When you're dealing with Zimbra Server Extensions, you occasionally have to have insight into what Zimbra's actually doing with your code. So you need a way of remote debugging your extension.

As I found out now, it's pretty simple to achieve that.

In your **development** Zimbra server as the Zimbra user go to /opt/zimbra/conf and copy your localconfig.xml to keep it safe. Then, edit your localconfig and add the following Java parameters to the option „mailboxd_java_options":

```
-Xdebug -Xnoagent -Djava.compiler=NONE -
Xrunjdwp:transport=dt_socket,address=4000,server=y,suspend=n
```

This can be achieved by runnig:

```
zmlocalconfig -e mailboxd_java_options="`zmlocalconfig -m nokey
mailboxd_java_options` -Xdebug -Xnoagent -Djava.compiler=NONE -
Xrunjdwp:transport=dt_socket,address=4000,server=y,suspend=n"
```

After that as the root user go to /opt/zimbra/libexec, move away zmmailboxdctl and create a link to zmmailboxdctl.unrestricted:

```
mv zmmailboxdmgr zmmailboxdmgr.sav && ln -s zmmailboxdmgr.unrestricted zmmailboxdmgr
```

That way Zimbra won't refuse to start with debugging enabled.

Now you only need an IDE, that supports remote debugging (Eclipse does this) and you're good to go.

Remember to **only** do this on your Zimbra development system, not on the production!