

Anti-spam in Thunderbird

CiCS has implemented anti-spam measures that successfully reduce the instances delivered to your mailbox. The majority of spam is intercepted before it even reaches your mailbox. However, there is a balance, and the threshold is set so that no genuine email is stopped, but this does allow some spam through. There are additional measures you can take as an individual.

Simple Action

One measure is that some potential spam is labelled in the subject as *****SPAM*****. You may want to set up a simple filter that dumps these messages into a different folder, which you can review and delete messages from separately.

1. Create a new Spam folder
2. From the **Tools** menu select **Message Filters...**
3. Click the **New...** button, and a **Filter Rules** dialog box opens
4. Under **For incoming messages that:** in the three consecutive boxes you need **Subject contains** and then type *****SPAM*****
5. In the bottom half of the dialog box, under **Perform these actions:** ensure **Move Message to** is selected in the first drop down menu then choose the **Spam** folder in the second drop down menu. Click **OK**
6. Click the dialog box close **X** (top right) and the spam filter is enabled.

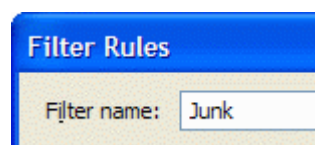
Further Action

The final defence used by CiCS is SpamAssassin software, which marks each email with a weighted score (X-Spam-Score) of its potential as spam. The emails have plus (+) or minus (-) scores, the greater the pluses the higher the spam rating.

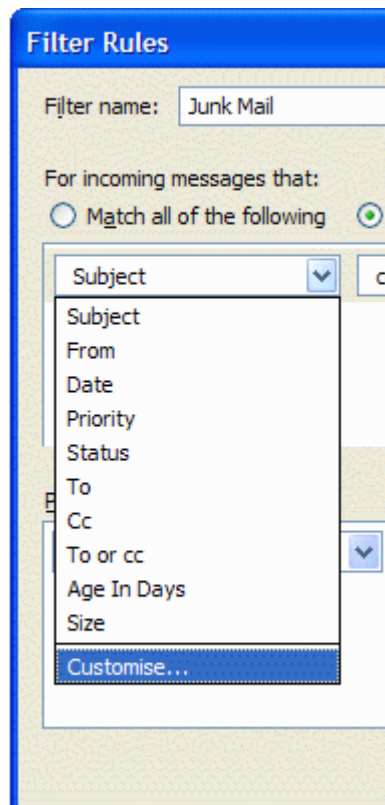
The threshold for marking as spam has been set at default seven pluses. If you are finding that this is still letting too much spam through to your mailbox, you can set a lower personal threshold in Thunderbird.

Setting X-Spam-Score Threshold

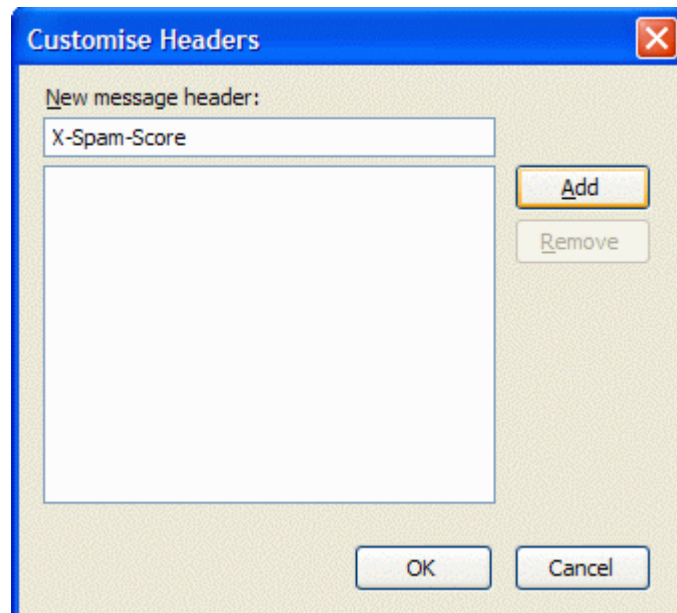
1. Create a new Junk Mail folder
2. From the **Tools** menu select **Message Filters...**
3. Click the **New...** button, and a **Filter Rules** dialog box opens



