How to run a PHP program in Xampp?

PHP is the most popular web backend programming language. A PHP code will run as a web server module or as a command-line interface. To run PHP for the web, you need to install a Web Server like Apache and you also need a database server like MySQL. There are various web servers for running PHP programs like WAMP & XAMPP. WAMP server is supported in windows and XAMP is supported in both Windows and Linux. In this article, you will learn how to run PHP program in Xampp server.
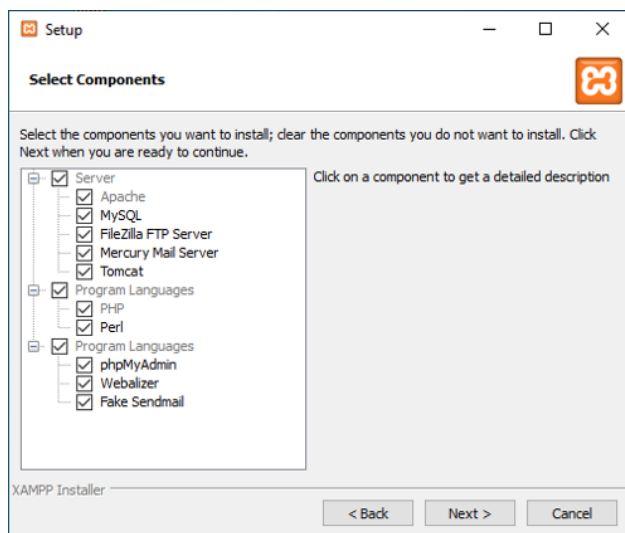
What is Xampp and why it is used?

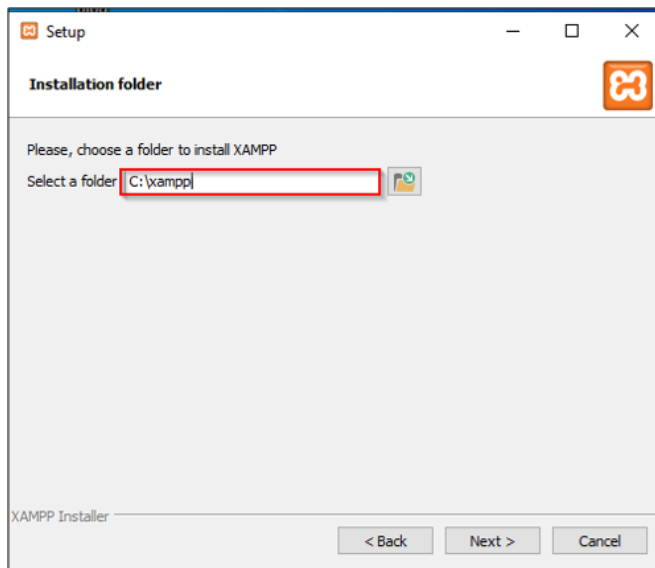Xampp is the most popular PHP development environment for Windows, OS X, and Linux platforms.

Xampp stands for **Cross platform(x), Apache(a), Maria db(m), PHP(p), Pearl(p)** which is a software distribution server which makes developer's work eaiser for testing and deploying by creating a local web server.

How to install Xampp?

It is completely free and easy to install Apache distribution containing MySQL, PHP, and Perl. First, download XAMP from https://www.apachefriends.org/download.html. In the first page, select the components you want to install.

Select the installation directory so that all the components that you choose will be installed in this directory.

XAMP also allows you to easily [install PHP]() based applications. Bitnami module provides the easiest way to install WordPress, Drupal or Joomla among others on top of your XAMP after the installation you will see the control panel.

Once you are done with Xampp installation, let's move ahead and see how to run a PHP file in xampp server.
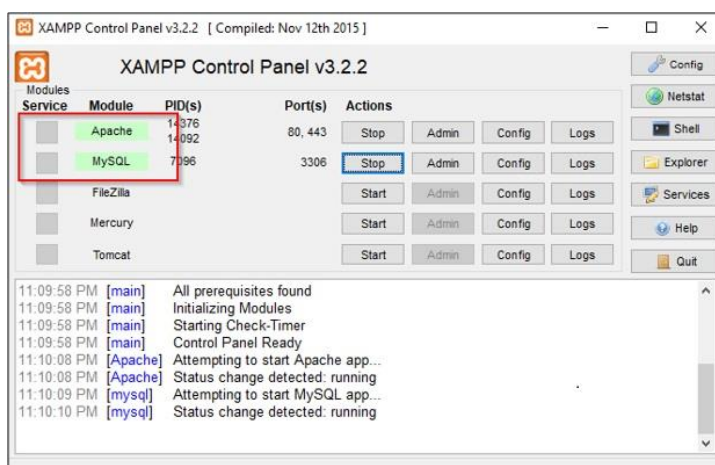
How to run PHP program in Xampp step-by-step?
- Write this program in a notepad and save it as file.php or any other name.

