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# PHP - AJAX and MySQL

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AJAX can be used for interactive communication with a database.

# AJAX Database Example

The following example will demonstrate how a web page can fetch information from a database with AJAX:

### Example

Select a person:

Person info will be listed here...

# Example Explained - The MySQL Database

The database table we use in the example above looks like this:

id	FirstName	LastName	Age	Hometown	Job
1	Peter	Griffin	41	Quahog	Brewery
2	Lois	Griffin	40	Newport	Piano Teacher
3	Joseph	Swanson	39	Quahog	Police Officer
4	Glenn	Quagmire	41	Quahog	Pilot

# Example Explained - The HTML Page



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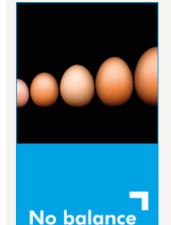
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When a user selects a user in the dropdown list above, a function called "showUser()" is executed. The function is triggered by the "onchange" event:

```
<html>
<head>
<script>
function showUser(str)
if (str=="")
 document.getElementById("txtHint").innerHTML="";
 return;
if (window.XMLHttpRequest)
 {// code for IE7+, Firefox, Chrome, Opera, Safari
 xmlhttp=new XMLHttpRequest();
else
 {// code for IE6, IE5
 xmlhttp=new ActiveXObject("Microsoft.XMLHTTP");
xmlhttp.onreadystatechange=function()
  if (xmlhttp.readyState==4 && xmlhttp.status==200)
   document.getElementById("txtHint").innerHTML=xmlhttp.responseText;
xmlhttp.open("GET", "getuser.php?g="+str, true);
xmlhttp.send();
</script>
</head>
<body>
<form>
<select name="users" onchange="showUser(this.value)">
<option value="">Select a person:</option>
<option value="1">Peter Griffin</option>
<option value="2">Lois Griffin</option>
<option value="3">Glenn Quagmire
<option value="4">Joseph Swanson</option>
</select>
</form>
<br>
<div id="txtHint"><b>Person info will be listed here.</b></div>
</body>
</html>
```



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The showUser() function does the following:

- Check if a person is selected
- Create an XMLHttpRequest object
- Create the function to be executed when the server response is ready
- Send the request off to a file on the server
- Notice that a parameter (q) is added to the URL (with the content of the dropdown list)

## The PHP File

The page on the server called by the JavaScript above is a PHP file called "getuser.php".

The source code in "getuser.php" runs a query against a MySQL database, and returns the result in an HTML table:

```
<?php
q = intval(q');
$con = mysqli connect('localhost', 'peter', 'abc123', 'my db');
if (!$con)
 die('Could not connect: ' . mysqli error($con));
mysqli select db($con,"ajax demo");
$sql="SELECT * FROM user WHERE id = '".$q."'";
$result = mysqli query($con,$sql);
echo "
Firstname
Lastname
Age
Hometown
Job
";
while($row = mysqli fetch array($result))
 echo "";
 echo "" . $row['FirstName'] . "";
 echo "" . $row['LastName'] . "";
 echo "" . $row['Age'] . "";
 echo "" . $row['Hometown'] . "";
 echo "" . $row['Job'] . "";
 echo "";
echo "";
```

mysqli\_close(\$con);
?>

Explanation: When the query is sent from the JavaScript to the PHP file, the following happens:

- 1. PHP opens a connection to a MySQL server
- 2. The correct person is found
- 3. An HTML table is created, filled with data, and sent back to the "txtHint" placeholder

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