Finance Manager Installation Guide

# Overview

This guide provides the necessary steps to set up and install the Finance Manager application, including database setup, dependencies, and configuration instructions.

# System Requirements

* Operating System: Windows, macOS, or Linux
* Web Server: Apache or Nginx
* PHP: Version 7.4 or above
* Database: MySQL 5.7 or above
* Browser: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or any modern web browser

# Pre-requisites

* XAMPP or MAMP (for local server setup)
* Composer (for dependency management, optional if dependencies are already included)

# Step 1: Download or Clone the Project

1. Download the project ZIP file or clone the repository using Git: git clone <repository\_url>
2. Extract the project files (if downloaded as a ZIP) and place them in the htdocs directory of XAMPP or the equivalent directory for your web server.

# Step 2: Set Up the Database

1. **Start the Database Server**: Open XAMPP or your preferred server software and start MySQL.
2. **Create Database**: Open phpMyAdmin by navigating to http://localhost/phpmyadmin. Click on "New" to create a new database. Name the database finance\_manager (or your preferred name) and select "Create."
3. **Import Database Schema**: In phpMyAdmin, select the finance\_manager database. Click on the "Import" tab, select the db\_schema.sql file from the project’s db folder, and import it.

**Note**: This schema will create tables for users, income, expenses, and any other required structures.

# Step 3: Configure the Project

1. **Database Configuration**: Open the config/db.php file in a text editor. Update the following values to match your database credentials:

$host = 'localhost'; $dbname = 'finance\_manager'; // Change if you used a different name $username = 'root'; // Default username for MySQL in XAMPP $password = ''; // Default password for MySQL in XAMPP (leave blank)

1. **Session and Other Configurations**: Ensure PHP sessions are enabled in your PHP configuration (php.ini file). Modify other configuration settings as necessary.

# Step 4: Start the Server and Access the Application

1. **Start Apache Server**: In XAMPP or MAMP, start the Apache server.
2. **Access the Application**: Open your browser and go to http://localhost/finance\_manager (or the folder name you used). You should see the homepage of the Finance Manager application.

# Step 5: Testing the Application

1. **Register a New User**: Click on "Register" in the navigation bar. Fill out the registration form and submit it to create a new user.
2. **Login**: After registering, log in with your new credentials to access the dashboard.
3. **Testing CRUD Operations**: Navigate to the "Manage Income" and "Manage Expenses" sections to add, view, edit, and delete entries. Access the "Report and Analytics" section to view summary data and charts.

# Optional: Enable Additional Features

1. **Chart.js Integration** (for Analytics): Ensure an internet connection to load the Chart.js library from the CDN.
2. **Customize Design**: Modify the partials/header.php and partials/footer.php files for custom branding. Adjust inline styles directly in the HTML files to personalize colors and layouts.

# Troubleshooting

1. **Database Connection Issues**: Ensure MySQL is running in XAMPP. Double-check database credentials in config/db.php.
2. **Session Errors**: Verify that sessions are enabled in PHP (look for session.auto\_start in php.ini). Clear your browser’s cookies and restart the application.
3. **Page Not Loading**: Confirm Apache is running. Check for any PHP errors in the server error log.

# Uninstallation

To remove the Finance Manager application:

1. Delete the project folder from htdocs or your server directory.
2. Drop the finance\_manager database from phpMyAdmin.