



CodeIgniter is an Open Source  
Web Application Framework that helps  
you write kick-ass PHP programs

# Modern Programming paradigms in Web Engineering

Lecture 03

Setting up CodeIgniter

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# Prerequisites

- ✗ CodeIgniter is very flexible.
- ✗ It will work with all PHP version above PHP 4.3.2 and PHP5, as there is a lot of hosting that not support PHP5
- ✗ *CI Supported databases are MySQL, MySQLi, MS SQL, Postgre SQL, Oracle, SQLite, and ODBC.*
- ✗ Normally, you would develop and test your site on a local server—one that runs on your own machine (with the loopback address 127.0.0.1 or localhost) rather than on a remote site on the Internet.
- ✗ XAMPP Lite or WAMP are good source of it . It installs Apache, PHP, and MySQL on to a Windows machine with minimum configuration to be done by you.
- ✗ XAMPP Lite is free and easy to install.
- ✗ It also helps to have a good PHP editor on your system (Notepad++ or Dreamweaver are good options; notepad++ is available for free). You can do it all in a text editor, but the syntax highlighting feature of a good editor saves you from

# Installing CodeIgniter

- ✗ **CI** is completely free!
- ✗ Once your server is set up, go to the CodeIgniter site at (<http://www.codeigniter.com/>) and download the latest version of the framework.
- ✗ it is only 2.1 MB when zipped.
- ✗ Unzip the folder, and install the CodeIgniter files in your website's root folder.
- ✗ If you are using XAMPP Lite, this is usually the htdocs.
- ✗ For WAMP it is www inside the wamp folder.
- ✗ The CodeIgniter index.php file should be in the root directory.
- ✗ The root folder is the folder that you would point at if you navigated to the site—in this case, by accessing <http://127.0.0.1>. If you put CodeIgniter in some other directory you will need to point to that directory. For example, if you create a folder called codeigniter inside your WAMP installation, you will need to put <http://127.0.0.1/codeigniter>, in order to access your CodeIgniter installation.
- ✗ When these files are on your machine, you can access them in two ways:
- ✗ As a URL: For example, <http://127.0.0.1>
- ✗ Through the normal directory path: For example, C:/xampplite/htdocs/index.php

# Exploring the file structure

- ✗ The initial files and folders we can see are:
  - ✗ system
  - ✗ user\_guide
  - ✗ index.php
  - ✗ license.txt
- ✗ The index.php file being the most important one, it will act as the main controller and will route application requests to the required controllers. Without this file, CodeIgniter can't work.
- ✗ Next in importance is the system folder. The framework's base files and libraries are present in this folder. We, as programmers, won't need to modify those files for our normal usage. However, it's important to know what those files are and what they do.
- ✗ license.txt: This file is the license document, you should read it.

# Exploring the file structure

- ✗ The application: Our site's files and code will be put here.
- ✗ We can have as many application folders as we need, all of them using the same system folder. That is a great advantage, because if we need to update our framework version, we will need to do it only once.
- ✗ The following is the list of folders in the application folder:
  - ✗ config: This folder contains CI configuration files, such as database connection files and more.
  - ✗ controllers: This folder contains your application controller files.
  - ✗ errors: This folder contains your error documents, such as 404 error pages.
  - ✗ helpers: This folder contains helper files.
  - ✗ hooks: This folder contains files that are intended to change CI functionalities without changing CI core files.
  - ✗ language: This folder contains language files for your application.
  - ✗ libraries: This folder contains your own libraries and classes.

# Exploring the file structure

- ✗ models: This folder contains model files.
- ✗ views: This folder contains your application's view files.
- ✗ cache: This folder contains cache files that will be created if you use CI cache capabilities.
- ✗ System: This folder contains CI framework files, you shouldn't need to edit those files.
- ✗ fonts: This folder contains fonts that will be used by the image library, for example, when watermarking images.
- ✗ helpers: This folder contains CI helpers (email helper, form helper).
- ✗ language: This folder contains language files for CI libraries.
- ✗ libraries: This folder contains CI library files, containing the classes that will help you build your application. If you create your own libraries place them inside `application\libraries`.



# Exploring the file structure

- ✗ logs: This folder contains log files.
- ✗ plugins: This folder contains some CI plugins
- ✗ scaffolding: This folder contains CI CRUD generation files.
- ✗ user\_guide: This folder contains help documents for CI, they are the same as those on CodeIgniter's site.
- ✗ index.php: This file must be in the document root of your server so that CodeIgniter can work.



# Does it work?—checking our CI installation

✗ if you have installed CI in a folder called codeigniter inside your wamp installation, you can see it by using the path `http://127.0.0.1/codeigniter/` in your browser. You should see welcome page of CodeIgniter.

# The configuration file

- ✗ Remember we were going to take two minutes to set up our site.
- ✗ The second minute is spent doing some basic configuration.
- ✗ The config folder contains a group of files that set basic configurations for your site.
- ✗ Open the `system/application/config/config.php` file and tell the site where to find itself. The first few lines of the file should say something like:

# This Is The End For This Lecture

