

Web Development Guide

Information Systems

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Web Development Guide

Getting Started

In order to get started with your web development, you will need some basic software. In this guide we will download and install an easy to use software package called XAMPP in order to simplify the process of running the Apache webserver and MySQL database. We will then download Aptana, an open source Web IDE that comes with code assist/code completion abilities. It will prove invaluable when developing your own web based information systems. Finally we will run through some basic examples of web pages and code. The appendix will contain more advanced and complex samples and ideas.

For this tutorial we are assuming you are running Windows 7 and have not installed any of this software previously. You are encouraged to follow along with the screenshots to limit errors.

Step 1: XAMPP Download and Installation

Navigate to <http://sourceforge.net/projects/xampp/> to pick up the latest copy of the XAMPP software installer. Save the installer to your desktop. When the download is complete, run the installer.

Leave all the defaults as they are, except for the following:

- **Uncheck the box to learn more about BitNami**
- **Uncheck the box to Start Control Panel Now**

Follow along with the screenshots to avoid confusion.

Firefox XAMPP | Free Development software do... sourceforge.net/projects/xampp/ SOURCE CENTERS Smarter Commerce Go Parallel HTML5 Windows 8 Smarter IT Newsletters Enterprise / Development / Database Engines/Servers / XAMPP Share sf Twitter Google+ LinkedIn

XAMPP

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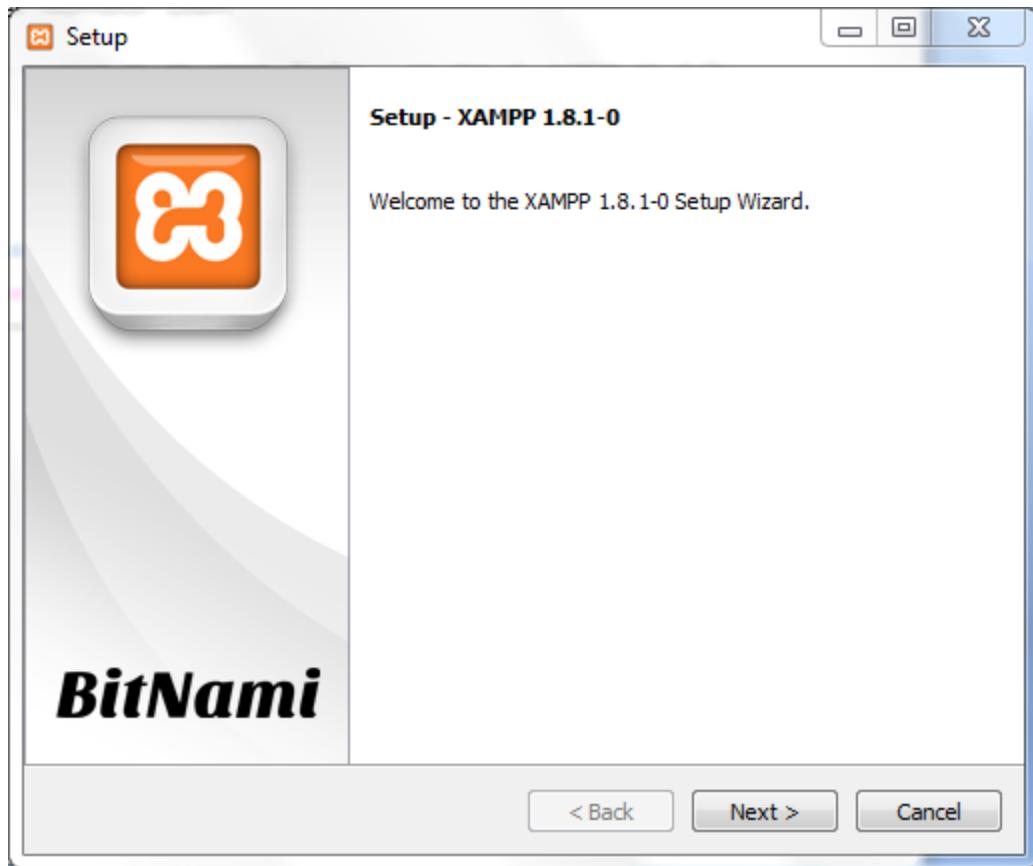
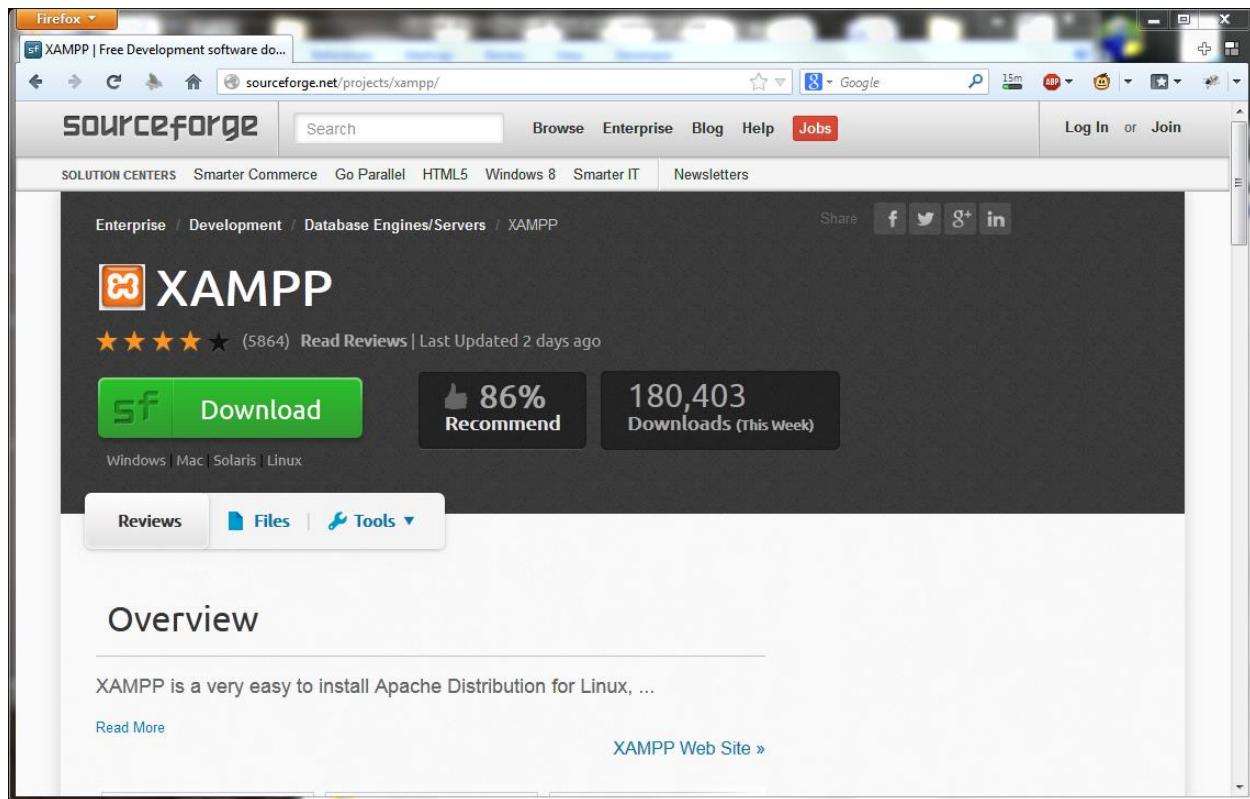
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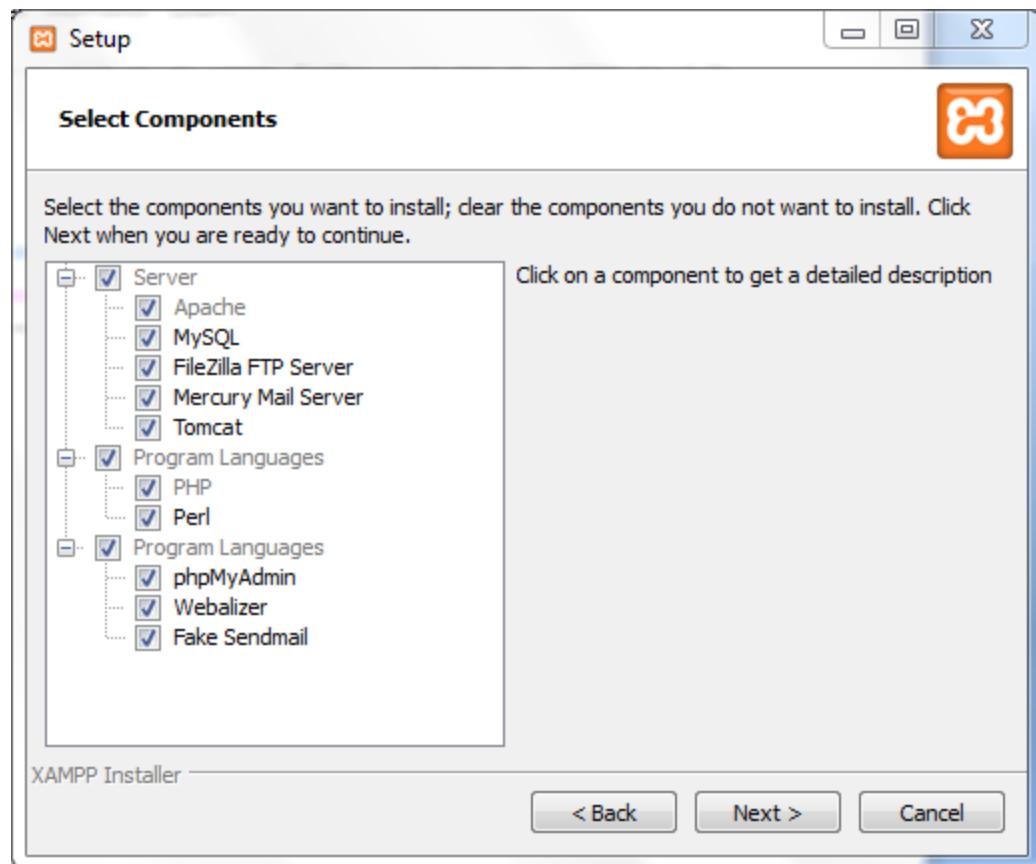
Reviews Files Tools ▾

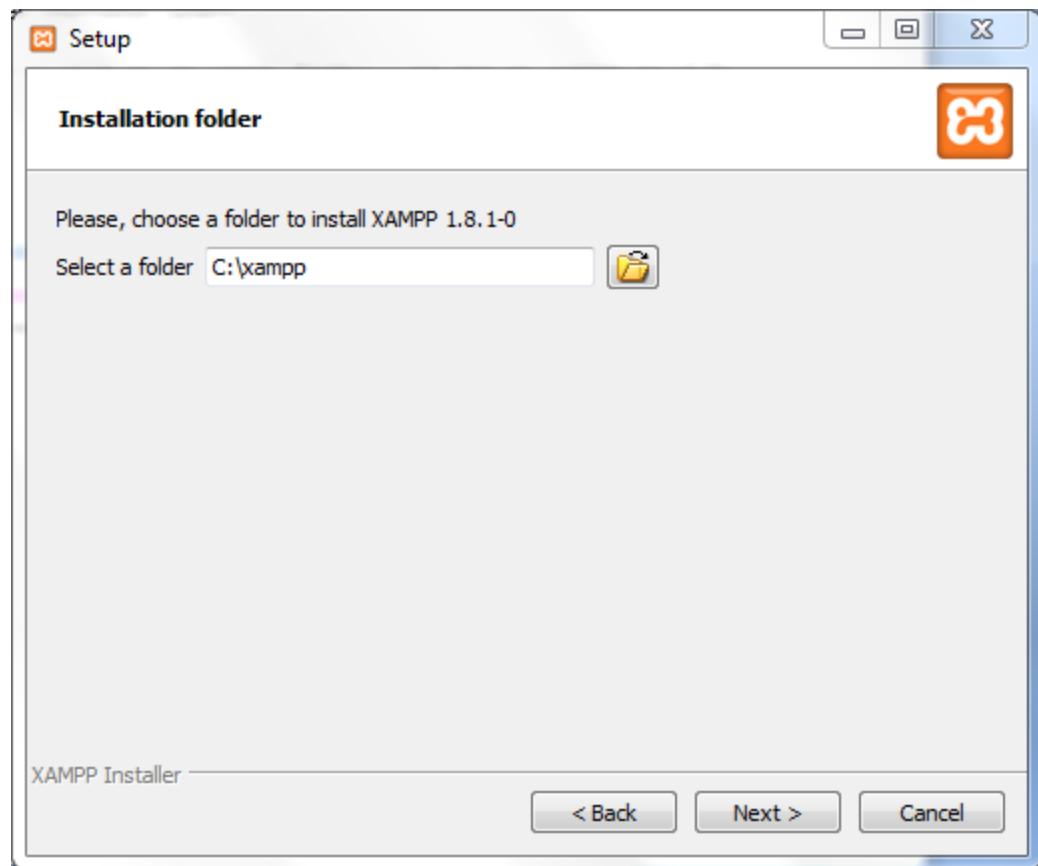
Overview

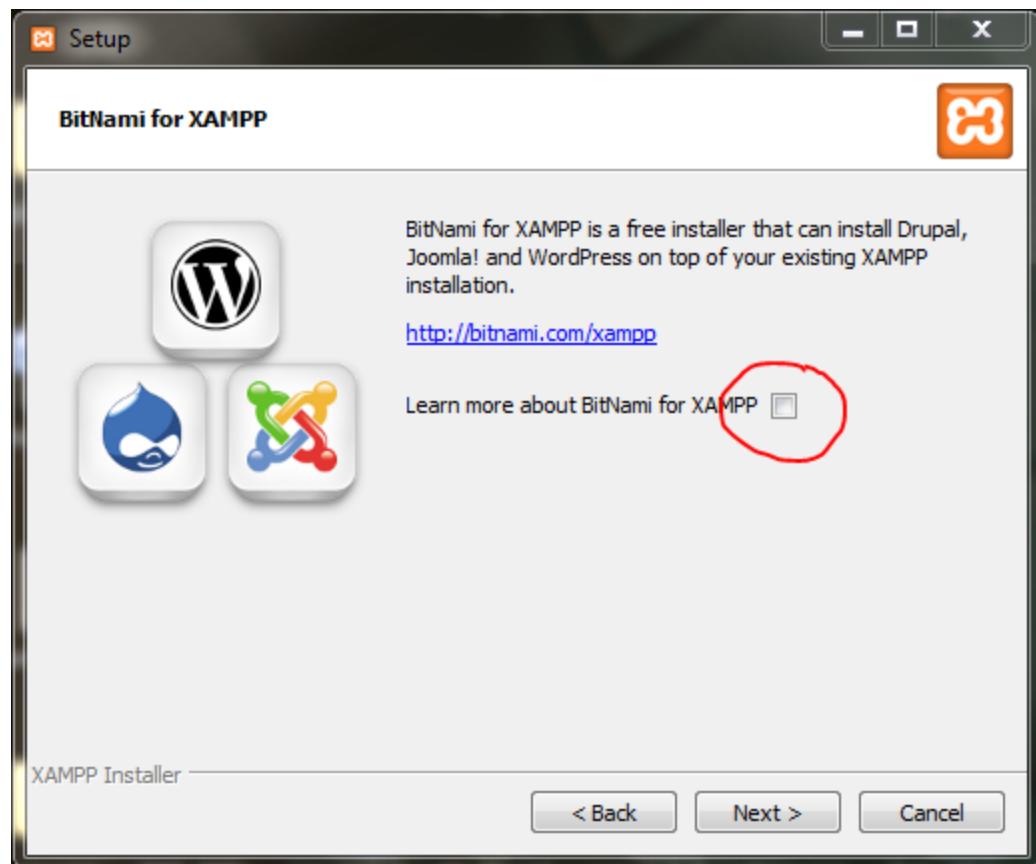
XAMPP is a very easy to install Apache Distribution for Linux, ...