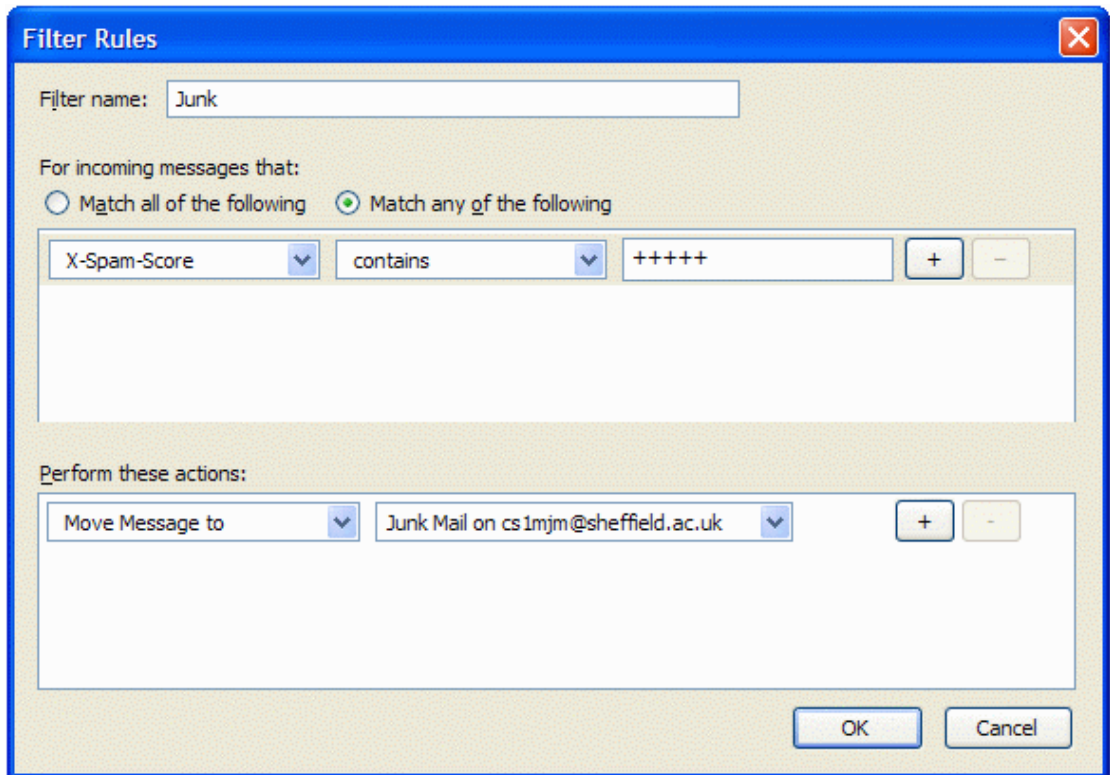
4. Under **For incoming messages that:** click on the drop down menu next to **Subject** and then click on **Customise...** at the bottom of the list



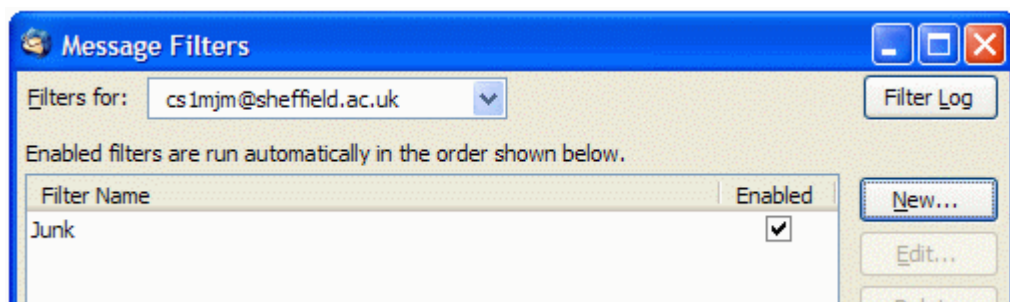
5. A **Customise Headers** dialog box opens. Type in **X-Spam-Score** and click the **Add** button, then click **OK**



- Back in the Filter Rules dialog box, click the drop down menu next to Subject and then select **X-Spam-Score** from the bottom of the list. Then in the box next to **contains** type the number of pluses you want as your threshold. In the example shown five pluses has been used +++++.



- In the bottom half of the dialog box, under **Perform these actions:** ensure **Move Message to** is selected in the first drop down menu then choose the **Junk Mail** folder in the second drop down menu. Click **OK**
- The filter is now displayed



- Click the dialog box close **X** (top right) and the spam filter is enabled.
- You need to check to ensure that this level of filter is appropriate for your needs. If too much spam still gets through or too many emails that aren't spam end up in the Junk Mail folder then you should adjust the threshold in your spam filter by changing the number of pluses.

To edit the spam filter:

- From the **Tools** menu select **Message Filter**
- Highlight **Junk** in the **Message Filters** list and click **Edit...**
- Change the number of pluses and click **OK**
- Close Message Filters dialog box.

To delete the spam filter:

- From the **Tools** menu select **Message Filter**
- Highlight **Junk** in the **Message Filters** list and click **Delete...**
- In the **Confirm** dialog box, click **OK**
- Close Message Filters dialog box.