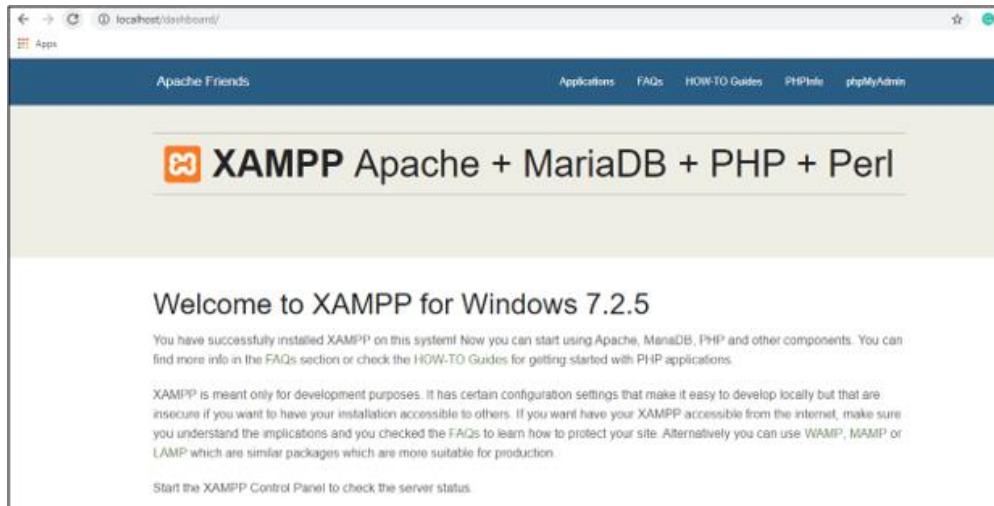| 1	<?php echo " hello student" ?>

- After completion of the installation, you can use the XAMPP Control Panel to start/ stop all servers.
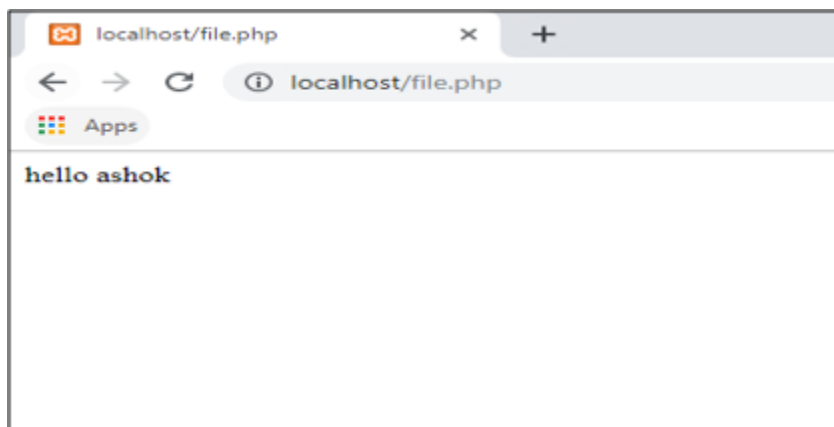- Start Mysql and Apache servers.

- Copy file.php to htdocs (C:/Program Files/XAMPP/htdocs)

- You can also create any folders inside htdocs folder and save our codes over there.

In order to get the dashboard for localhost: search http://localhost in any browser.

- Now to run your code, open localhost/file.php then it gets executed.

With this we come to an end of this article. I hope you have learned about XAMP, the installation of XAMP and how to run a PHP program in Xampp.

Introduction to PHP

PHP is a server scripting language, and a powerful tool for making dynamic and interactive Web pages. PHP is a widely-used, free, and efficient alternative to competitors such as Microsoft's ASP.

The **PHP Hypertext Preprocessor (PHP)** is a programming language that allows web developers to create dynamic content that interacts with databases. PHP is basically used for developing web based software applications.

Characteristics of PHP

Five important characteristics make PHP's practical nature possible −

- Simplicity
- Efficiency
- Security
- Flexibility
- Familiarity

What is PHP?

- PHP is an acronym for "PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor"
- PHP is a widely-used, open source scripting language
- PHP scripts are executed on the server
- PHP is free to download and use

What is a PHP File?

- PHP files can contain text, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and PHP code
- PHP code is executed on the server, and the result is returned to the browser as plain HTML
- PHP files have extension ".php"

What Can PHP Do?

- PHP can generate dynamic page content
- PHP can create, open, read, write, delete, and close files on the server
- PHP can collect form data
- PHP can send and receive cookies
- PHP can add, delete, modify data in your database
- PHP can be used to control user-access
- PHP can encrypt data

With PHP you are not limited to output HTML. You can output images, PDF files, and even Flash movies. You can also output any text, such as XHTML and XML.

Why PHP?

- PHP runs on various platforms (Windows, Linux, Unix, Mac OS X, etc.)
- PHP is compatible with almost all servers used today (Apache, IIS, etc.)
- PHP supports a wide range of databases
- PHP is free. Download it from the official PHP resource: www.php.net
- PHP is easy to learn and runs efficiently on the server side