Setting up XAMPP in Windows Michael Pound

XAMPP

- XAMPP is an installation package containing MySQL, PHP, Apache and others.
- If you wish to run MySQL and PHP on your computers at home, this offers a much easier solution than installing each program individually

Downloading and Installing

- First of all, download the windows installer from here:
 - http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp-windows.html
- Install the program, I would suggest using the default installation location of "C:\xampp" although any location is fine

Downloading and Installing II

- After the installation, a command prompt will appear asking if you'd like to place icons on your desktop. That's up to you
- Then type y to proceed
- When prompted, select y to use drive letters.
 You won't be running this off a USB stick

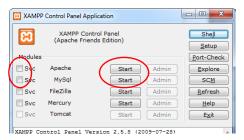
Starting Apache and MySQL

 Once you have installed XAMPP, the command prompt will produce a menu that looks like this:

 Start the XAMPP control panel here, or via the start menu shortcut

Starting Apache and MySQL

 Start Apache and MySQL, and add them to the list of Windows services in the XAMPP control panel:



 Note: that these buttons might take a moment to start each process, don't click them lots of times

Setting up MySQL I

 Now MySQL is running, you need to add a database and username. Do not bother setting a root password. Begin by clicking the Admin button for MySQL in the control panel:



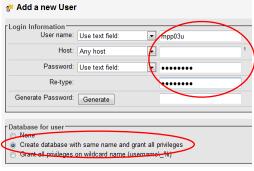
Setting up MySQL II

- This will bring up phpMyAdmin, which is a web front-end for controlling your MySQL server
- Once this has loaded, click the Privileges tab:



Setting up MySQL III

- On the privileges screen you will see a list of users. Below this, click "Add New User"
- Type in your username, for ease this should be the same as the one you use in Computer Science
- Also, type in a password, and click "Create database with the same name and grant all privileges"



Setting up MySQL IV

Scroll to the bottom of the page and click Go.
 phpMyAdmin should tell you it has created a
 new user. Once this is done, you can close
 phpMyAdmin.

Logging into MySQL Terminal I

- To log into the MySQL command line terminal, begin by running Windows Command Prompt
- Next, browse to the correct directory and run mysql. The program is stored in xampp/mysql/bin
- In the labs, your username and database are specified for you. You must do this yourself at home. See the image on the next page:

Logging into MySQL Terminal II

 If you do this correctly, you will log in and select the right database

Be Careful with CASE

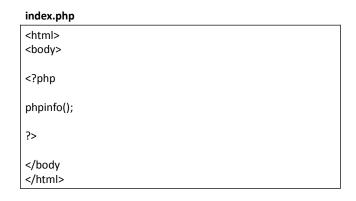
- MySQL in Windows is *not* case sensitive. This
 means if you create a table called "Artist" then
 the actual table will be "artist"
- For practice and starting on your coursework this is ok, but make sure you copy the files over to the school computers before handing them in and make sure everything works

Using Apache I

- Now you have a database, you can create tables, or run SQL files like you do in the labs.
 You can now run HTML and PHP files using Apache server
- Your website is not held in public_html like it is at CS. Instead, you will find it in C:\xampp\htdocs
- You can delete all the files in there and start your own website

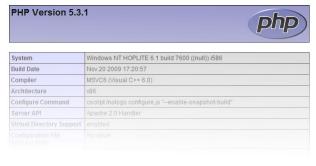
Using Apache II

 Try putting the following file into your htdocs directory:



Using Apache III

 With that file created, use your browser to go to http://localhost/index.php and you should see:



Continuing On

- Now everything is working fine, you can use this setup to do the coursework.
- Simply use your htdocs directory as you would the public html directory in the labs
- Remember, you should make sure that everything you do at home is tested thoroughly on the lab computers. If it doesn't work when we mark it, "It worked at home" will not be a valid excuse!