This extension predates IMAP4rev1 (RFC3501), so most IMAP servers support it. Many popular IMAP servers are configured with the default personal namespaces as ("" "/"): no prefix and "/" hierarchy delimiter. In that common case, the naive client may not have any trouble naming mailboxes.

But many servers are configured e.g. with the default personal namespace as ("INBOX." "."), placing all personal folders under INBOX with "." as the hierarchy delimiter. If the client does not check for this, but naively assumes it can use the same folder names for all servers, then folder creation (and listing, moving, etc) can lead to errors.

See also the github PR: [https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/2902](https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/2902)