**Create the HTML Form**

We will create a simple form (form.html) with five fields:

* Name
* Email
* Phone
* Age
* Message

**form.html**

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html lang="en">

<head>

<meta charset="UTF-8">

<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">

<title>Simple PHP Form</title>

</head>

<body>

<h2>Simple PHP Form</h2>

<form action="process.php" method="post">

<label for="name">Name:</label>

<input type="text" id="name" name="name" required><br><br>

<label for="email">Email:</label>

<input type="email" id="email" name="email" required><br><br>

<label for="phone">Phone:</label>

<input type="text" id="phone" name="phone" required><br><br>

<label for="age">Age:</label>

<input type="number" id="age" name="age" required><br><br>

<label for="message">Message:</label>

<textarea id="message" name="message" required></textarea><br><br>

<input type="submit" value="Submit">

</form>

</body>

</html>

**2. Create a Database and Table**

Before handling form submission, create a database and a table.

**SQL Query to Create Database and Table**

Run the following SQL commands in **phpMyAdmin** or **MySQL CLI**:

CREATE DATABASE mydatabase;

USE mydatabase;

CREATE TABLE users (

id INT AUTO\_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,

name VARCHAR(100),

email VARCHAR(100),

phone VARCHAR(20),

age INT,

message TEXT,

created\_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP

);

**3. Create a PHP File to Process Form Submission**

Now, let's create process.php to:

1. **Connect to the MySQL database**
2. **Insert the form data into the table**

**process.php**

$sql = "INSERT INTO users <?php

// Database connection settings

$host = "localhost"; // Server name

$username = "root"; // Default username for local server (Change for live server)

$password = ""; // Default password (Leave empty for local XAMPP/WAMP)

$database = "mydatabase"; // Database name

// Establish connection

$conn = new mysqli($host, $username, $password, $database);

// Check connection

if ($conn->connect\_error) {

die("Connection failed: " . $conn->connect\_error);

}

// Retrieve form data

$name = $\_POST['name'];

$email = $\_POST['email'];

$phone = $\_POST['phone'];

$age = $\_POST['age'];

$message = $\_POST['message'];

// Prevent SQL Injection (Security Enhancement)

$name = mysqli\_real\_escape\_string($conn, $name);

$email = mysqli\_real\_escape\_string($conn, $email);

$phone = mysqli\_real\_escape\_string($conn, $phone);

$age = mysqli\_real\_escape\_string($conn, $age);

$message = mysqli\_real\_escape\_string($conn, $message);

// Insert into database

(name, email, phone, age, message) VALUES ('$name', '$email', '$phone', '$age', '$message')";

if ($conn->query($sql) === TRUE) {

echo "Data inserted successfully!";

} else {

echo "Error: " . $sql . "<br>" . $conn->error;

}

// Close connection

$conn->close();

?>

**View.php**

<?php

// Database connection settings

$host = "localhost";

$username = "root";

$password = "";

$database = "mydatabase";

// Establish connection

$conn = new mysqli($host, $username, $password, $database);

// Check connection

if ($conn->connect\_error) {

die("Connection failed: " . $conn->connect\_error);

}

// Retrieve data from the database

$sql = "SELECT \* FROM users ORDER BY id DESC";

$result = $conn->query($sql);

?>

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html lang="en">

<head>

<meta charset="UTF-8">

<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">

<title>View Records</title>

<style>

body {

font-family: Arial, sans-serif;

margin: 20px;

padding: 20px;

}

table {

width: 100%;

border-collapse: collapse;

margin-top: 20px;

}

table, th, td {

border: 1px solid black;

}

th, td {

padding: 10px;

text-align: left;

}

th {

background-color: #f2f2f2;

}

</style>

</head>

<body>

<h2>Submitted Records</h2>

<table>

<tr>

<th>ID</th>

<th>Name</th>

<th>Email</th>

<th>Phone</th>

<th>Age</th>

<th>Message</th>

<th>Date Submitted</th>

</tr>

<?php

if ($result->num\_rows > 0) {

// Fetch each row and display in table

while ($row = $result->fetch\_assoc()) {

echo "<tr>

<td>{$row['id']}</td>

<td>{$row['name']}</td>

<td>{$row['email']}</td>

<td>{$row['phone']}</td>

<td>{$row['age']}</td>

<td>{$row['message']}</td>

<td>{$row['created\_at']}</td>

</tr>";

}

} else {

echo "<tr><td colspan='7'>No records found</td></tr>";

}

?>

</table>

</body>

</html>

<?php

// Close the connection

$conn->close();

?>

**4. Explanation of Steps**

**Step 1: Create the HTML Form (form.html)**

* The form uses method="post" to send data to process.php securely.
* Each input field has a name attribute, which will be used in PHP.

**Step 2: Create the Database and Table**

* The users table stores form data.
* id is an **auto-incremented primary key**.
* created\_at stores the timestamp of submission.

**Step 3: Process Form Data (process.php)**

* Connects to the MySQL database using mysqli.
* Retrieves form data using $\_POST['fieldname'].
* Uses mysqli\_real\_escape\_string() to **prevent SQL injection**.
* Executes an **INSERT query** to store data in the table.
* If successful, a success message is displayed.

**5. Running the Application**

**Step 1: Start Your Local Server**

* If using **XAMPP**, start **Apache and MySQL**.
* If using **WAMP**, start the services.

**Step 2: Place Files in htdocs (XAMPP) or www (WAMP)**

* Create a folder inside htdocs/ (e.g., myform/).
* Place form.html and process.php inside htdocs/myform/.

**Step 3: Open the Form in Browser**

* Open http://localhost/myform/form.html
* Fill in the form and submit.

**Step 4: Check Database**

* Open **phpMyAdmin**
* Select **mydatabase > users**
* You should see the inserted data.

**6. Additional Improvements**

**Validation**

* Add JavaScript validation to ensure inputs are correct before submitting.

**User Feedback**

* Redirect to a confirmation page after submission instead of displaying raw messages.

**Prepared Statements (More Secure)**

Instead of mysqli\_real\_escape\_string(), use **prepared statements** to prevent SQL injection:

php

CopyEdit

$stmt = $conn->prepare("INSERT INTO users (name, email, phone, age, message) VALUES (?, ?, ?, ?, ?)");

$stmt->bind\_param("sssis", $name, $email, $phone, $age, $message);

$stmt->execute();

$stmt->close();

**Final Thoughts**

This guide provides a **beginner-friendly** approach to **form handling in PHP with MySQL**. You can enhance it with **CSS for better styling** and **JavaScript for validation**.