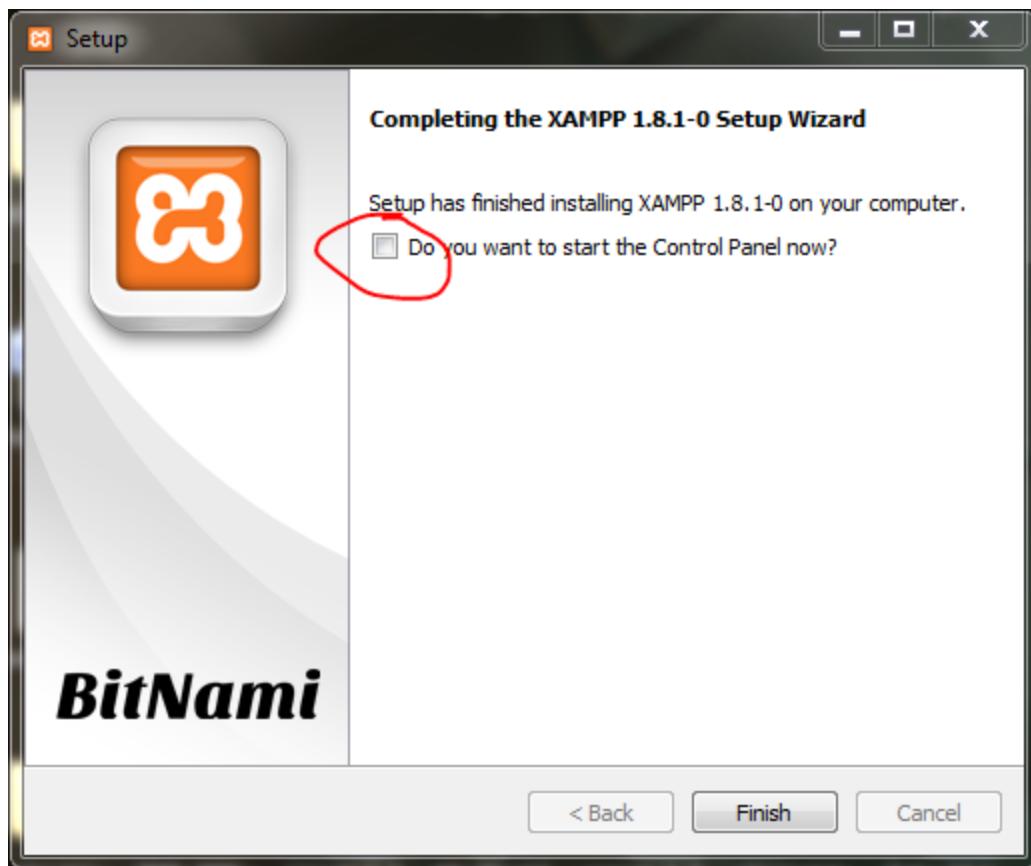
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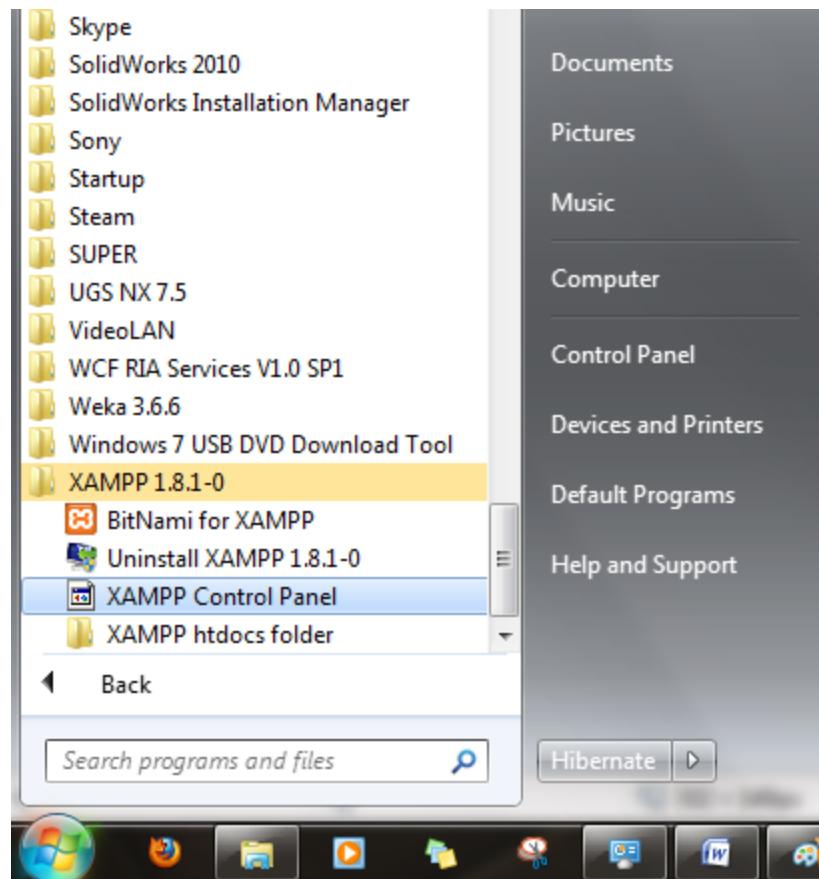


Step 2: Running XAMPP, Starting Apache and MySQL, First Run Configuration, Shutdown Procedure

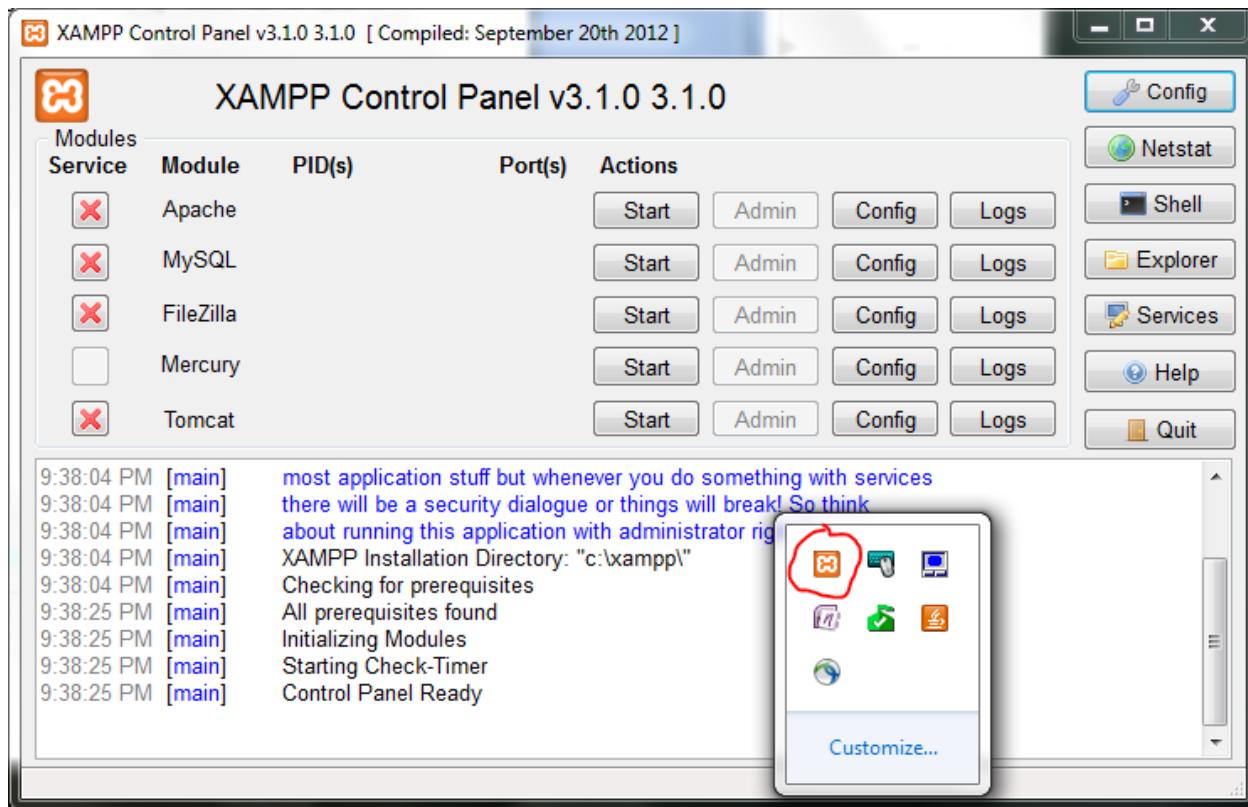
At this point you should have XAMPP installed. We will now show how to start the XAMPP Control Panel, start the Apache webserver, start the MySQL database, and run through first run configuration. We will then go through how to shutdown Apache and MySQL and close XAMPP.

Opening XAMPP Control Panel and Starting Apache/MySQL

Open the XAMPP Control Panel by opening the Windows Start Menu and finding XAMPP Control Panel in the All Programs List. The Control Panel can take a few moments to initiate.

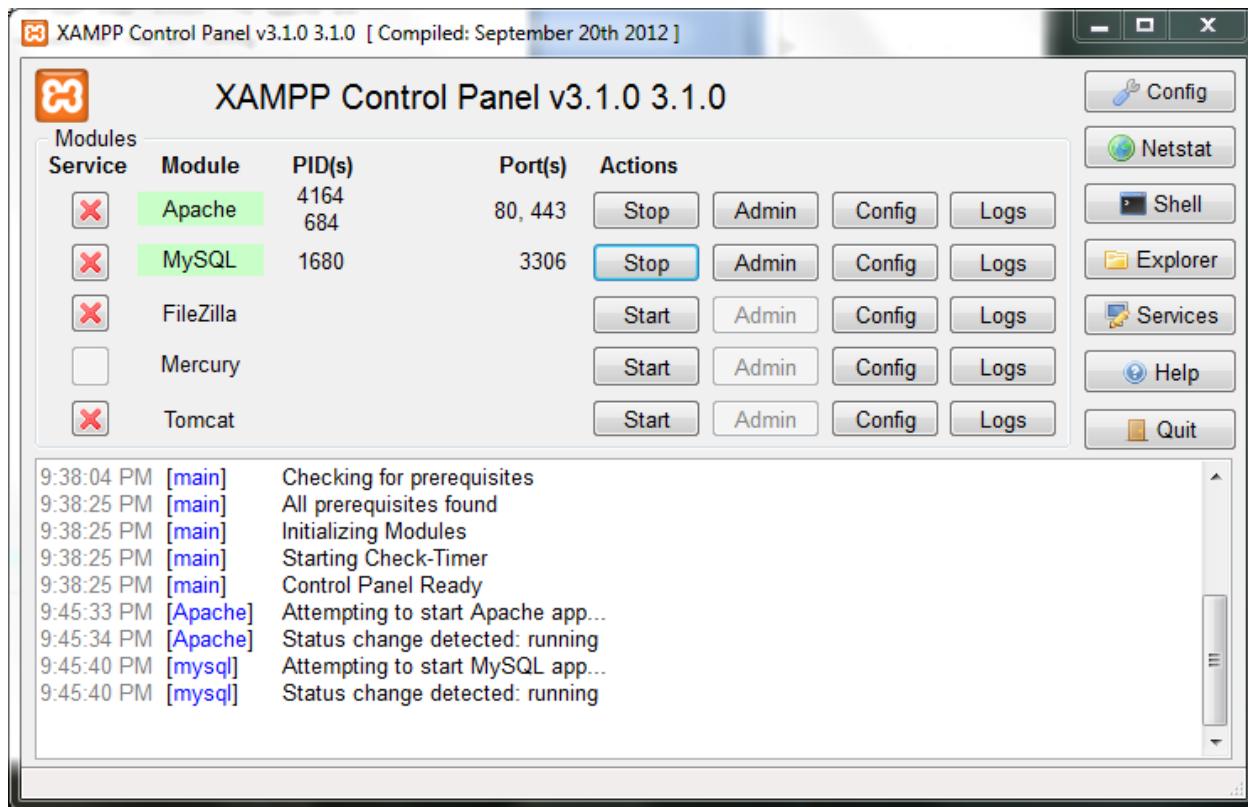


After you have opened the XAMPP Control Panel, you should see the following. Notice that the panel is also available from the system tray.



Start the Apache web server and MySQL database by clicking on Start under Actions. The Apache and MySQL modules should turn green in the Control Panel and indicate that they are running.

(*NOTE: If you use Skype, it is common for MySQL to start but not Apache. The reason is that Skype will occasionally use the same ports as Apache. To fix this, close Skype completely and try to run Apache again.*)



First Run Configuration

You will need to make the following configuration changes only the first time you run Apache and MySQL.

In the XAMPP Control Panel, once the Apache Server and MySQL Database have been started, click on the Admin button under Actions for Apache. Your web browser should open to a XAMPP splash page.

XAMPP Control Panel v3.1.0 3.1.0 [Compiled: September 20th 2012]

XAMPP Control Panel v3.1.0 3.1.0

Service	Module	PID(s)	Port(s)	Actions
	Apache	4164 684	80, 443	Stop Admin Config Logs
	MySQL	1680	3306	Stop Admin Config Logs
	FileZilla			Start Admin Config Logs
	Mercury			Start Admin Config Logs
	Tomcat			Start Admin Config Logs

Config Netstat Shell Explorer Services Help Quit

```
9:38:04 PM [main] Checking for prerequisites
9:38:25 PM [main] All prerequisites found
9:38:25 PM [main] Initializing Modules
9:38:25 PM [main] Starting Check-Timer
9:38:25 PM [main] Control Panel Ready
9:45:33 PM [Apache] Attempting to start Apache app...
9:45:34 PM [Apache] Status change detected: running
9:45:40 PM [mysql] Attempting to start MySQL app...
9:45:40 PM [mysql] Status change detected: running
```

Firefox XAMPP

localhost/xampp/splash.php



XAMPP

[English](#) / [Deutsch](#) / [Francais](#) / [Nederlands](#) / [Polski](#) / [Italiano](#) / [Norwegian](#) / [Español](#) / [中文](#) / [Português \(Brasil\)](#) / [日本語](#)

Click on English to continue. Next click on STATUS, in the left side navigation area. Confirm that at least MySQL Database and PHP are Activated.

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window displaying the XAMPP for Windows status page. The URL in the address bar is `localhost/xampp/index.php`. The page title is "XAMPP for Windows". On the left, there is a navigation menu with sections for XAMPP 1.8.1, Welcome, Status (which is circled in red), Security, Documentation, Components, PHP, Perl, and J2ee. The main content area is titled "XAMPP Status" and contains a table showing the status of various server components. The table has columns for Component, Status, and Hint. The components listed are MySQL database, PHP, HTTPS (SSL), Common Gateway Interface (CGI), Server Side Includes (SSI), SMTP Service, FTP Service, and Tomcat Service. All components except SMTP, FTP, and Tomcat are marked as "ACTIVATED" in green. Below the table, a note states: "Some changes to the configuration may sometimes cause false negatives. All reports viewed with SSL (<https://localhost>) do not function!"

