



# Updated Use of the Expires Message Header Field

Draft-billon-expires

Dispatch IETF 113



# A nearly unused message header

**Expires: Wed, 1 Dec 2021 17:22:57 +0000**

- Originally defined for X.400 gateways in RFC 2156
- Similar header in usenet messages in RFCs 850 and 1036



# Our proposal

**Expires: Wed, 1 Dec 2021 17:22:57 +0000**

- Same syntax
- Same meaning
- Now allowed in any e-mail message
- Possible uses
  - Event announcements expire after the event
  - Time limited offers expire when the offer does
  - Periodic notices expire when the next one is to be sent



# What does mail software do with it?

**Expires: Wed, 1 Dec 2021 17:22:57 +0000**

- The spec deliberately does not say.
- Possibilities include:
  - Ignore it
  - Show expired messages greyed out or at the end
  - Delete expired messages
  - Let users delete expired messages



# How to dispatch it?

**Expires: Wed, 1 Dec 2021 17:22:57 +0000**

- No obvious WG (definitely *not* emailcore)
- Not worth its own WG
- AD sponsored?



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