

XAMPP Installation

tutorial #tutorial01a

James L. Parry
B.C. Institute of Technology

Tutorial Goals

This tutorial will walk you through setting up XAMPP, for testing your webapps.

The first time through may take a bit, especially resolving port conflicts. Once you have done this a few times, it will be no big deal to setup a fresh installation of XAMPP on whatever computer you have available to work on!

Suggestion: you may want to skim the slideshow first, before working your way through it.

Do you Need XAMPP?

AMP = Apache + MYSQL + PHP (& perl)

IF you are already familiar with AMP,
AND you have a working AMP stack on your machine,
AND you know how to configure and manage it, specifically virtual hosts,
AND you plan to have with you in lab a machine with this or access to it,
THEN skip to the next tutorial.

Download XAMPP

Get AMP from the [Apache Friends](http://httpd.apache.org/) website.

I strongly recommend using XAMPP instead of other apparently suitable packages, such as WAMPP or MAMPP. The other packages (and even some of the AMP stacks built into Linux) often have less than intuitive folder and configuration conventions, and I may not be able to help you with them.

Apache Friends Download Add-ons Hosting Community About Search...

XAMPP Apache + MySQL + PHP + Perl

What is XAMPP?
XAMPP is the most popular PHP development environment
XAMPP is a completely free, easy to install Apache distribution containing MySQL, PHP, and Perl. The XAMPP open source package has been set up to be incredibly easy to install and to use.

Why use XAMPP?

- The most popular PHP dev package
- For Windows, Mac OS X & Linux
- Easy installation and configuration
- Completely free of charge

Download
Click here for other versions

XAMPP for Windows
v5.6.3 (PHP 5.6.3)

XAMPP for Linux
v5.6.3 (PHP 5.6.3)

XAMPP for OS X
v5.6.3 (PHP 5.6.3)

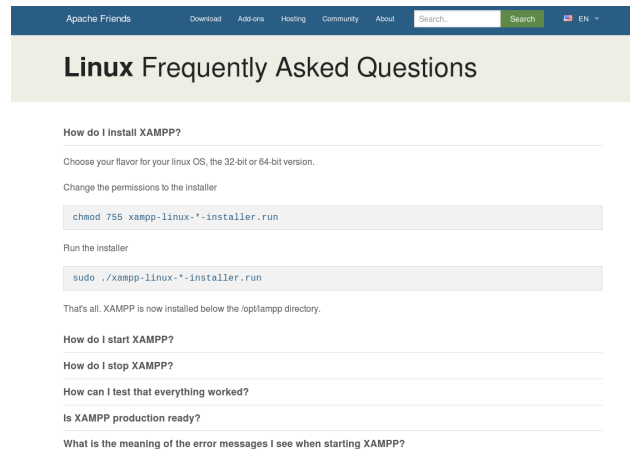
New XAMPP with PHP 5.5.19 & 5.6.3 versions

Hi Apache Friends!
We just released new versions of XAMPP for all platforms with latest PHP versions: **5.5.19** and **5.6.3**. We simplified the versioning for XAMPP releases and we now base the version number...

[Read more »](#)

Heed the FAQ

Do read the appropriate FAQ page on apacheFriends.org. It can help you overcome some of the more common obstacles.

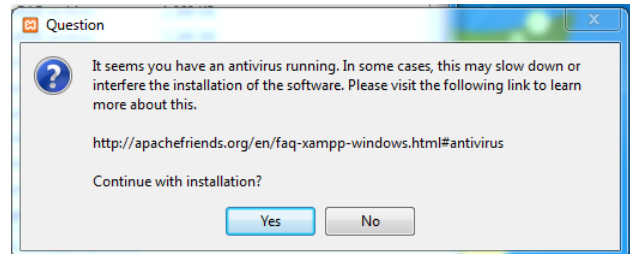


Run the Installer

When you run the Windows installer, you will be prompted for permission to execute it. This is normal and expected.