Component	Status	Hint
MySQL database	ACTIVATED	
PHP	ACTIVATED	
HTTPS (SSL)	ACTIVATED	
Common Gateway Interface (CGI)	ACTIVATED	
Server Side Includes (SSI)	ACTIVATED	
SMTP Service	DEACTIVATED	
FTP Service	DEACTIVATED	
Tomcat Service	DEACTIVATED	

Next click on the SECURITY link under STATUS in the left side navigation area. It will take you to a security page. Near the bottom there is a link that will fix security issues. Click on the link to continue.

Firefox XAMPP 1.8.1 XAMPP for Windows | Security Section localhost/security/index.php Google ABP

XAMPP for Windows

XAMPP SECURITY

(Requests allowed from localhost only)

This page gives you a quick overview about the security status of your XAMPP installation. (Please continue reading after the table.)

Subject	Status
These XAMPP pages are accessible by network for everyone Every XAMPP demo page you are right now looking at is accessible for everyone over network. Everyone who knows your IP address can see these pages.	UNSECURE
The MySQL admin user root has NO password Every local user on Windows box can access your MySQL database with administrator rights. You should set a password.	UNSECURE
PhpMyAdmin is free accessible by network PhpMyAdmin is accessible by network without password. The configuration 'httpd' or 'cookie' in the "config.inc.php" can help.	UNSECURE
A FTP server is not running or is blocked by a firewall! A FTP server is not running or is blocked by a firewall!	UNKNOWN

The green marked points are secure; the red marked points are definitely unsecure and the yellow marked points couldn't be checked (for example because the software to check isn't running).

To fix the problems for mysql, phpmyadmin and thexampp directory simply use
=> <http://localhost/security/xamppsecurity.php> <= [allowed only for localhost]

On the next page, you have the option of setting a password for the MySQL root user, as well as setting directory protection for the XAMPP folder. You should do so now for the MySQL root user. (For example, give root the password infosys2013). Hit Password Changing, to change the password.

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window with the title bar "Firefox" and two tabs: "XAMPP 1.8.1" and "XAMPP for Windows | Security Section". The URL bar shows "localhost/security/index.php". The main content area displays the "XAMPP for Windows" logo and the heading "Security console MySQL & XAMPP directory protection". A sidebar on the left lists "Languages" in various European and Asian languages, and a footer section for "APACHE FRIENDS". The central part of the page is titled "MYSQL SECTION: \"ROOT\" PASSWORD" and contains a message: "The root password was successfully changed. Please restart MYSQL for loading these changes!". It shows the current MySQL SuperUser as "root" and provides fields for entering a new password ("New password" and "Repeat the new password", both containing five dots). Below this, it shows "PhpMyAdmin authentification:" with radio buttons for "http" (selected) and "cookie". There is also a note about a security risk regarding plain text files and a "Password changing" button.

Restart the MySQL Server by going back to the XAMPP Control Panel and hitting stop, waiting for it to stop and then hitting start to start it up again. Click on SECURITY in the left side navigation to confirm that the MySQL root user has a password (SECURE) and that PhpMyAdmin password login is enabled (SECURE).

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window with the title bar "Firefox" and the address bar "localhost/security/index.php". The main content area displays the "XAMPP for Windows" security status page. On the left, there's a sidebar with "XAMPP [PHP: 5.4.7]" and a "Security" link, followed by language links for Deutsch, English, Español, Français, Italiano, Nederlands, Norsk, Polski, Português, Slovenian, and 中文. Below these is a copyright notice for "©2002-2013 ...APACHE FRIENDS...". The main content is titled "XAMPP SECURITY" and includes a note "(Requests allowed from localhost only)". It provides a quick overview of the security status of the XAMPP installation. A table lists security findings:

Subject	Status
These XAMPP pages are accessible by network for everyone Every XAMPP demo page you are right now looking at is accessible for everyone over network. Everyone who knows your IP address can see these pages.	UNSECURE
The MySQL admin user root has no longer no password PhpMyAdmin password login is enabled.	SECURE
A FTP server is not running or is blocked by a firewall! A FTP server is not running or is blocked by a firewall!	UNKNOWN

Below the table, it says "The green marked points are secure; the red marked points are definitely unsecure and the yellow marked points couldn't be checked (for example because the software to check isn't running)." It also provides instructions to fix problems and a note about the test scope.

Next, navigate to <http://localhost/phpmyadmin>

For the login, enter the user as **root** and the password as **infosys2013** (or whatever you set it to be).

You should be taken to the following screen after you log in. You will be using PhpMyAdmin often, so it is recommended you bookmark this page now.

The screenshot shows the phpMyAdmin 3.5.2.2 configuration interface in a Firefox browser. The left sidebar lists databases: cdcoll, information_schema, mysql, performance_schema, phpmyadmin, test, and webauth. The main area has two tabs: 'General Settings' and 'Appearance Settings'. Under 'General Settings', there is a 'Change password' link and a dropdown for 'Server connection collation' set to 'utf8_general_ci'. Under 'Appearance Settings', there are dropdowns for 'Language' (English), 'Theme' (pmahomme), and 'Font size' (82%), along with a 'More settings' link. To the right, there are four panels: 'Database server' (Server: 127.0.0.1 via TCP/IP, Software: MySQL, Version: 5.5.27 - MySQL Community Server (GPL), Protocol: 10, User: root@localhost, Charset: UTF-8 Unicode (utf8)), 'Web server' (Apache/2.4.3 (Win32), OpenSSL/1.0.1c PHP/5.4.7, Database client: libmysql - mysqld 5.0.10 - 20111026 - \$Id: b0b3b15c693b7f6aeab3aa66b646fee33 \$, PHP extension: mysql), and 'phpMyAdmin' (Version: 3.5.2.2, Documentation).

If you have gotten to this point, your Apache and MySQL installation is sound. If not, you should attempt to fix (or redo) your installation as you will most likely have trouble for the remainder of its use.

Shutting Down Apache, MySQL and XAMPP Control Panel

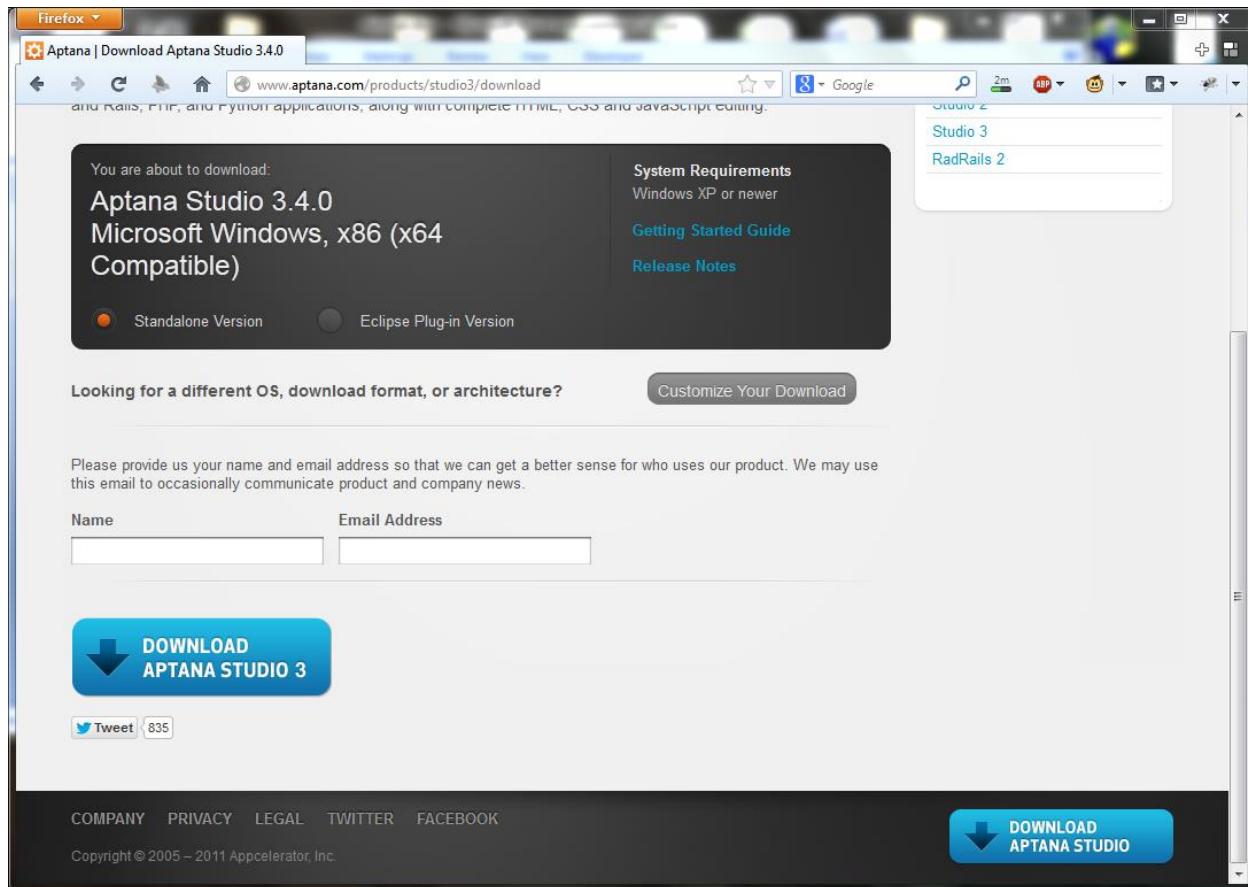
To shut down Apache and MySQL return to the XAMPP Control Panel and press the Stop button for each module respectively. When both modules have been stopped, you may Quit the XAMPP Control Panel.

Step 3: Download and Install Aptana, Basic PHP Example

In this next step we will download and install Aptana, an Open Source web IDE (integrated development environment). We will then run through a very basic example of creating a webpage with some PHP. More advanced examples are available in the Appendix of this guide.

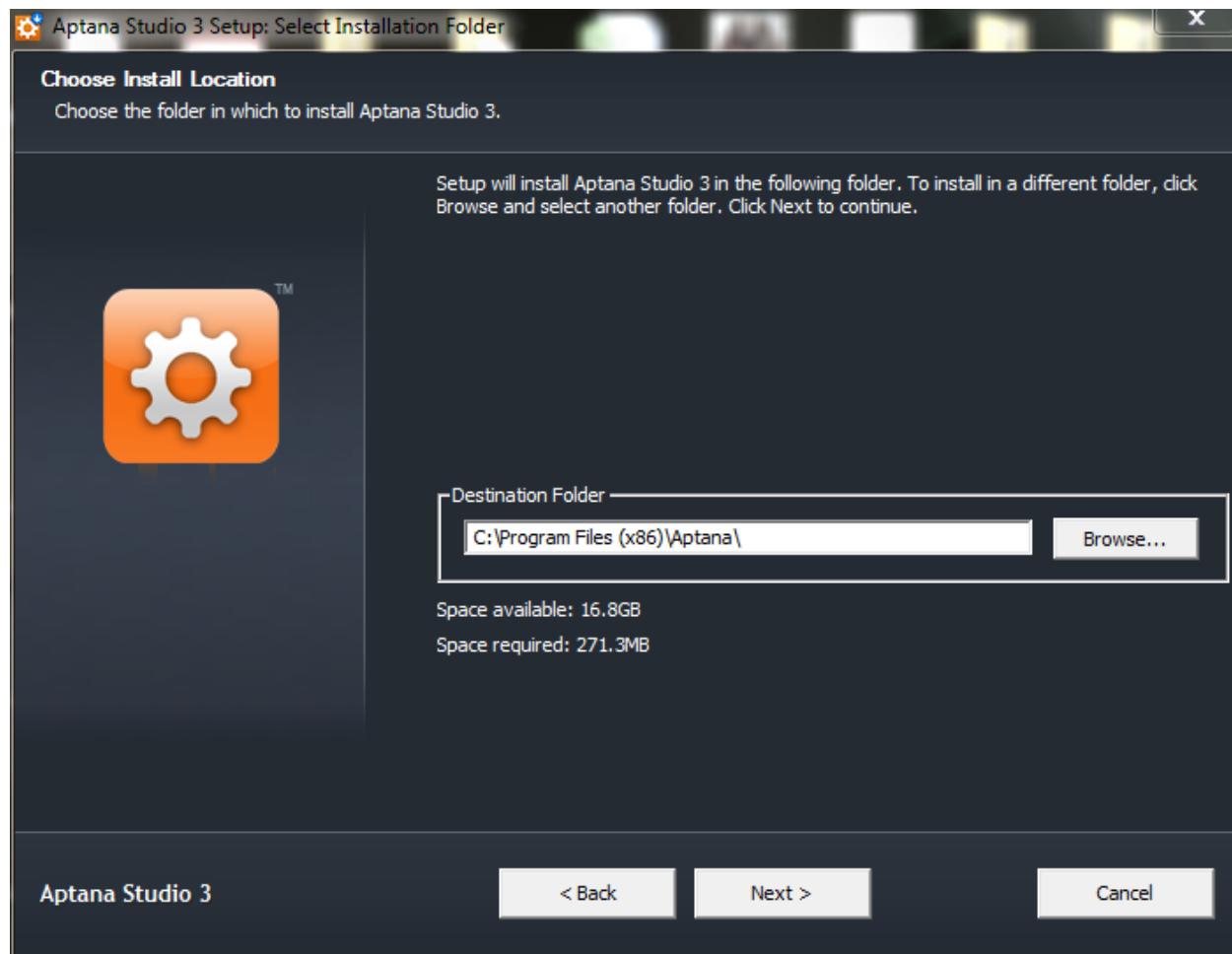
Downloading and Installing Aptana

Navigate to <http://www.aptana.com/products/studio3/download> and download the Stand-Alone version. You do not need to sign up to download the program. Save the installer to your desktop. When the download is complete, run the installer.

