

Email Notifications

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The CodaLab website requires the ability to send emails when a user forgets his or her password and requests a password reset.

We use the "SendGrid add-on to Windows Azure" to send emails via SMTP.

The [SendGrid](#) developer documentation explains [how to integrate the email service in Django](#). In addition, the Django project provides comprehensive documentation: <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/topics/email/>. Additional notes are collected below.

Settings

The key settings that affect how emailing works follow.

```
EMAIL_BACKEND = 'django.core.mail.backends.smtp.EmailBackend'
EMAIL_HOST = 'smtp.sendgrid.net'
EMAIL_HOST_USER = '<insert username>'
EMAIL_HOST_PASSWORD = '<insert password>'
EMAIL_PORT = 587
EMAIL_USE_TLS = True
DEFAULT_FROM_EMAIL = 'info@codalab.org'
SERVER_EMAIL = 'info@codalab.org'
```

The [Site](#) configuration also plays a role because it defines the domain name associated with the website. The site domain name and a human-readable name of the website are defined in the settings by:

```
CODALAB_SITE_DOMAIN = 'codalab.org'
CODALAB_SITE_NAME = 'CodaLab'
```

The `initialize.py` script inserts these names in the database. Recall that `initialize.py` is located in `codalab/scripts` and is used to insert constants into the database. To illustrate how the site info is used, consider the email sent to a user resetting his or her password:

```
Subject: [CodaLab] Password Reset Email
From: info@codalab.org
To: someuser@somewhere.com
Date: Thu, 03 Oct 2013 22:42:55 -0000

You're receiving this email because you or someone else has requested a password
for your user account at codalab.org. It can be safely ignored if you did not request
a password reset. Click the link below to reset your password.

http://codalab.org/accounts/password/reset/key/1-31e-6640241efe4e5b77f4e5/

In case you forgot, your username is someuser.

Thanks for using our site!
```

The subject field of the email uses the verbose name of the site, while the body of the email includes several references to [codalab.org](#), which is given by the site's domain name.

Testing Without Sending E-mails

As noted in the [Django documentation](#), one can avoid sending emails during development but still see them in the console by setting:

```
EMAIL_BACKEND = 'django.core.mail.backends.console.EmailBackend'
```

This is the default configuration for the base Dev configuration.