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Subject: Google Group problems - email address visible  
Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 19:17:25 GMT  
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I don't know if this is a Google Groups issue specific to this group or not, so thought I'd ask...

I try to set my email address to be invisible every place possible, to prevent e.g. farming by spambots and unsolicited messages. When I Google search this group and look at my posts, I can't see any way to find my email address from my posts. Similarly, Google tech support tell me my address is not publically viewable.

Despite this, about 50% of the time I reply to a thread here I get an email from the thread starter who has inadvertently replied to me rather than to the group. Most of the time they're not aware that the message was sent to me rather than to the group. So clearly, there is some mechanism by which my email address is accessible somehow.

Has anyone else experienced this? Does anyone know how to make sure my details really are private? I can't find any more privacy settings to check and unfortunately logging into and posting in groups appears to require being logged into my Gmail account. (As mentioned before, contacting Google about this suggests that what is happening to me should not be possible. Eppur si muove.)

Thanks,

Andy

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible  
Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 19:36:30 GMT  
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As an update: Lajos has discovered that 'Reply to author' in his reader will send the author an email, even if their email address is private. (I don't appear to have that button in the Google Groups reader.) So that's a relief in at least the email address isn't directly displayed. But, still didn't find a way to disable being sent emails.

Andy

On Wednesday, April 2, 2014 3:17:25 PM UTC-4, AMS wrote:

> I don't know if this is a Google Groups issue specific to this group or not, so thought I'd ask...

>

>

>

> I try to set my email address to be invisible every place possible, to prevent e.g. farming by spambots and unsolicited messages. When I Google search this group and look at my posts, I can't see any way to find my email address from my posts. Similarly, Google tech support tell me my address is not publically viewable.

>

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>  
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>  
> Thanks,  
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>  
>  
> Andy

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible  
Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 23:23:52 GMT  
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Hi Andy.

On Wed, 2 Apr 2014 12:17:25 -0700 (PDT), AMS wrote:

>  
> I don't know if this is a Google Groups issue specific to this group or not, so thought I'd ask...  
>  
> I try to set my email address to be invisible every place possible, to prevent e.g. farming by spambots and unsolicited messages. When I Google search this group and look at my posts, I can't see any way to find my email address from my posts. Similarly, Google tech support tell me my address is not publically viewable.  
>  
Googles tech support seems not to be right. It's true, that I can't see your email address by using Googles web interface. However normally I use (as many other people do) a newsreader client, which is downloading the messages from a news server. (News groups are no invention by Google. Google sends your messages to the other News server on this world by the Network News Transfer Protocol (NNTP) [see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NNTP>], so that everybody can read it.) And the header of your messages does contain your full email address. (If you like to see it, I can sent you the header of your message by

mail.)

I think, it is okay, that the message headers contain the email addresses of the sender. At least this is the standard. My solution to prevent spam, is to use a special email address for news groups, so that my email program puts the mails with this email address directly and quietly into the spam folder. From time to time I take a look into the folder to see, if there is something, which I should read.

Cheers, Heinz

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible  
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 23:28:38 GMT  
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On 4/2/14, 1:17 pm, AMS wrote:

>  
> I don't know if this is a Google Groups issue specific to this group  
> or not, so thought I'd ask...  
>  
> I try to set my email address to be invisible every place possible,  
> to prevent e.g. farming by spambots and unsolicited messages. When I  
> Google search this group and look at my posts, I can't see any way to  
> find my email address from my posts. Similarly, Google tech support  
> tell me my address is not publically viewable.  
>  
> Despite this, about 50% of the time I reply to a thread here I get an  
> email from the thread starter who has inadvertently replied to me  
> rather than to the group. Most of the time they're not aware that the  
> message was sent to me rather than to the group. So clearly, there is  
> some mechanism by which my email address is accessible somehow.  
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> Has anyone else experienced this? Does anyone know how to make sure  
> my details really are private? I can't find any more privacy settings  
> to check and unfortunately logging into and posting in groups appears  
> to require being logged into my Gmail account. (As mentioned before,  
> contacting Google about this suggests that what is happening to me  
> should not be possible. Eppur si muove.)  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Andy  
>

I don't use Google groups, but I can see your email address quite clearly on your posts.