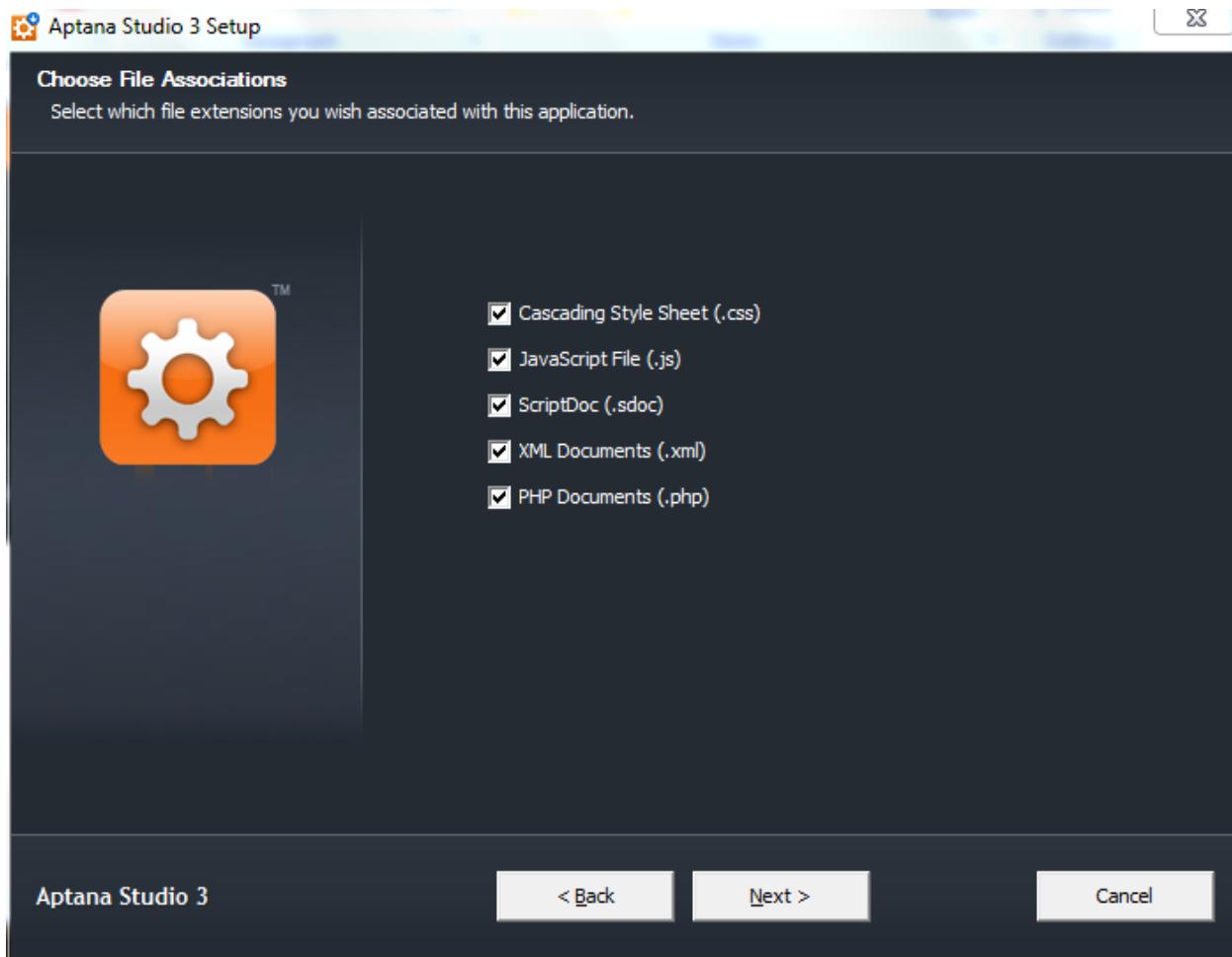


When the installer gets to the Install Location screen, do not install to the default directory. Instead, install to the following directory:

C:\Program Files (x86)\Aptana



When you must choose which File Associations to make, make sure all boxes are checked.



When the installer is finished, proceed to the next section.

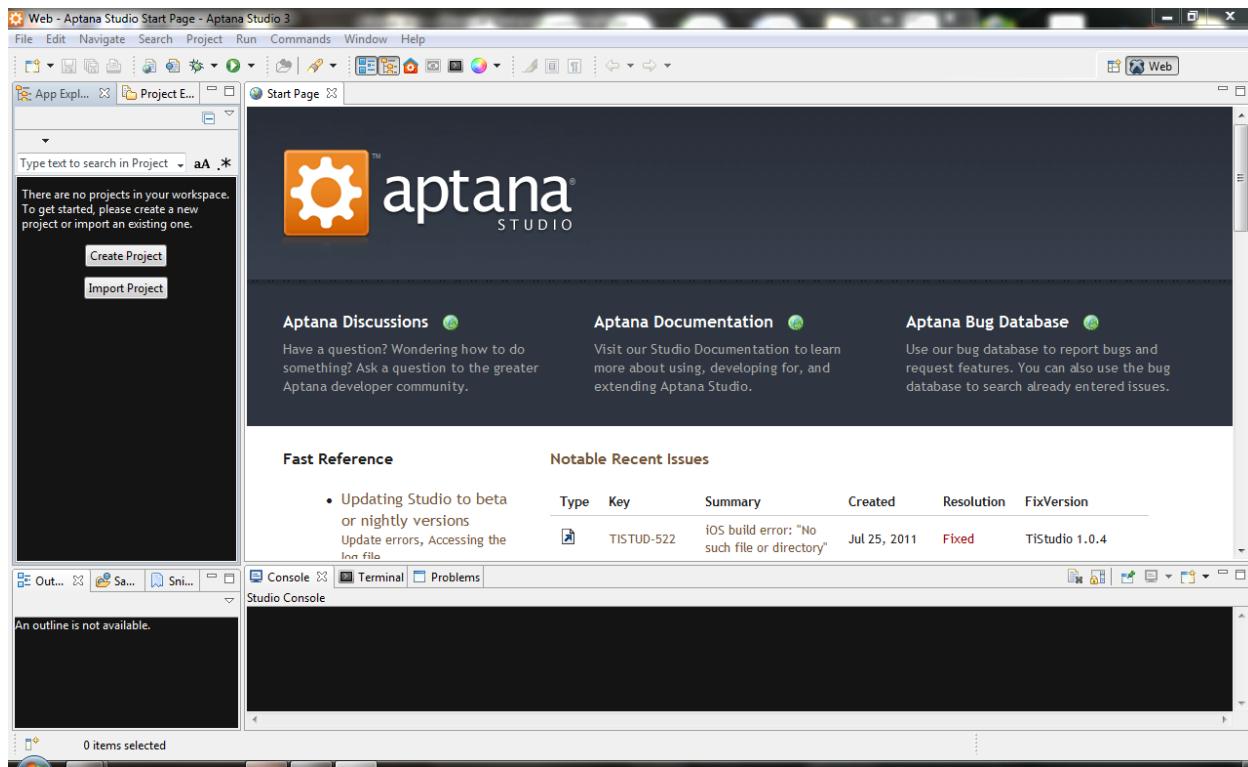
Running Aptana For The First Time

Go to the Windows Start Menu, find and run Aptana. It may ask you to Select a Workspace. If so, instead of the default workspace, use this directory instead:

`C:\xampp\htdocs`

Check the Use this as the default and do not ask again box and then click OK

You should be presented with the following interface.



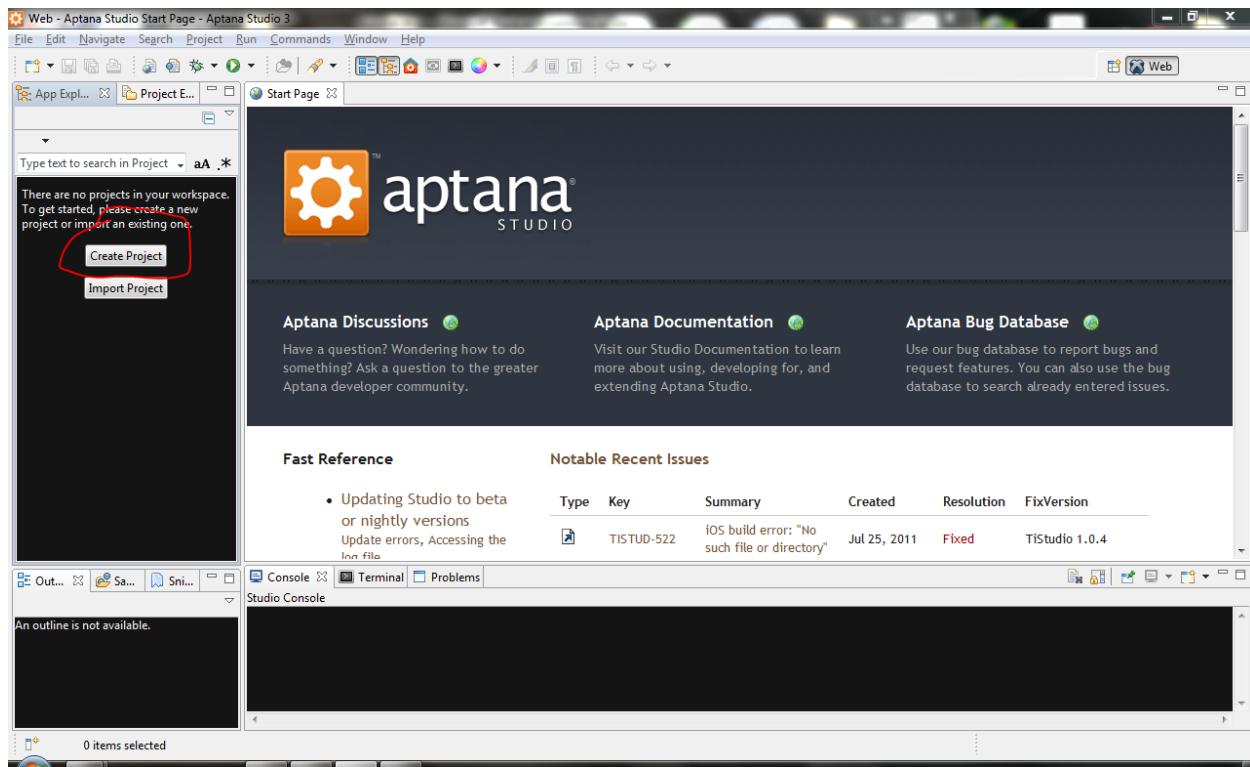
You are now ready to use Aptana to create a basic website.

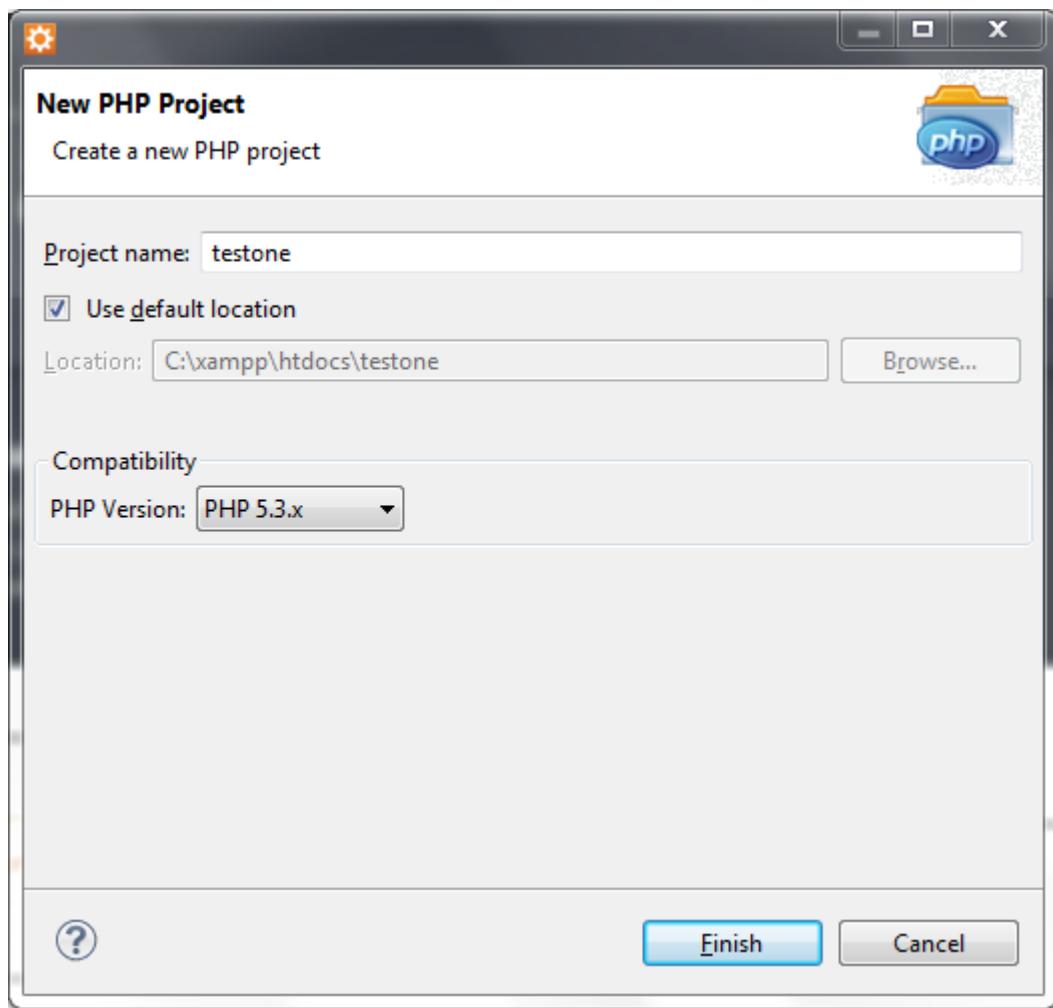
Using Aptana: A Basic Example

At this point you should have all the software necessary to create a basic website from scratch. We will now explore a basic example that will combine all the software we have acquired.

