

LAB 1.1 Install XAMPP on MS Windows (or MAMP on MacOS)

Objective:

- Understand the purpose of XAMPP as a local web server solution.
- Successfully install and configure XAMPP on a Windows PC.
- Verify installation by running Apache and MySQL services.

1. Introduction

XAMPP is a free and open-source cross-platform web server package that includes Apache, MariaDB (MySQL), PHP, and Perl. It allows developers to create a local web server environment for testing and development. In this lab, students will install XAMPP and verify its proper configuration.

2. Prerequisites

- A PC running Windows 10 or later.
- Administrator access to install software.
- Minimum 2GB RAM and 500MB of free disk space.
- An active internet connection to download XAMPP.

3. Steps to Install XAMPP

Step 1: Download XAMPP

1. Open a web browser and navigate to the official XAMPP website:
<https://www.apachefriends.org/download.html>
2. Download the latest XAMPP version for Windows.

Step 2: Run the Installer

1. Locate the downloaded xampp-windows-x64-VERSION.exe file in the Downloads folder.
2. Right-click the installer file and select **Run as administrator**.
3. Click **Yes** if prompted by the User Account Control (UAC).

Step 3: Installation Setup

1. Click **Next** on the welcome screen.
2. Select components to install (default selection includes Apache, MySQL, PHP, and phpMyAdmin).
3. Choose the installation folder (default: C:\xampp).
4. Click **Next** and then **Install** to begin installation.
5. Wait for the installation to complete, then click **Finish**.

Step 4: Start XAMPP Control Panel

1. Open **XAMPP Control Panel** from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.
2. Click the **Start** buttons next to Apache and MySQL.
3. Ensure both services have **green status indicators** (indicating they are running).

Step 5: Verify Installation

1. Open a web browser and enter:
<http://localhost/>

2. You should see the XAMPP welcome page.
3. To check MySQL, click **phpMyAdmin** in the XAMPP Control Panel or visit:
<http://localhost/phpmyadmin/>