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Computer engineering

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Network evening study

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Web programming lab

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Discussion 1

Discussion

1. After installing XAMPP application and if you need to save your PHP files on your PC, in what a place can you save it and in what extension for these files?

2. htdocs is acronyms for what?

3. Suppose your PC is running with Windows operating system, can you install MAMP package on it? Explain your answer.

4. Give me some examples about some web sites that are built with PHP.

5. As you remember, JavaScript is a popular client-side programming language and it has the ability to change the content and style of a

web page dynamically. One question you may be asking is, "Why do we need a server-side programming language, too?"

SOL

1. Saving PHP Files:

Location: After installing XAMPP, you can typically save your PHP files in the htdocs directory within the XAMPP installation folder (e.g., C:\xampp\htdocs on Windows). This directory is configured as the web server's document root, meaning files placed here will be accessible through your web browser using http://localhost.

Extension: PHP files use the .php extension. For example, a file named index.php will be the default page when you visit http://localhost.

2. htdocs Acronym:

"htdocs" doesn't stand for a specific acronym. It's a convention used in many web servers (including Apache, which XAMPP uses) to represent the "HyperText DocumentS" directory, where web content is stored.

3. MAMP on Windows:

No: MAMP (Mac, Apache, MySQL, PHP) is designed specifically for macOS systems. Although some unofficial builds work on Windows,

they're not officially supported and can introduce compatibility issues. XAMPP is an excellent alternative for Windows.

4. Websites Built with PHP:

Numerous: Many popular websites use PHP in some capacity, including:

Facebook

Wikipedia

WordPress

Mailchimp

Flickr

Airbnb

Spotify

Yahoo!

Many more!

5. Need for Server-Side Languages:

Dynamic Content: While JavaScript can modify a page's appearance, it runs in the user's browser and has limited access to server resources. Server-side languages like PHP are essential for:

Accessing and manipulating databases (e.g., storing user information or product data)

Generating dynamic content based on user input or conditions (e.g., personalized recommendations)

Handling secure tasks like user authentication and payment processing

Interacting with external services (e.g., sending emails or integrating with APIs)

Improving performance by rendering pages on the server and sending smaller HTML to the browser

In summary, both JavaScript and server-side languages like PHP are crucial for building robust and interactive web applications. By understanding their unique strengths and uses, you can create powerful and engaging web experiences.