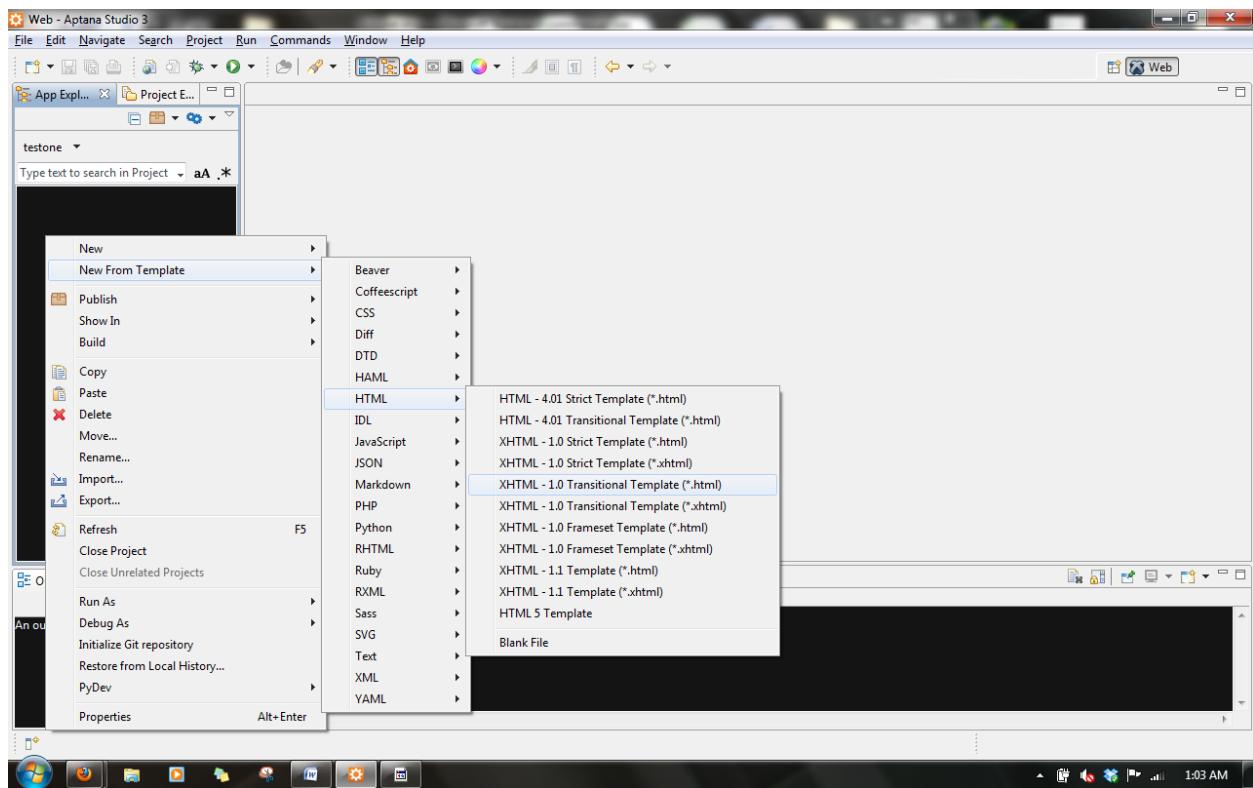
A Basic Webpage

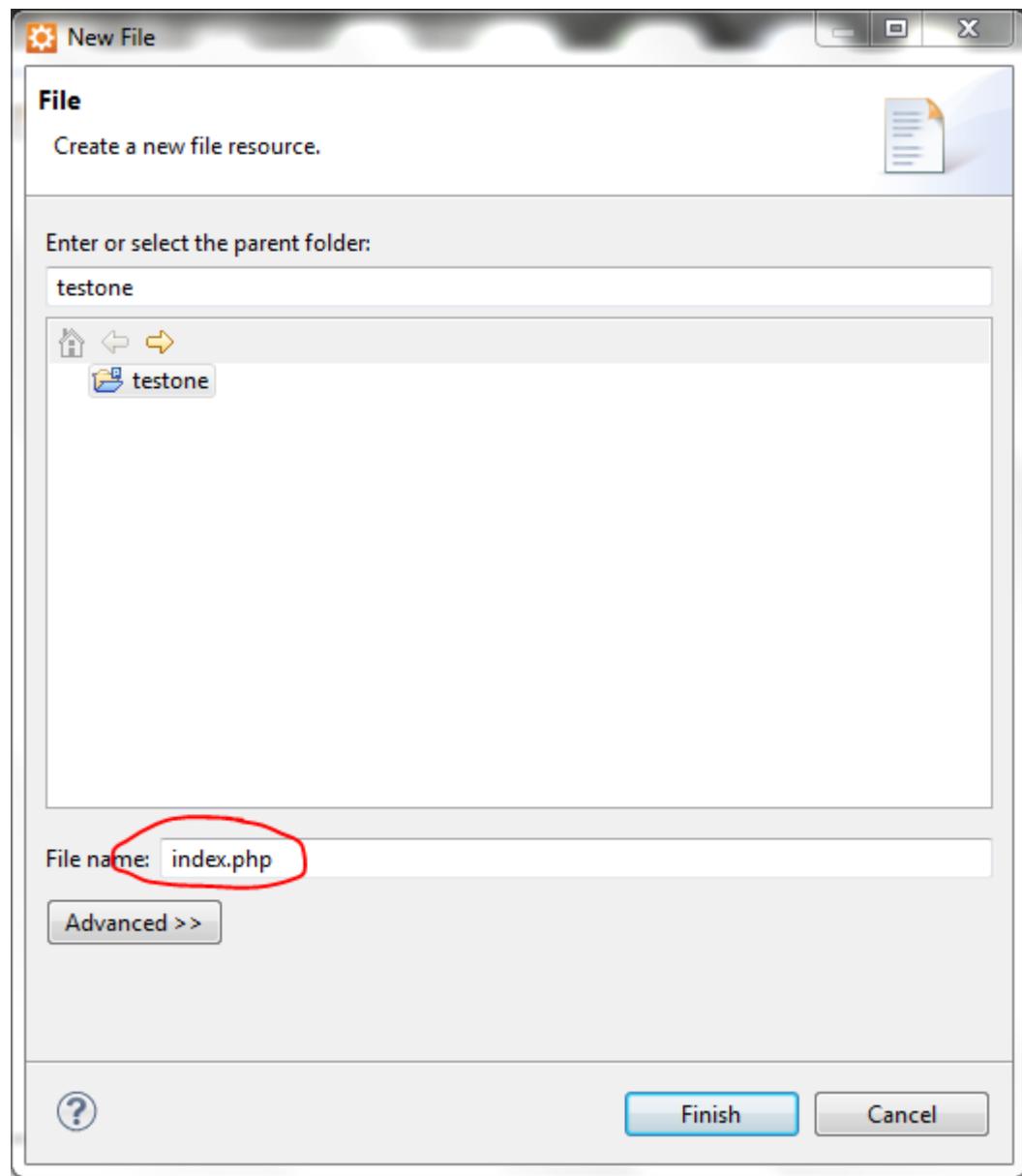
Open the XAMPP Control Panel and start Apache and MySQL. Open Aptana as well. Create a new project in Aptana by going to File > New > PHP Project. We will name the project **testone**. Make sure it is in the default location that we have set up (C:\xampp\htdocs). PHP Compatibility should be at least 5.3x.



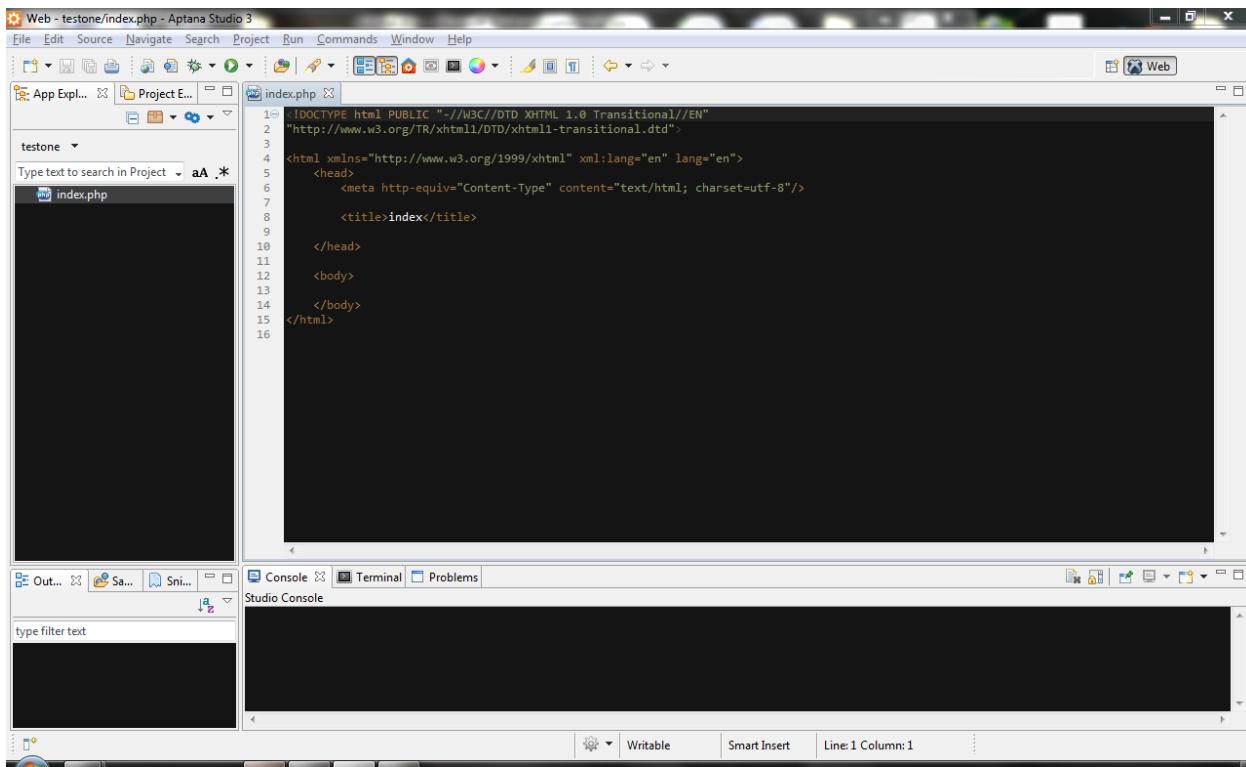


Next we will add an HTML file to the project. Right-Click in the testone project workspace in the App Explorer on the left side of the IDE window. Select New From Template > HTML > XHTML – Transitional (*.html). Name the file **index.php**





Your view should change to the following:



There are many resources available online on how to write HTML and PHP code. <http://w3schools.com> is a highly recommended resource on familiarizing yourself with the languages. Make your file look like the following, then save the file.

```

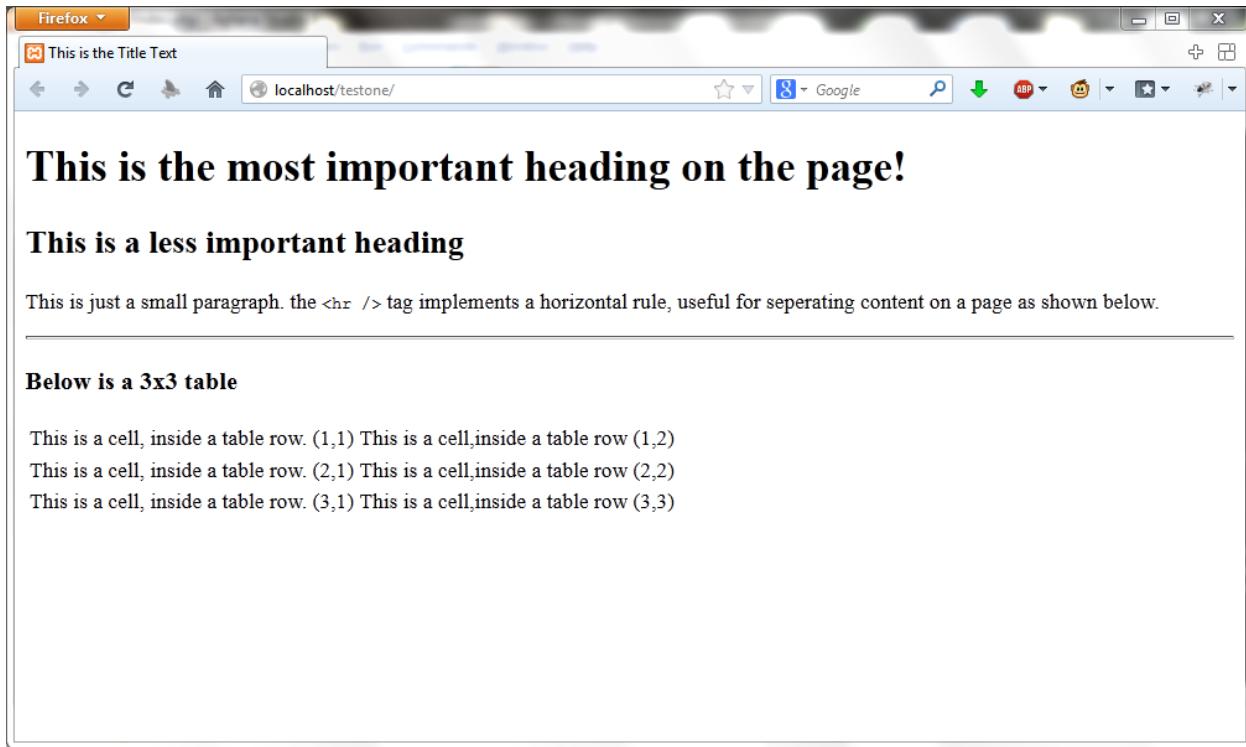
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en">
    <head>
        <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8"/>
        <title>This is the Title Text</title>
    </head>
    <body>
        <h1>This is the most important heading on the page!</h1>
        <h2>This is a less important heading</h2>
        <!-- This is an HTML Comment -->
        <p>This is just a small paragraph. the <code>&lt;hr /&gt;</code> tag implements a horizontal rule, useful for seperating content on a page as shown below.</p>
        <hr />
        <h3>Below is a 3x3 table</h3>
        <table>
            <tr><td>This is a cell, inside a table row. (1,1)</td><td>This is a cell,inside a table row (1,2)</td></tr>
            <tr><td>This is a cell, inside a table row. (2,1)</td><td>This is a cell,inside a table row (2,2)</td></tr>
            <tr><td>This is a cell, inside a table row. (3,1)</td><td>This is a cell,inside a table row (3,2)</td></tr>
        </table>
    </body>
</html>

```

You have created a webpage, now let's view it! Open up your browser and navigate to <http://localhost/testone>

If you have done everything correctly, your page should look like the following:



At this point we have successfully created a plain HTML page. This is a very basic example, but for the purposes of this guide it will be enough.

Lets Add PHP

For the next part, we will write some simple PHP code to improve our webpage.

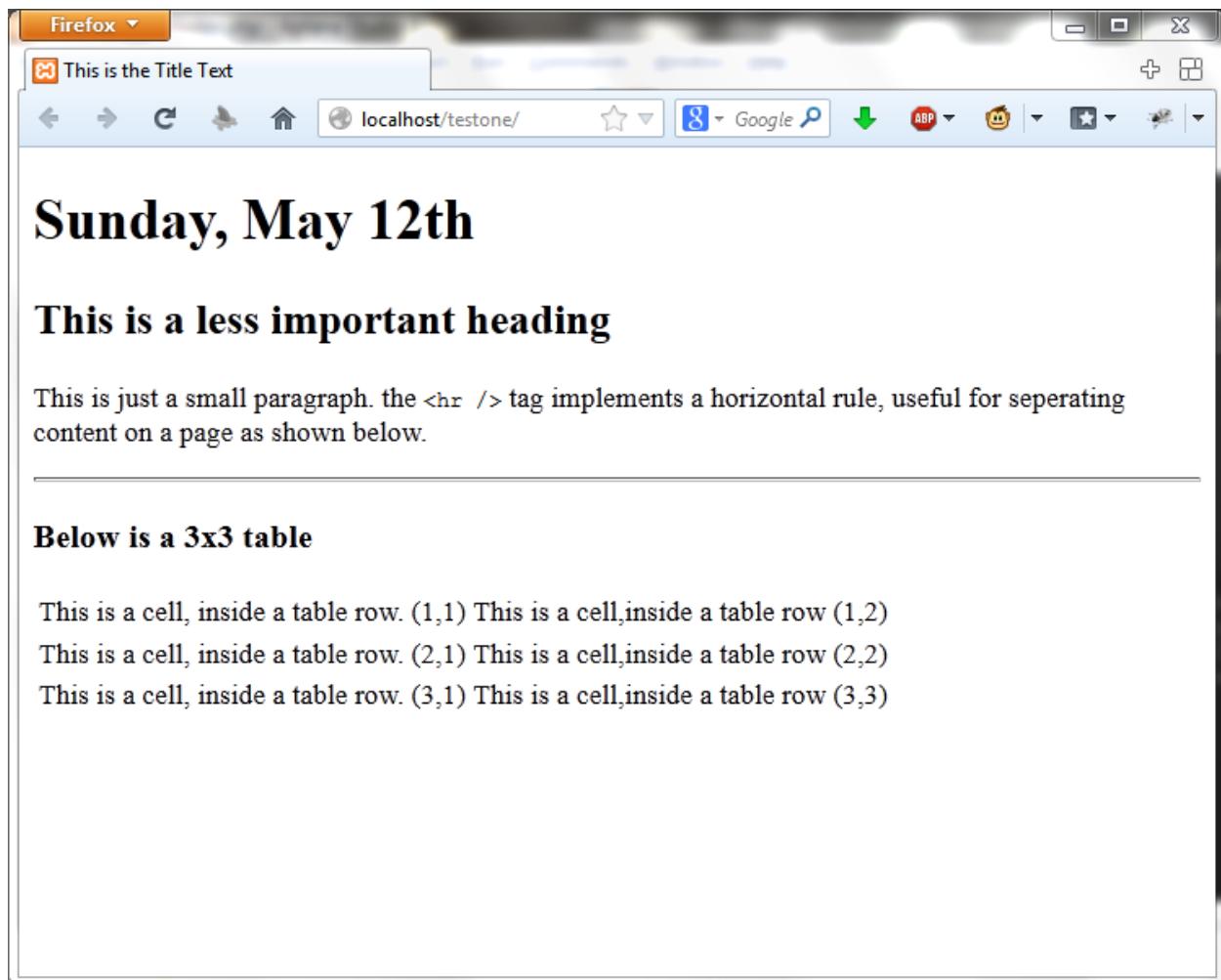
Let us replace the largest heading on the page with the current date. We will do so however, without knowing anything about PHP. The PHP Manual will prove to be very useful when searching for answers to questions such as these. A quick search for "php date" returns the following page: <http://php.net/manual/en/function.date.php>

From the manual we can see that the date() function is just what we need. We will now replace the <h1></h1> tag with the following code:

```
<?php  
    $current_date = date('l, F js');  
    echo '<h1>'.$current_date.'</h1>';  
?>
```

```
6      <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1">
7
8      <title>This is the Title Text</title>
9
10     </head>
11
12     <body>
13         <?php
14
15         /*
16          * This is a PHP Comment
17          *
18          * The little snippet below finds the current date, formats it
19          * and then writes an HTML heading with the date inside it.
20          *
21          * It is an example of php functions, comments, and variables
22          */
23
24         $current_date = date('l, F jS');
25         echo '<h1>'.$current_date.'</h1>';
26     ?>
27
28         <h2>This is a less important heading</h2>
29
30         <!-- This is an HTML Comment -->
```

You should get the following result:



This example shows us how to use PHP functions and variables, as well as how to output HTML. Next we will integrate MySQL into our example.