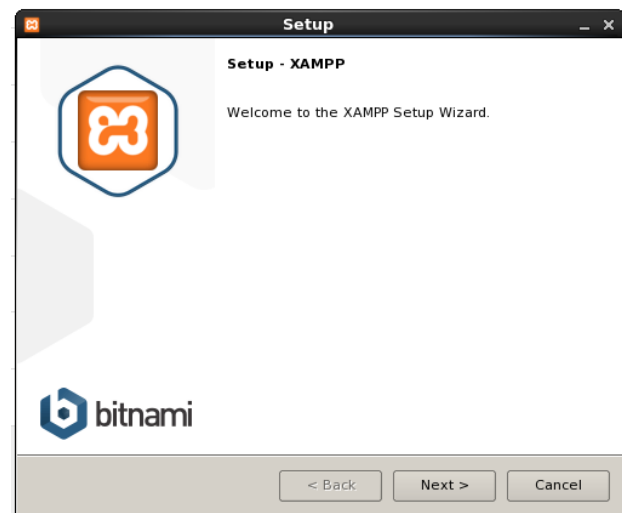
You might get an additional anti-virus prompt, shown right. We have not experienced difficulties proceeding.

On Linux, you need to change the installer's file permissions to allow execution, before you can run it.



Installer Initialization

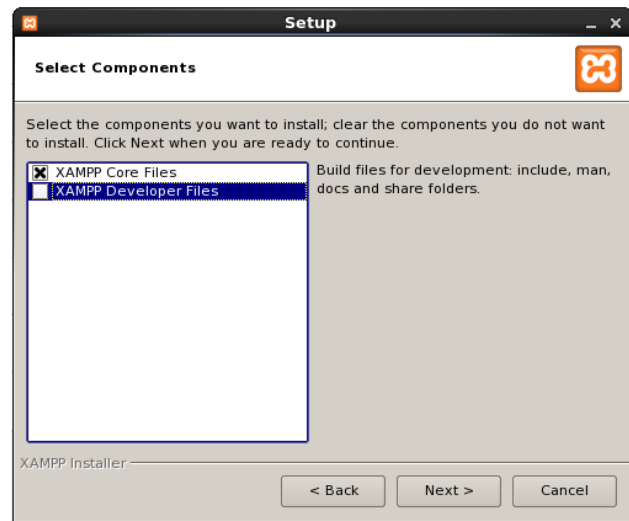
Once the installer has initialized, you should see a setup screen, shown right. There are no options to select - it is safe to proceed.



Component Selection - Linux

The Linux installation has only two choices - the core XAMPP files and the developer files, shown right.

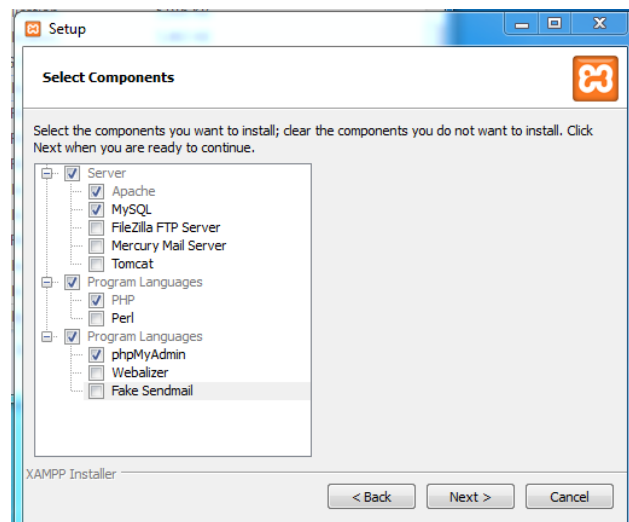
You need the core files, but it is up to you whether to install the developer files too.



Component Selection - Windows

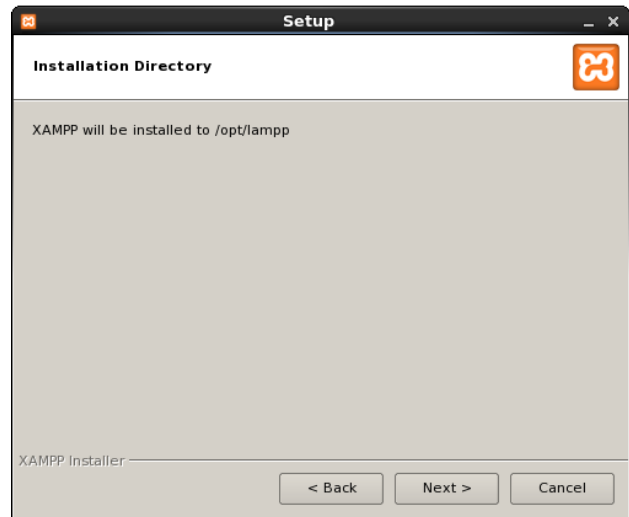
The Windows installation has more choices.

