

How to import contacts to Mautic in the background without timing out

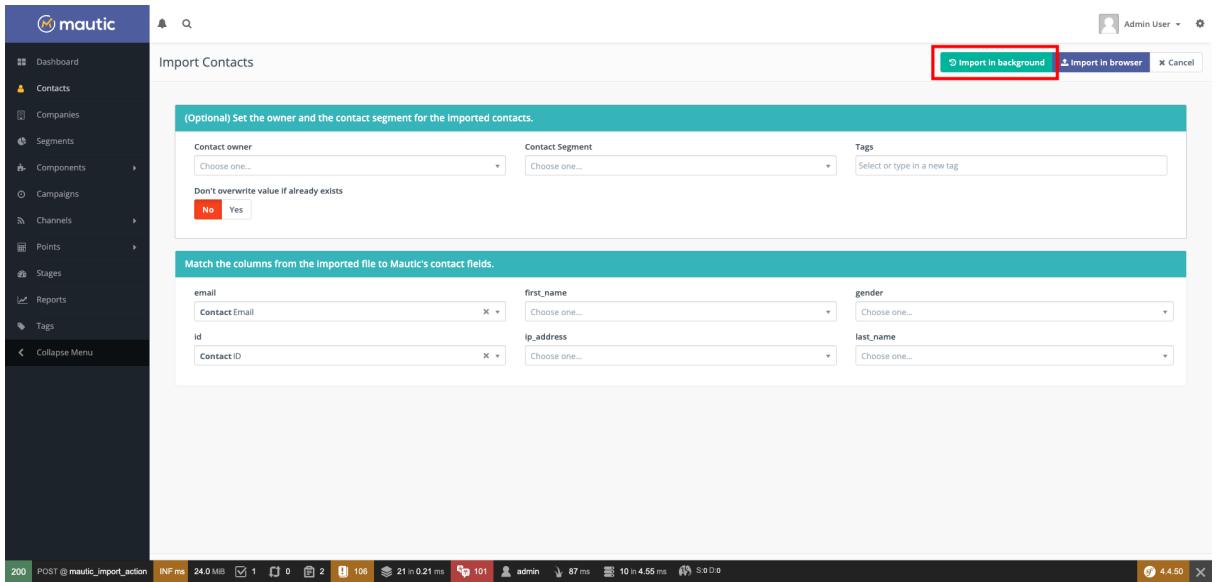
Mautic users often need to import large numbers of contacts, usually in a .csv file.

Depending on the specifications of your server, there will come a limit where importing in the browser will fail, and you will end up with an incomplete import.

For this reason, Mautic has the facility to import contacts in the background using, you guessed it, a cron job!

Here's how to do it:

1. Prepare your file for importing and ensure you have any custom fields created before starting
2. Go to Contacts and click the arrow to open the import facility
3. Select the file you prepared in part 1, and upload it
4. Configure the field mapping, segment and tag additions and owner
5. Click 'Import in the background'



Import Contacts

(Optional) Set the owner and the contact segment for the imported contacts.

Contact owner: Choose one... Contact Segment: Choose one... Tags: Select or type in a new tag

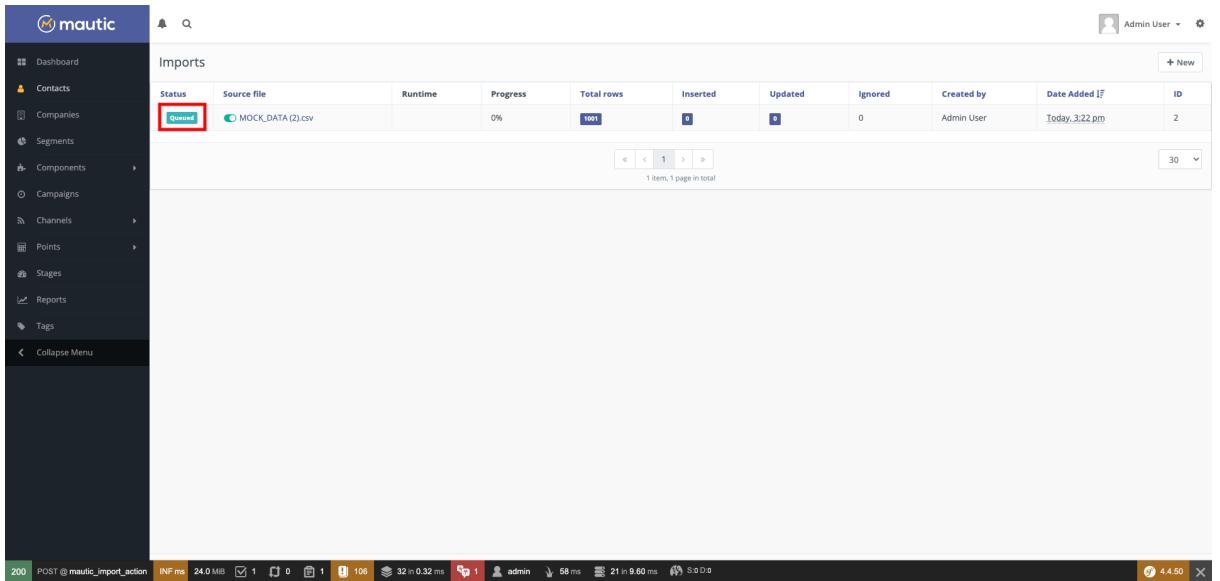
Don't overwrite value if already exists: No Yes

Match the columns from the imported file to Mautic's contact fields.

Imported Field	Mautic Field	
email	first_name	gender
ContactEmail	Choose one...	Choose one...
id	ip_address	last_name
Contact ID	Choose one...	Choose one...

200 POST @ mautic_import_action INF ms 24.0 MB ✓ 1 ⏺ 0 🗂 2 📺 106 21 in 0.21 ms 101 admin 87 ms 10 in 4.55 ms 0.0.0.0 4.4.50

6. In the import history, you will see the import with the status of 'queued'



Imports

Status	Source file	Runtime	Progress	Total rows	Inserted	Updated	Ignored	Created by	Date Added	ID
queued	MOCK_DATA (2).csv		0%	1001	0	0	0	Admin User	Today, 3:22 pm	2

1 item, 1 page in total

200 POST @ mautic_import_action INF ms 24.0 MB ✓ 1 ⏺ 0 🗂 1 📺 106 32 in 0.32 ms 101 admin 58 ms 21 in 9.60 ms 0.0.0.0 4.4.50

7. Go to your terminal window where you have an SSH connection to your server, and run the cron job to trigger the import (or wait for it to run, if you have it scheduled).

Background import cron job

```
php /path/to/mautic/bin/console mautic:import
```

Replace /path/to/mautic with the file path to your Mautic installation.

8. Watch the import progress in the command line terminal

```
gitpod /workspace/mautic $ ddev exec bin/console mautic:import
Import 2 with 1001 rows is starting.
 201/1001 [=====] 20%
```

9. When the job is complete you will see the import history change from queued to imported, and all the contacts should be in your Mautic instance - hurrah!

Online URL:

<https://kb.mautic.org/article/how-to-import-contacts-to-mautic-in-the-background-without-timing-out.html>