Adding a Database to the Mix

In this part of our example, we will go through the basics of how to create databases and tables in MySQL, create HTML forms, submit form data to the database, and then display it on a page. This will be a basic walkthrough – for more advanced material please see the appendix.

Let us recount where we left off in the previous section. We have an HTML page and some PHP code that prints out the current date for us. We will use this page to show the data that our database contains (we have yet to create it). We will also need to create a form to add data to the database. First however, let us create the database!

Navigate to <http://localhost/phpmyadmin>

After logging into PhpMyAdmin, click on the Databases tab at the top of the page. In the create database form type in testone and press create.

The screenshot shows the phpMyAdmin interface in a Firefox browser. The title bar says "localhost / 127.0.0.1 | phpMyAdmin 3...". The main menu has tabs: Databases (which is highlighted with a red underline), SQL, Status, Users, Export, and Import. On the left, there's a sidebar with icons and a dropdown for "Recent tables". Below that is a list of existing databases: cdcol, information_schema, mysql, performance_schema, phpmyadmin, test, and webauth. The main content area is titled "Databases" and contains a "Create database" form with a "testone" input field and a "Create" button. Below the form is a table titled "Database" with rows for cdcol, information_schema, mysql, performance_schema, and phpmyadmin, each with a "Check Privileges" link.

The database will be created and added to the list of databases. Click on the one you just created so that we may add tables to it.

For this simple example, let us create a table with only two columns. We will call the table **test_scores**

There should be two fields: **student** and **grade** both of type **VARCHAR** and length **100**

Creating this table and clicking BROWSE on it will bring up the following screen:

The screenshot shows the phpMyAdmin interface in Firefox. The left sidebar shows the database 'testone' selected. Under 'testone', the table 'test_scores' is selected. The main area shows the 'Structure' tab selected. A green message bar at the top says 'MySQL returned an empty result set (i.e. zero rows). (Query took 0.0004 sec)'. Below it is a SQL query window containing:

```
SELECT *  
FROM `test_scores`  
LIMIT 0 , 30
```

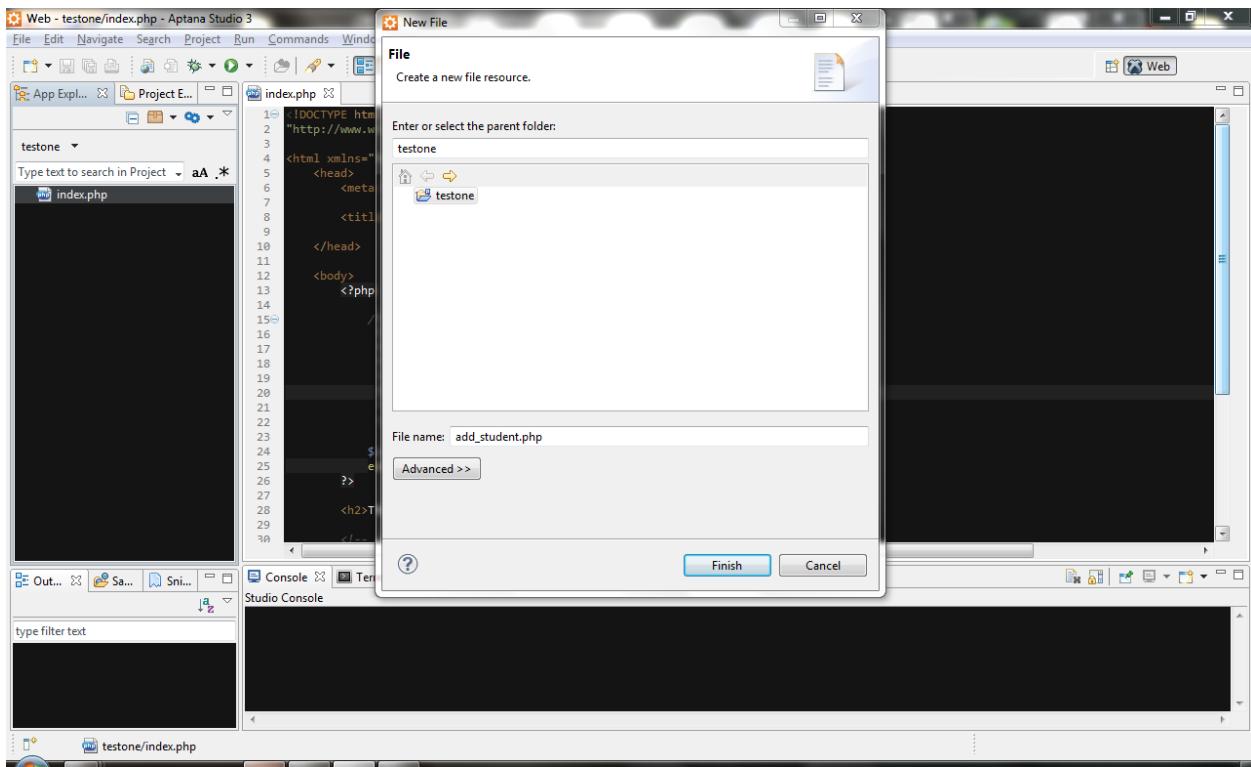
Below the SQL window is a table structure:

#	Name	Type	Collation	Attributes	Null	Default	Extra	Action
1	student	varchar(100)	latin1_swedish_ci		No	None		<input type="button" value="Change"/> <input type="button" value="Drop"/> <input type="button" value="More"/>
2	grade	varchar(100)	latin1_swedish_ci		No	None		<input type="button" value="Change"/> <input type="button" value="Drop"/> <input type="button" value="More"/>

Below the table structure are several buttons: 'Check All / Uncheck All With selected:', 'Browse', 'Change', 'Drop', 'Primary', 'Unique', 'Index', 'Print view', 'Relation view', 'Propose table structure', and 'Track table'. There is also a 'Go' button and a dropdown for adding columns.

We have now created a database called testone, and added a table to it called test_scores. The test_scores table has two fields, student and grade both of type varchar and of length 100. We can now interface with this table using PHP.

Add another new page to your Aptana testone project. Right-click in the project App Explorer and Select New From Template > HTML > XHTML – Transitional (*.html). Name the file **add_student.php**



On this new page we need to add an HTML form that will allow us to submit a student name and a grade to the Apache server, to be then processed by PHP and added into the MySQL database.

The HTML for the form is as follows:

```

<body>
<form method="post" action="insert.php">
    <input type="text" name="name" placeholder="Student Name"/>
    <input type="text" name="grade" placeholder="Student Grade"/>
    <input type="submit" value="Submit" />
</form>
<a href="index.php" >View List</a>
</body>

```

This form will take the data that was input and pass it onto insert.php. We now need to write insert.php, which will take that form data and insert it into the test_scores table. Let us create that file now.

Once again, in the testone App Explorer Right-Click and add a new file from template. This time however select PHP > PHP Template. Name the file **insert.php**

Clear any code between the <?php ?> tags.

For this example, we are going to assume that the data will always be sound. That is, there will always be a student and a grade input at the same time. In a more serious setting, a validation step must take place that ensures the data is fit to be processed into the database.

Therefore, the first thing this script must do is connect to the database. It does so with the following code:

```
/*
 * Code to Connect to the Database
 */
$server = 'localhost';
$username = 'root';
$password = 'infosys2013';
$database = 'testone';
mysql_connect($server,$username,$password) or die(mysql_error());
mysql_select_db($database) or die(mysql_error());
```

The next thing the script needs to do is insert the submitted values from the form into the test_scores table. To do so we add the following:

```
/*
 * Get data out of $_POST array
 * and do a query to insert it into test_scores table
 */
$name = $_POST['name'];
$grade = $_POST['grade'];
$sql = "INSERT INTO `test_scores` (`student`, `grade`) VALUES ('".$name."', '".$grade."')";
$result = mysql_query($sql) or die(mysql_error());
```

After the data has been added to the table, we should send the user to the homepage, which will show all of the entries we have in the test_scores table. To do so, we add the following line just before the end of the insert.php script:

```
// After processing data into table, redirect back to homepage
header('Location: http://localhost/testone/');
```

We should now be able to fill out the form at http://localhost/testone/add_student.php and have it inserted into the database. Let us test this now by doing so. We can check to see that it was actually added by going into phpmyadmin and browsing the table.

localhost / 127.0.0.1 / testone / test_s... Add a Student

John A Submit

[View List](#)

localhost / 127.0.0.1 / testone / test_s... This is the Title Text

localhost/phpmyadmin/index.php?db=testone&token=50214c28dd5039a8d6d3f3a65

127.0.0.1 » testone » test_scores

Browse Structure SQL Search Insert Export Import Operations More

Showing rows 0 - 0 (~ 1 total), Query took 0.0005 sec

SELECT *
FROM `test_scores`
LIMIT 0 , 30

Show : Start row: 0 Number of rows: 30 Headers every 100 rows

+ Options student grade

<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	Copy	Delete	John	A
--------------------------	----------------------	----------------------	------------------------	------	---

Check All / Uncheck All With selected: [Change](#) [Delete](#) [Export](#)

Show : Start row: 0 Number of rows: 30 Headers every 100 rows

There is now one final part remaining for us. We will alter index.php so that it links to add_student.php and we will make it display the contents of the table test_scores table.

First let us add a link to add_student.php. Add the following anchor element to index.php:

```
<a href="add_student.php" >Add a Student</a>
```

Next let us add some PHP code that will fill the table we have made with HTML. First we need to connect to the database. This is the same as in insert.php, so we can just copy the code for the connection. We then create a SELECT query and execute it. The results are displayed as rows within a table.

Either replace the old table or add to the index.php page with the following code:

```
<table>
  <tr><td>STUDENT</td><td>GRADE</td></tr>
  <?php
    /*
     * Code to Connect to the Database
     */
    $server = 'localhost';
    $username = 'root';
    $password = 'infosys2013';
    $database = 'testone';
    mysql_connect($server,$username,$password) or die(mysql_error());
    mysql_select_db($database) or die(mysql_error());

    /*
     * Select query
     */
    $sql = "SELECT * FROM test_scores";
    $result = mysql_query($sql);

    /*
     * Output results
     */
    while($row = mysql_fetch_array($result))
    {
        echo "<tr>";
        echo "<td>" . $row['student'] . "</td>";
        echo "<td>" . $row['grade'] . "</td>";
        echo "</tr>";
    }
  ?>
</table>
```

Your output should look similar to the following:

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window with the title "This is the Title Text". The address bar displays "localhost / 127.0.0.1 / testone / test_s...". The page content includes:

- Sunday, May 12th**
- This is a less important heading**
- A paragraph: "This is just a small paragraph. the <hr /> tag implements a horizontal rule, useful for separating content on a page as shown below."
- [Add a Student](#)
- A section header: "STUDENT GRADE"
- A table:

John	A
Bill	B
Caroline	C

This concludes this basic example. You can now create HTML pages, databases and tables, as well as use PHP to integrate database data with web pages. For more advanced topics please see the appendix.

