

INTRODUCTION TO WAP SERVER

WAP Servers Introduction

Web sites are hosted on web servers. Similarly, WAP sites are hosted on WAP servers. A WAP server stores the files that make up a WAP site and handles requests from users. In the following sections, you must know what WAP server is and how to set up a WAP to publish WAP 1.x and WAP 2.0 content for users in wireless devices.

What is a WAP Server?

- A WAP server is just a standard web server that hosts a WAP site's contents like WML and XHTML documents.
- Some companies have a "WAP server" product that is actually a web server plus a WAP gateway. This confuses the term. So, when you talk about WAP servers, make sure you and the one listening to you are not referring to different things.
- Two popular web servers are Apache and IIS.
- Tomcat is a Java Servlet / JSP container that can also be used as a standalone web server.
- Apache, IIS and Tomcat are the most commonly used software for hosting WAP / web sites.

Apache - Open-source, Free WAP / Web Server

- Apache is a very professional open-source WAP / web server.
- Apache is available on many platforms including Microsoft Windows and Linux / UNIX.
- PHP is very often used with Apache for server-side scripting.

Tomcat - Open-source, Free Java Servlet / JSP Container and Web / WAP Server

Like Apache, Tomcat is open-source. It can be downloaded free of charge at the website <http://jakarta.apache.org/tomcat/>

- Tomcat is mainly used to host dynamic WAP / web applications developed with the Java Servlet or JSP (Java Server Pages) server-side technologies.
- Tomcat can also be used to host static documents.
- It is available on many different platforms like Microsoft Windows and Linux / UNIX.

Microsoft IIS - Built-in Web / WAP Server of Windows

- IIS (Internet Information Services) is a web server developed by Microsoft.
- IIS is only available on the MS Windows platform. It is bundled with some versions of MS Windows like Windows 2000, Windows XP Professional and Windows Server 2003.
- IIS is commonly used to host ASP applications.
- ASP (Active Server Pages) is a server-side technology developed by Microsoft for creating dynamic WAP / web sites.

