spam laws.



2008

Presidential candidate Barack Obama compiles a database of over 13 million email addresses.



2007

Anti-phishing security protocol DKIM is adopted by the Internet Engineering Task Force.



2007

Google makes Gmail available to the general public worldwide.



2005

SPF, the first technology that verifies email senders' identities, is established.



2004

Multimedia emails are introduced after the MMS World Congress in Vienna.



2011

The Associated Press Stylebook changes "e-mail" to "email."

EMAIL

2011

A study finds that the most easily broken email password is "password" followed by sequences like "123456"***

2013

Google introduces Gmail tabs ensuring smarter sorting of email.



2014

Sony Entertainment is hacked, and hundreds of sensitive emails are released. North Korea is blamed by U.S. government, but denies responsibility.



2017

269 billion emails are sent every day with 3.7 billion email users worldwide.*



*Study by THE RADICATI GROUP