APPENDIX

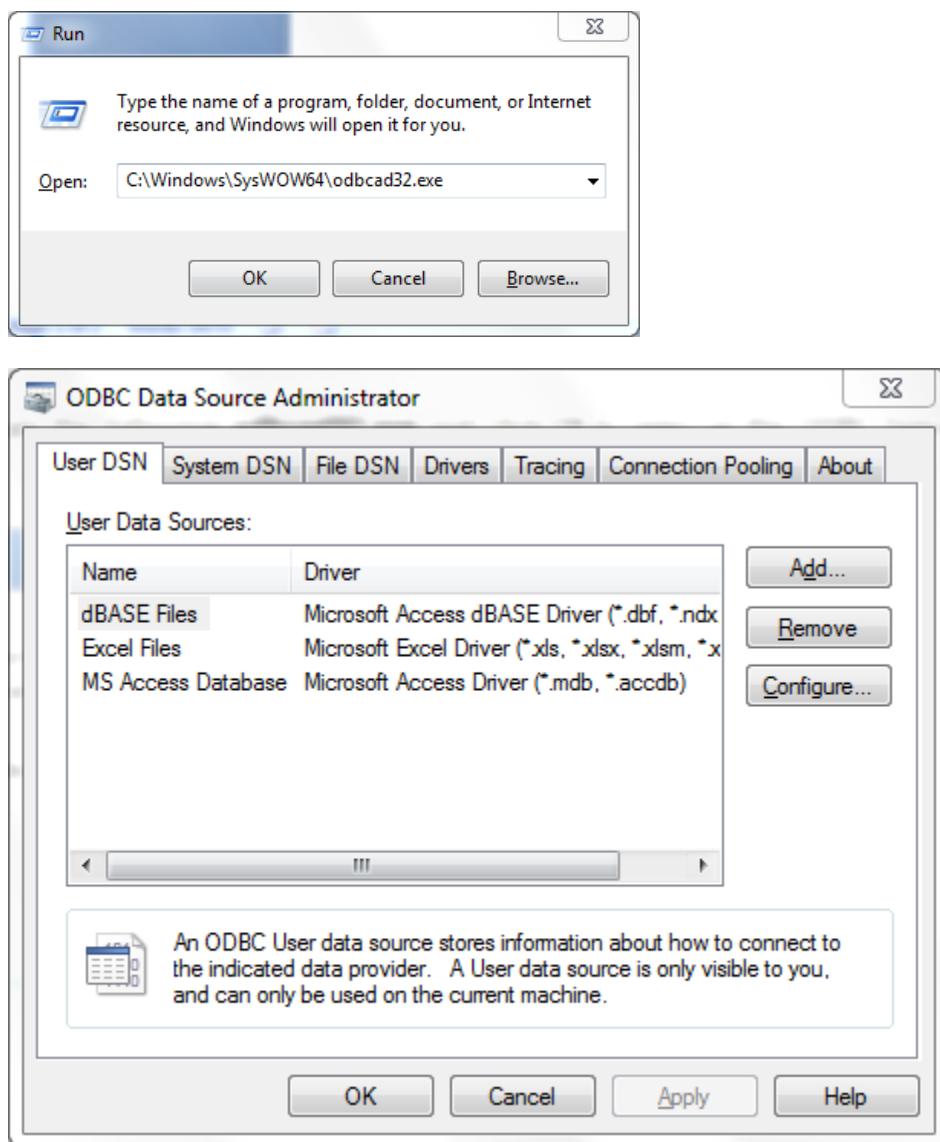
Web Development Guide

Connecting Databases via ODBC

Manage ODBC Data Sources

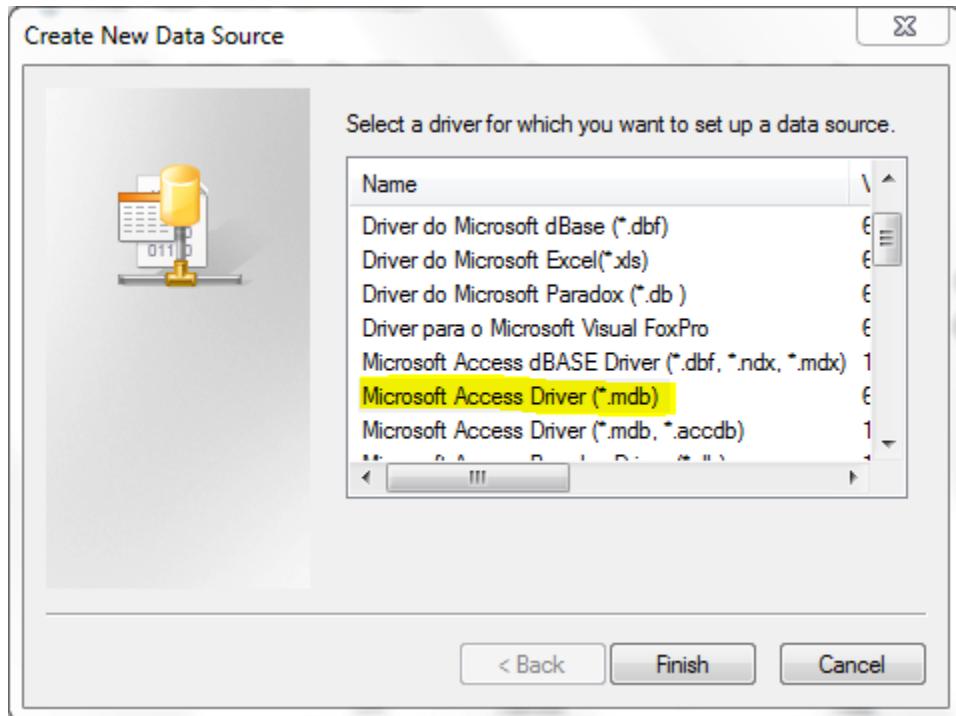
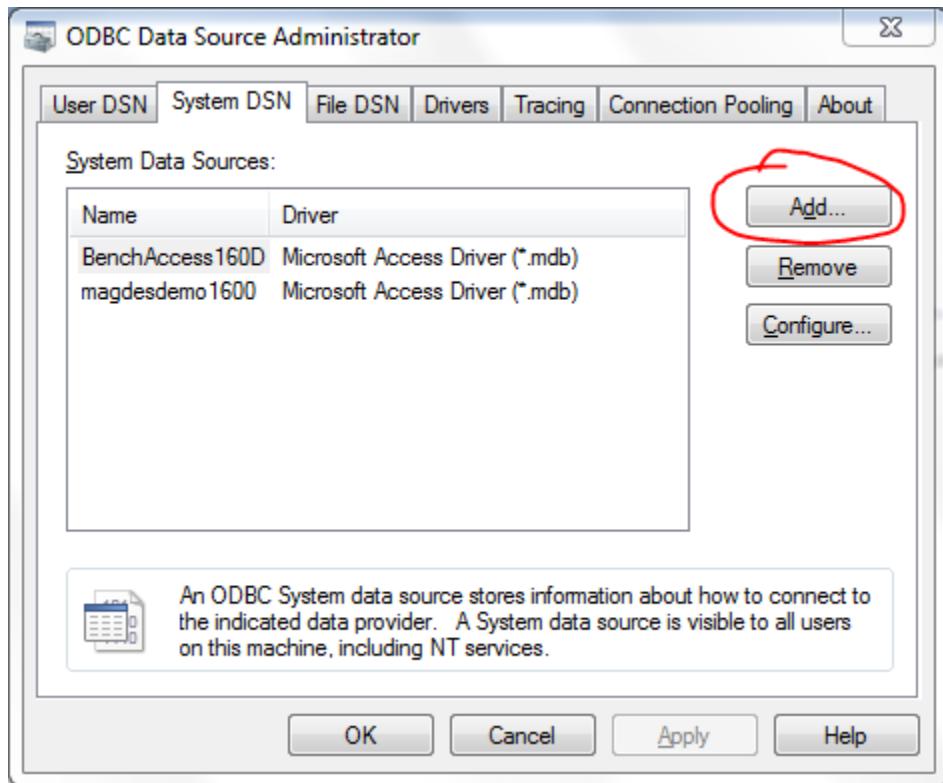
In order to manage ODBC Data Sources, open up the Windows Start Menu and search for **Run** (also located under All Programs > Accessories > Run)

In the prompt type the following **C:\Windows\SysWOW64\odbcad32.exe** and click OK to open up the ODBC Data Source Administrator

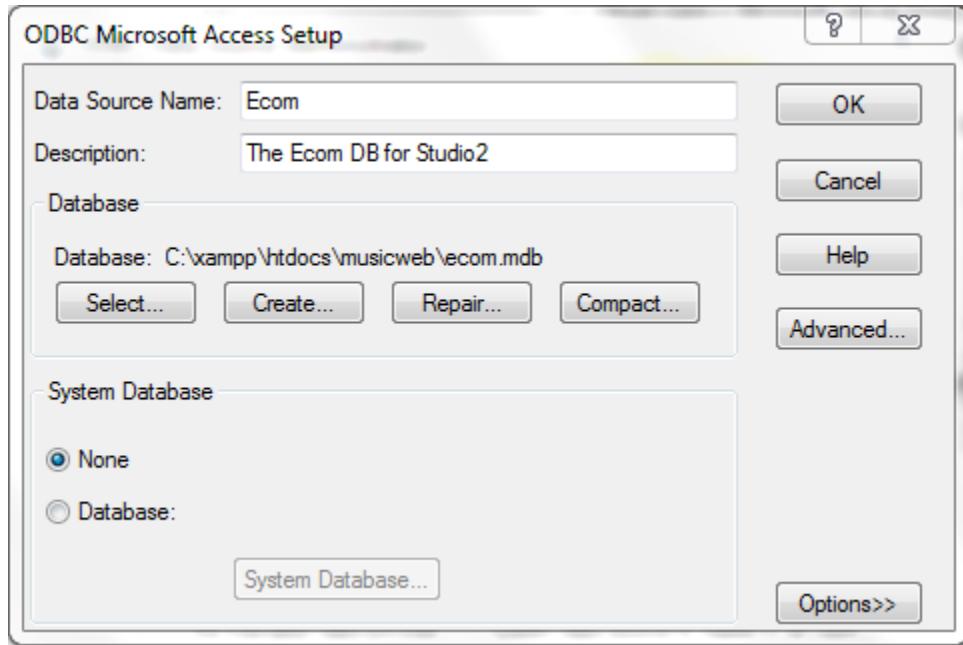


Adding a Database

In order to add a database, open the System DSN tab. These sources will be available to applications system-wide (necessary for our Apache installation). Click the Add button on the right side.



In this example we are adding the **Ecom** database for Studio 2, which we have placed in the htdocs/musicweb/ folder (you may have it in any folder you wish, but make sure you are connecting the same database that you edit). Now when the system calls for a connection to Ecom, it will be able to connect via ODBC.



Web Development Guide

Alternatives to Microsoft Access: LibreOffice Base connected via ODBC

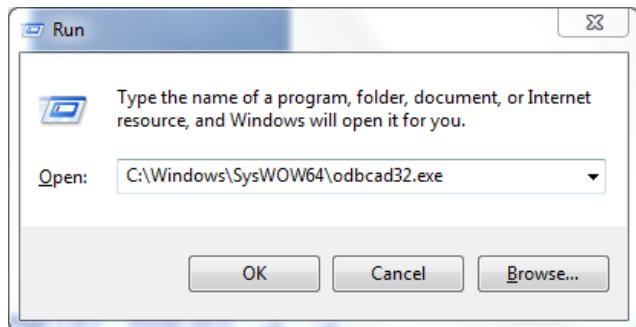
Occasionally you may need to edit a database that you do not have software for. This tutorial focuses on the case of a user who needs to edit a .mdb database file, but does not have Microsoft Access. The solution is to use the open source program, LibreOffice Base and an ODBC connection to communicate with the database.

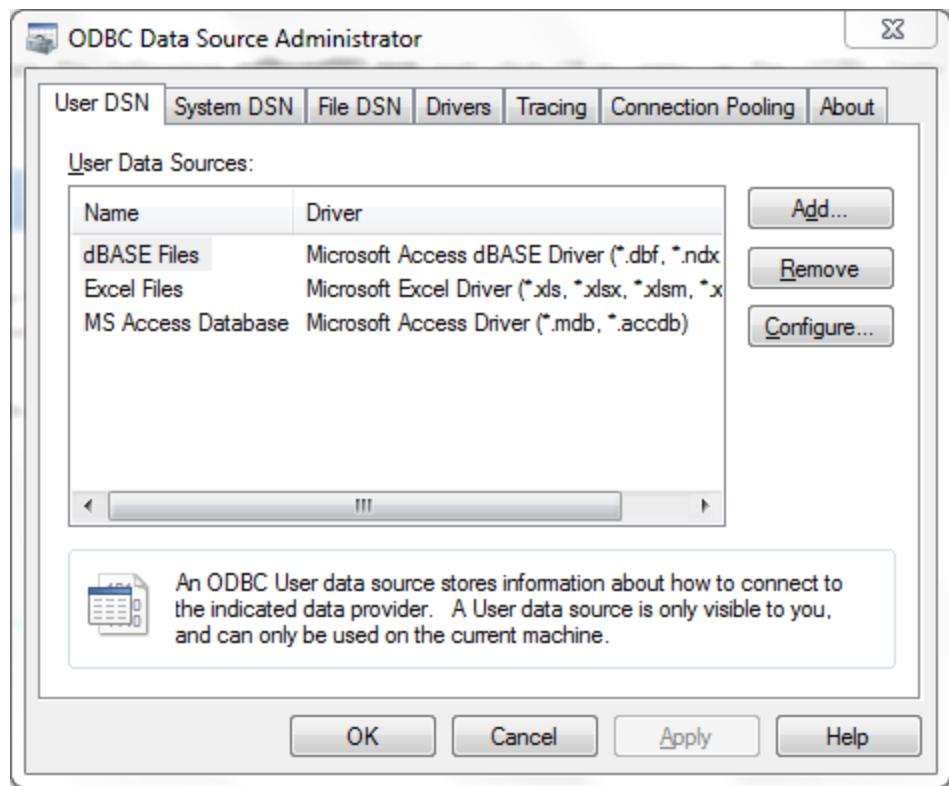
In this tutorial we will first cover how to add an ODBC Data Source. Then we will download LibreOffice and use Base to connect to the database (musicweb.mdb) via ODBC.

Manage ODBC Data Sources

In order to manage ODBC Data Sources, open up the Windows Start Menu and search for **Run** (also located under All Programs > Accessories > Run)

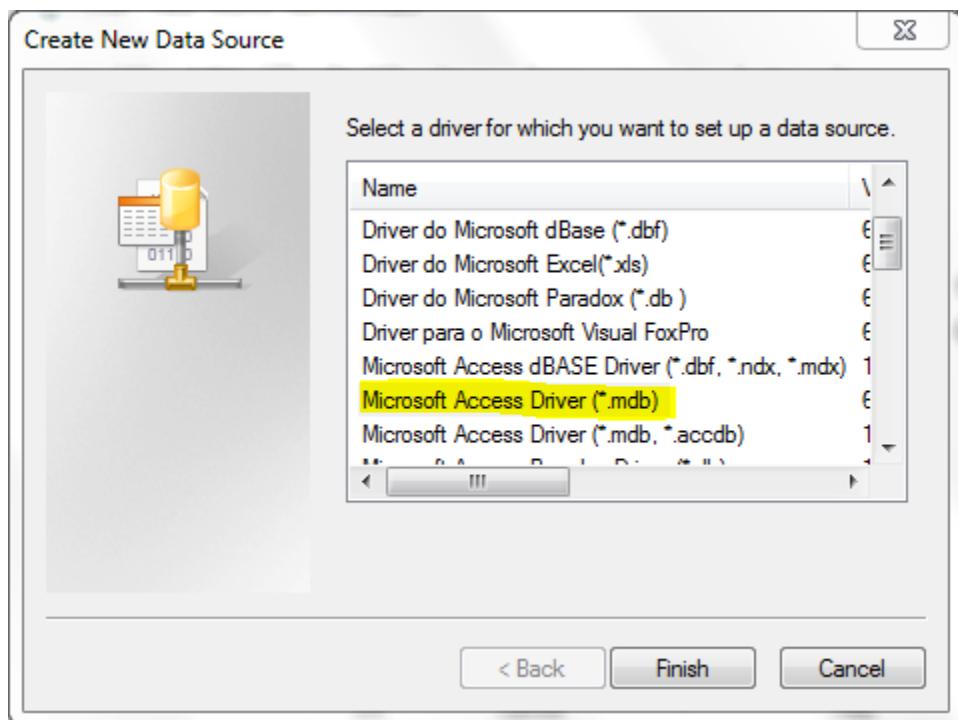
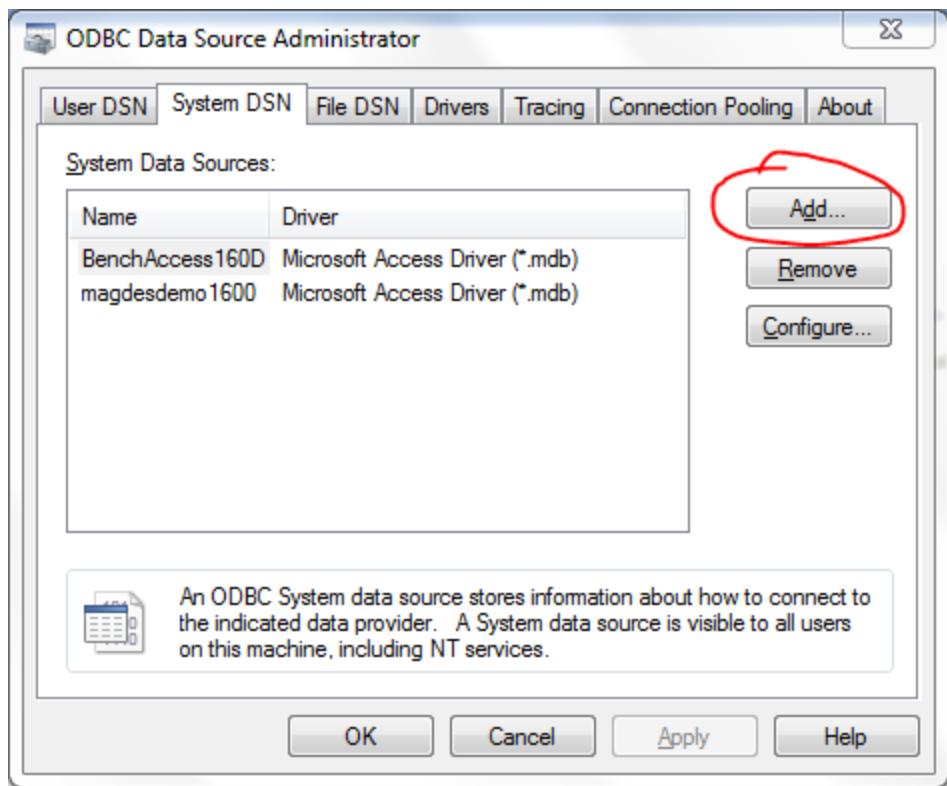
In the prompt type the following **C:\Windows\SysWOW64\odbcad32.exe** and click OK to open up the ODBC Data Source Administrator