You only need to select MySQL and phpMyAdmin, as shown to the right. Uncheck the others unless you want to play with them.



Installation Directory - Linux

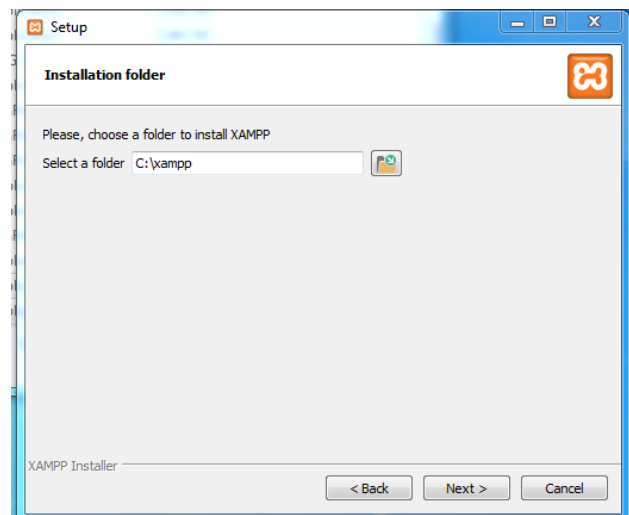
The Linux installer will put XAMPP into the /opt/lampp folder. You have no choice.



Installation Directory - Windows

The Windows installer lets you choose the folder to install XAMPP into.

I suggest using the default installation folder. If you want to install it somewhere else, make sure you do not end up with it installed somewhere where the fully qualified pathname would include spaces (eg "~/My Documents/..."), as that will cause issues with some of the tools later.



XAMPP Configuration...

On Windows, Apache configuration settings files are found in the "apache/conf" folder inside your XAMPP installation directory.

These can be edited through the XAMPP control panel, or directly from your file manager. You may need administrator privileges to save changes!

On Linux, Apache configuration settings files are found in the "etc" folder inside your XAMPP installation directory.

These can be edited through the XAMPP control panel, or directly from your file manager. You may need root privileges to save changes!

Optional Components

Bitnami, the sponsor of the XAMPP installer, then asks you to visit their site to download optional packages to use with your XAMPP installation.

These are not needed, and you can uncheck the checkbox in the center of the window.

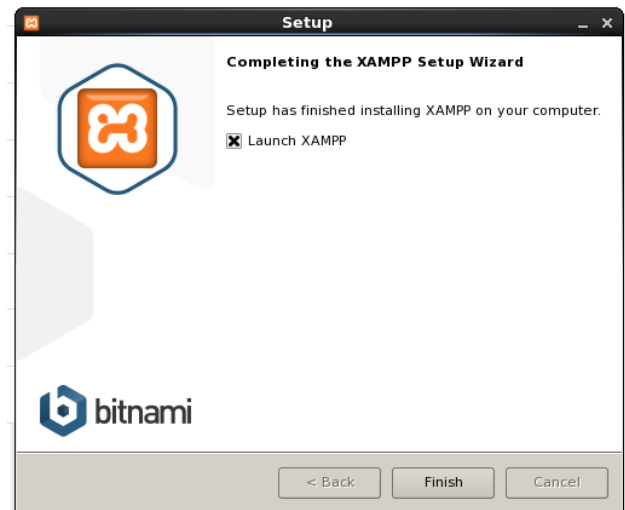


Starting the Control Panel

If your installation is successful, you will be prompted to start the XAMPP control panel. We want to do that.

On Windows, the XAMPP control panel can be accessed later from the Start menu.

On Linux, start the XAMPP control panel later by running "manager-linux-x64.run" in the /opt/lampp folder.