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

[www.michaelgalloy.com](http://www.michaelgalloy.com)

Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

Research Mathematician

Tech-X Corporation

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible

Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 23:38:20 GMT

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On Wed, 02 Apr 2014 17:28:38 -0600, Michael Galloy wrote:

>

> I don't use Google groups, but I can see your email address quite  
> clearly on your posts.

>

That is a very good idea, I think. Because (in my view) Google Groups  
is something like a virus. It always doubles the number of lines in  
the cited parts of the messages. In this way the some messages get  
hundreds and more of lines.

Cheers, Heinz

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 23:41:27 GMT

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Thanks guys. Well, that's a bummer. I use the gmail for personal stuff and since everything  
Google is now lumped in together as one sign-in, will have to look into a different reader and  
throwaway email account for this. Too bad!

In the Google interface, headers etc aren't displayed so I don't see who anyone is (aside from  
those who post with a signature).

Andy

On Wednesday, April 2, 2014 7:23:52 PM UTC-4, Heinz Stege wrote:

> Hi Andy.

>

>

>

> On Wed, 2 Apr 2014 12:17:25 -0700 (PDT), AMS wrote:

>

>>

>  
>> I don't know if this is a Google Groups issue specific to this group or not, so thought I'd ask...  
>  
>>  
>  
>> I try to set my email address to be invisible every place possible, to prevent e.g. farming by  
spambots and unsolicited messages. When I Google search this group and look at my posts, I  
can't see any way to find my email address from my posts. Similarly, Google tech support tell me  
my address is not publically viewable.  
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>>  
>  
> Googles tech support seems not to be right. It's true, that I can't  
>  
> see your email address by using Googles web interface. However  
>  
> normally I use (as many other people do) a newsreader client, which is  
>  
> downloading the messages from a news server. (News groups are no  
>  
> invention by Google. Google sends your messages to the other News  
>  
> server on this world by the Network News Transfer Protocol (NNTP) [see  
>  
> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NNTP>], so that everybody can read it.)  
>  
> And the header of your messages does contain your full email address.  
>  
> (If you like to see it, I can sent you the header of your message by  
>  
> mail.)  
>  
>  
>  
> I think, it is okay, that the message headers contain the email  
>  
> addresses of the sender. At least this is the standard. My solution to  
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> prevent spam, is to use a special email address for news groups, so  
>  
> that my email program puts the mails with this email address directly  
>  
> and quietly into the spam folder. From time to time I take a look into  
>  
> the folder to see, if there is something, which I should read.  
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>  
>

> Cheers, Heinz

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible

Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Thu, 03 Apr 2014 00:59:27 GMT

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On Wednesday, April 2, 2014 6:41:27 PM UTC-5, AMS wrote:

> Thanks guys. Well, that's a bummer. I use the gmail for personal stuff and since everything Google is now lumped in together as one sign-in, will have to look into a different reader and throwaway email account for this. Too bad!

>

You could just us an alias:

your\_email+idlnewsgroup@gmail.com

for posting and filter messages that come to this address.

FWIW.

<https://support.google.com/mail/answer/12096?hl=en>

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Subject: Re: Google Group problems - email address visible

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Thu, 03 Apr 2014 01:22:06 GMT

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On 4/2/14, 5:38 pm, Heinz Stege wrote:

> On Wed, 02 Apr 2014 17:28:38 -0600, Michael Galloy wrote:

>>

>> I don't use Google groups, but I can see your email address quite

>> clearly on your posts.

>>

> That is a very good idea, I think. Because (in my view) Google Groups  
> is something like a virus. It always doubles the number of lines in  
> the cited parts of the messages. In this way the some messages get  
> hundreds and more of lines.

>

> Cheers, Heinz

>

Yes, though I do like the ability to search through old messages on Google Groups.

Mike

--

Michael Galloy  
www.michaelgalloy.com  
Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)  
Research Mathematician  
Tech-X Corporation

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