



How to Build, Run, and Test the Attendance System

This guide explains what to do **after you download the project** or already have it in a folder on your computer.

Follow each step in order, and you'll have the system running in a few minutes.

1. Install the Required Software

Make sure these tools are installed on your computer:

- **PHP 8.2 or newer**
- **Composer** (manages PHP packages)
- **Node.js 18+** and **npm**
- **MySQL** (the project uses a SQL database)

2. Open the Project Folder

After downloading or unzipping the project:

1. Right-click inside the folder
2. Choose **Open Terminal / Command Prompt / PowerShell**
3. You should now be in the same folder where you see:
 - **artisan**
 - **composer.json**
 - **/app**
 - **/resources, etc.**

3. Create a MySQL Database

The system needs its own database.

You can create one using **phpMyAdmin** or the **MySQL command line**.

Create a database named:

attendance_db

(You can use any name, just remember to put the same name in .env.)

Recommended settings:

utf8mb4_unicode_ci

4. Set Up the .env File

Inside the project folder:

If .env does not exist, create it by copying the example:

Run => cp .env.example .env

Now open .env in any text editor and update these lines:

APP_NAME="Attendance System"

APP_ENV=local

APP_URL=http://127.0.0.1:8000

APP_DEBUG=true

Set your MySQL details:

DB_CONNECTION=mysql

DB_HOST=127.0.0.1

DB_PORT=3306

DB_DATABASE=attendance_db # database name you created

DB_USERNAME=root # your MySQL username

DB_PASSWORD= # your MySQL password (if you have one)

Most XAMPP users have:

- Username: **root**
- Password: **(empty)**

5. Install Backend & Frontend Dependencies

Run these commands inside the project folder:

Run => composer install

Run => npm install

These will download all the libraries the project needs.

6. Generate the App Key

Run => `php artisan key:generate`

7. Create the Tables

This will build all required tables in your MySQL database:

Run => `php artisan migrate`

8. Fill the Database with Demo Data

This creates example records and the default admin account.

Run => `php artisan db:seed`

Then run

Run => `php artisan db:seed --class=AuthUserSeeder`

You will get

✓ Admin Login (default)

Email: `Drtongsreng@gmail.com`

Password: `Admin@1234`

9. Build the Frontend Assets

Run => `npm run build`

(Or `npm run dev` if you're developing and want hot-reload.)

10. Run the Application

Start the Laravel development server:

Run => `php artisan serve`

You'll see something like:

`http://127.0.0.1:8000`

Open that link in your browser and log in using the admin account.