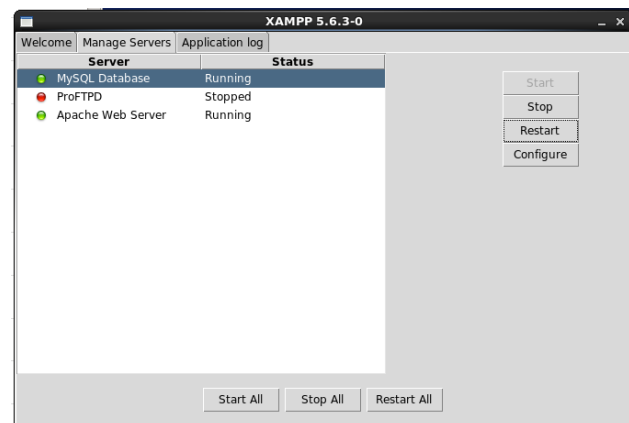
XAMPP CP Start - Linux

The Linux XAMPP Control Panel has a start screen, shown right.



XAMPP CP Manager - Linux

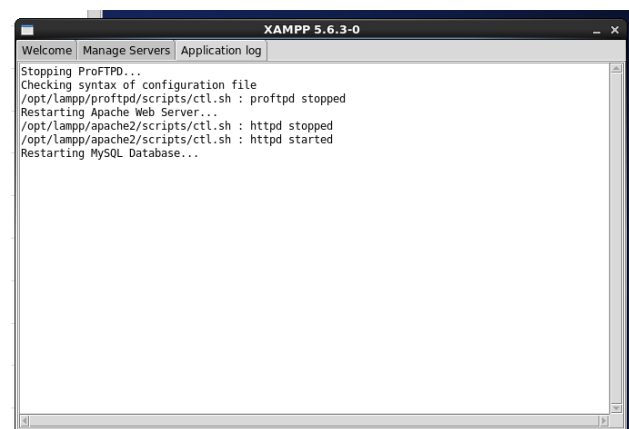
You will need to select the "Manage Servers" tab to actually get to the manager controls. Their use should be intuitive.



XAMPP CP Logs - Linux

If your XAMPP does not start, you can check the Apache log file using the "Application Log" tab of the CP.

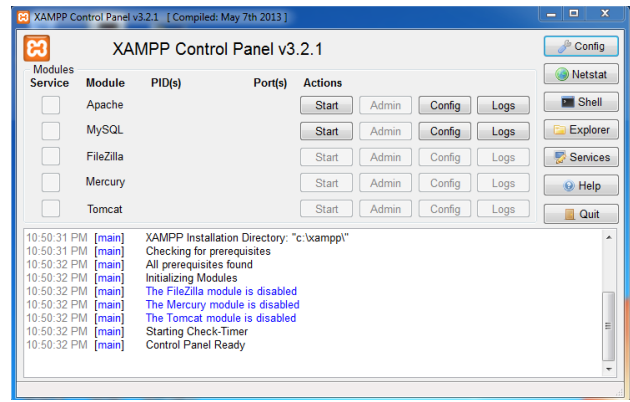
Issues starting one of your hosts might require you to examine host-specific log files in the `/opt/lampp/logs` folder.



XAMPP Control Panel - Windows

The Windows XAMPP Control Panel looks different than the Linux one.

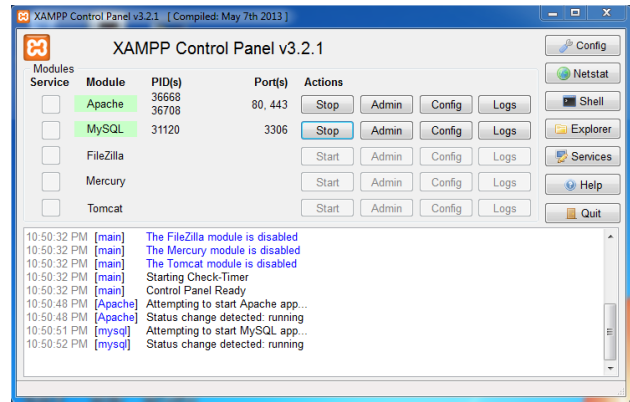
There is a "Service" column down the left. Checking the box beside a module will have that server run as a memory-resident service whenever you login, consuming resources.



XAMPP Start Success

Click the "Start" button beside a server to start it. If the servers start successfully, they will be highlighted in green, and the ports used shown.

