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PHP MySQL Connect to a Database

The free MySQL database is very often used with PHP. Before you can access and work with data in a database, you must create a connection to the database. In PHP, this is done with the [mysql_connect](#) function.

```
mysql_connect( servername, username, password );
```

Parameter	Description
servername	Specifies the server to connect to.
username	Specifies the username to log in with.
password	Specifies the password to log in with.

There are more available parameters, but the ones listed above are the most important. The example below performs the following tasks:

1. Stores the connection in a variable (\$conn) for later use in the script.
2. The [die](#) part will be executed if the connection fails.
3. The connection will be closed as soon as the script ends. To close the connection before, use the [mysql_close](#) function.

```
<html><body>
<?php
$username = "wenchen";
$password = ".....";
$host      = "mysqldev.aero.und.edu";
$conn      = mysql_connect( $host, $username, $password );

if ( $conn ) {
    echo "Successfully connect to MySQL!";
    mysql_close( $conn );
}
else {
    die( 'Could not connect to MySQL: ' . mysql_error( ) );
}
```

```
?>  
</body></html>
```

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