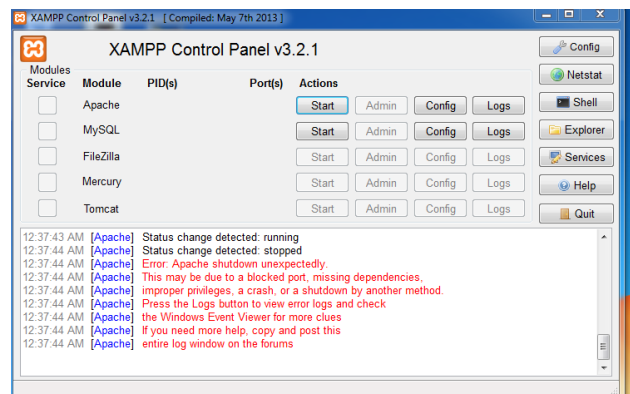
The Linux CP is a bit different, using colored buttons, but the intent is the same.



XAMPP Start Failure

If the servers cannot start, it is almost always because of a port conflict - some other program is using port 80, the default. Such programs include IIS, Oracle and Skype.

You have two choices – kill the other program(s) or use a different port for Apache.



Apache Server Port

If you want to use a different port, tailor xampp/etc/httpd.conf. There is a "Listen 80" directive, around line 52. Replace "80" with an unused port, for instance "4711". If Apache still doesn't start, you have bigger problems and will need to see me for help.

About line 43:

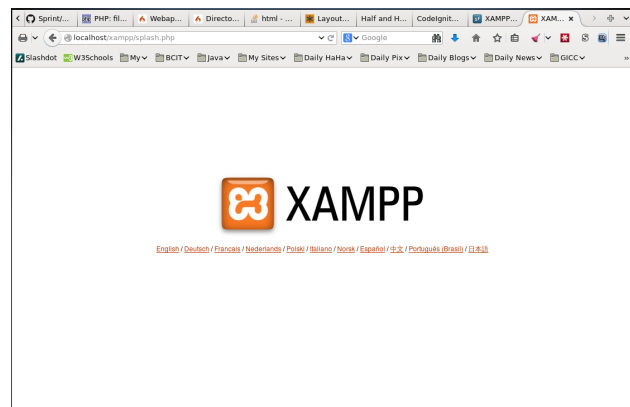
```
#  
# Listen: Allows you to bind Apache to spe  
# ports, instead of the default. See also  
# directive.  
#  
# Change this to Listen on specific IP add  
# prevent Apache from glomming onto all bo  
#  
#Listen 12.34.56.78:80  
Listen 80
```

Are We There Yet?

In your browser, open the location "localhost". You should see the XAMPP splash screen, right.

If you changed the port in order to get Apache to start, remember to specify that in the URL too, eg. "localhost:4711"

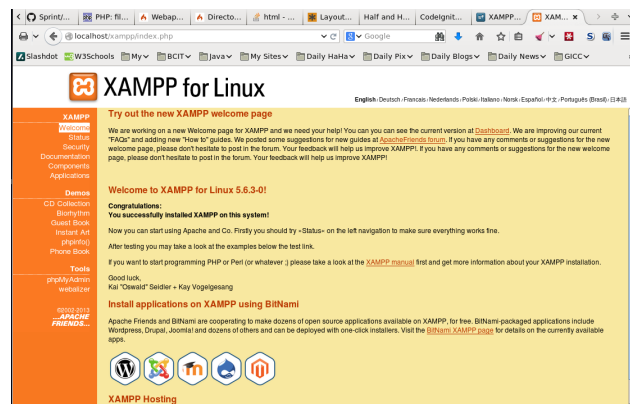
Some browsers may still require that you specify the protocol in your URL, eg. "http://localhost".



Now We're There

Selecting the language of your choice on the XAMPP splash screen will take you to the XAMPP homepage, shown right.

You should not see the splash page again :)



Congratulations!

You have completed tutorial #tutorial01a: XAMPP Installation

If you would take a minute to [provide some feedback](#), we would appreciate it!

The next activity in sequence is: [tutorial01b](#) Virtual Hosting Setup

You can use your browser's back button to return to the page you were on before starting this activity, or you can jump directly to the course [homepage](#), [organizer](#), or [reference](#) page.