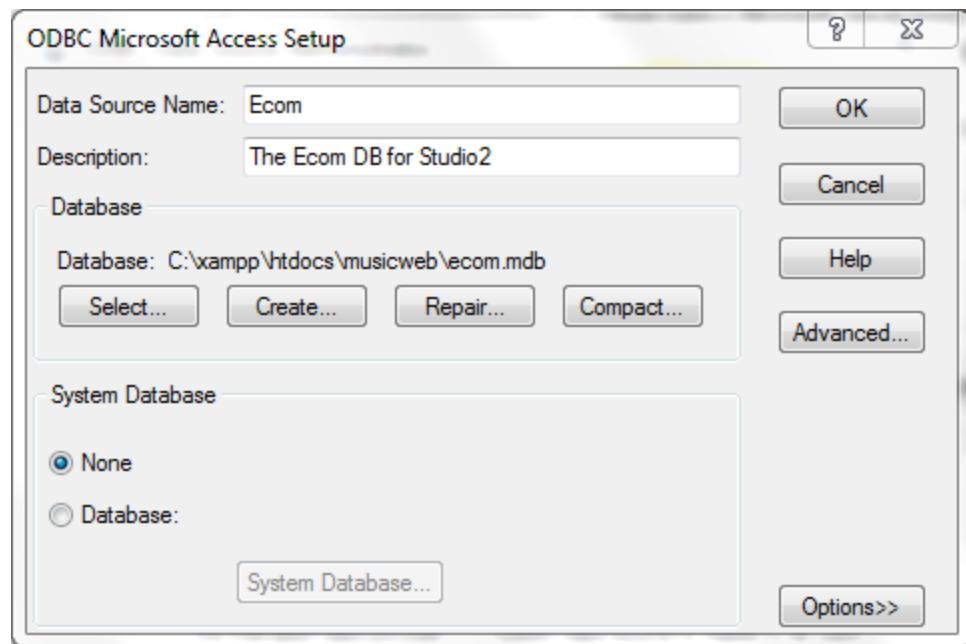


Adding a Database

In order to add a database, open the System DSN tab. These sources will be available to applications system-wide (necessary for our Apache installation). Click the Add button on the right side.

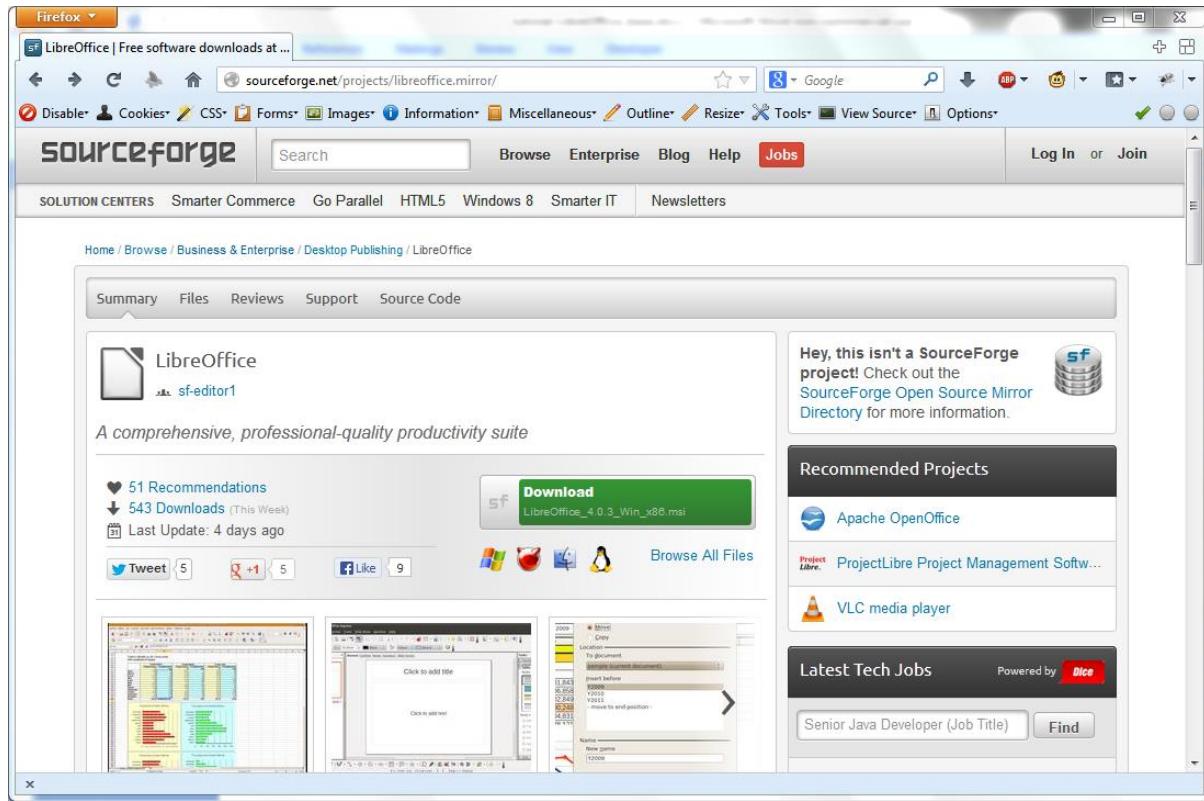


In this example we are adding the **Ecom** database for Studio 2, which we have placed in the htdocs/musicweb/ folder (you may have it in any folder you wish, but make sure you are connecting the same database that you edit). Now when the system calls for a connection to Ecom, it will be able to connect via ODBC.

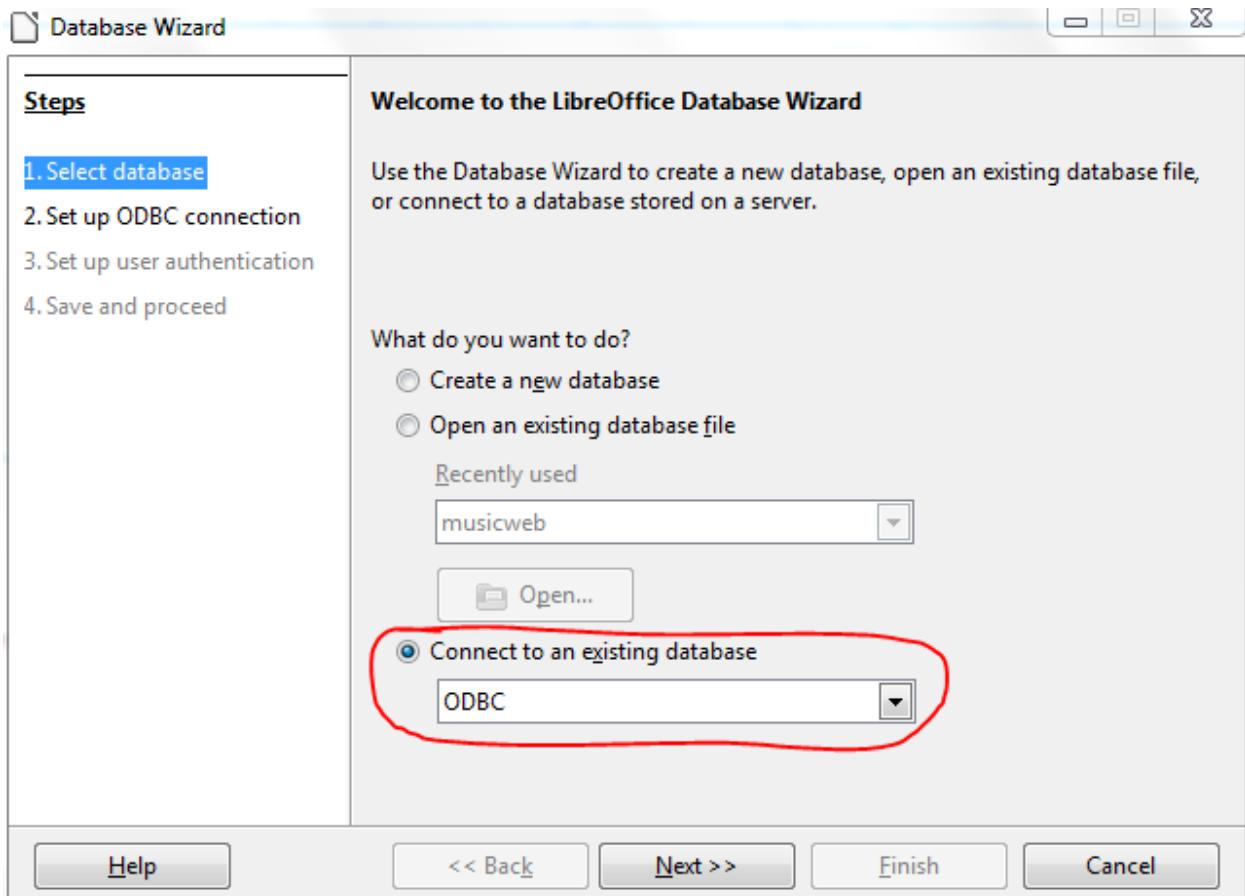


Download and Install LibreOffice

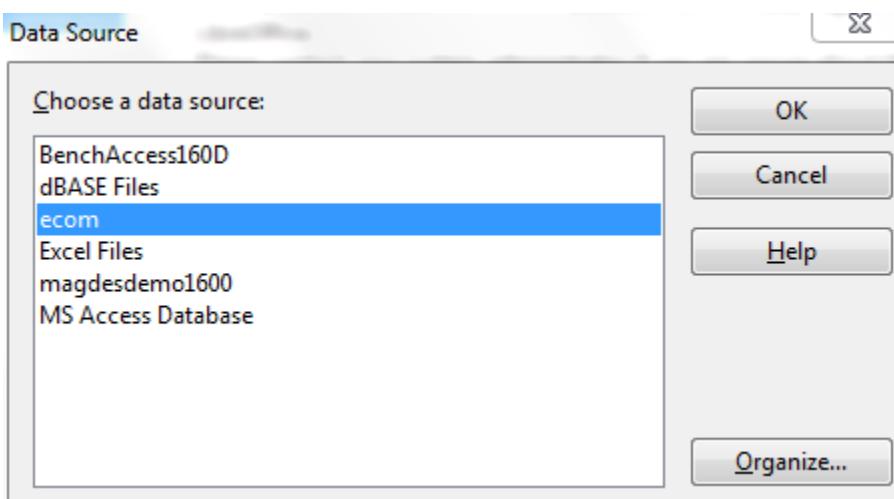
Base is part of the LibreOffice suite, so we will have to download the suite first. Get the installer from <http://sourceforge.net/projects/libreoffice.mirror/> and download it to your desktop.



Let the installer run through with all of the defaults. When the install is complete, find and run LibreOffice Base. It is very similar to Microsoft Access. When it first opens it will run a database wizard. Select the option to Connect to an Existing Database via ODBC.



Hit Next, and then select the ODBC Data Source that you wish to connect to (in our case ecom). If you set up a username and password hit next to enter the login information, otherwise press the Finish button. Save the database as .odb when it asks you in order to proceed to the database view.



In order to open up a table view, double click on a table. To design tables, right-click on a table and select Edit in order to bring up table schema.

musicweb.odb - LibreOffice Base

File Edit View Insert Tools Window Help

Database Tasks

Tables Queries Forms Reports

Song - musicweb3 - LibreOffice Base: Table Data View

SongTitle	SongLength	CategoryName	OriginalArtist	SongPrice	SongRating
SongTitle 154	SongLength154: Dance	OriginalArtist154: 0.9900	SongRating154:		
SongTitle 372	SongLength372: Classical	OriginalArtist372: 1.4900	SongRating372:		
SongTitle 491	SongLength491: Dance	OriginalArtist491: 0.9900	SongRating491:		
SongTitle 561	SongLength561: Easy Listening	OriginalArtist561: 0.9900	SongRating561:		
SongTitle 642	SongLength642: Alternative	OriginalArtist642: 0.9900	SongRating642:		
SongTitle 651	SongLength651: Rock	OriginalArtist651: 0.9900	SongRating651:		
SongTitle 667	SongLength667: Rap	OriginalArtist667: 0.9900	SongRating667:		
SongTitle 699	SongLength699: Dance	OriginalArtist699: 1.4900	SongRating699:		
SongTitle 801	SongLength801: Easy Listening	OriginalArtist801: 1.4900	SongRating801:		
SongTitle 862	SongLength862: Reggae	OriginalArtist862: 0.9900	SongRating862:		
SongTitle 886	SongLength886: Heavy Metal	OriginalArtist886: 0.9900	SongRating886:		
SongTitle 890	SongLength890: Rhythm and Blues	OriginalArtist890: 1.7900	SongRating890:		
SongTitle 911	SongLength911: Classical	OriginalArtist911: 0.9900	SongRating911:		
SongTitle 959	SongLength959: Alternative	OriginalArtist959: 0.9900	SongRating959:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Reggae	OriginalArtist965: 0.9900	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Easy Listening	OriginalArtist965: 0.1010	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Reggae	OriginalArtist965: 0.1020	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Heavy Metal	OriginalArtist965: 0.1030	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Rhythm and Blues	OriginalArtist965: 0.1040	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Classical	OriginalArtist965: 0.1050	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Alternative	OriginalArtist965: 0.1060	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Reggae	OriginalArtist965: 0.1070	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Reggae	OriginalArtist965: 0.1080	SongRating965:		
SongTitle 965	SongLength965: Rhythm and Blues	OriginalArtist965: 0.1090	SongRating965:		

Record 1 of 24

ODBC ecom

Queries Forms Reports

Tables

- Artist
- Catalog
- Category
- CD
- CDPlaylist
- Collection
- CreditCard
- Customer
- Order
- OrderLine
- Part
- Product
- Song
- SongFile
- Supplier
- Supply

Copy Delete Edit Open Form Wizard... Report... Report Wizard... Select All Database >

Web Development Guide

Studio 2.4: MusicWeb

This guide is intended as a supplement to Studio 2 Part 4 located at http://viu.eng.rpi.edu/lab/2/s2_4.html. This guide will attempt to walk through the studio keeping in mind the deliverables. We shall walk through how to get the MusicWeb website, including database set up in the XAMPP installation discussed in the Getting Started tutorial. We will then attempt to implement Customer Checkout.

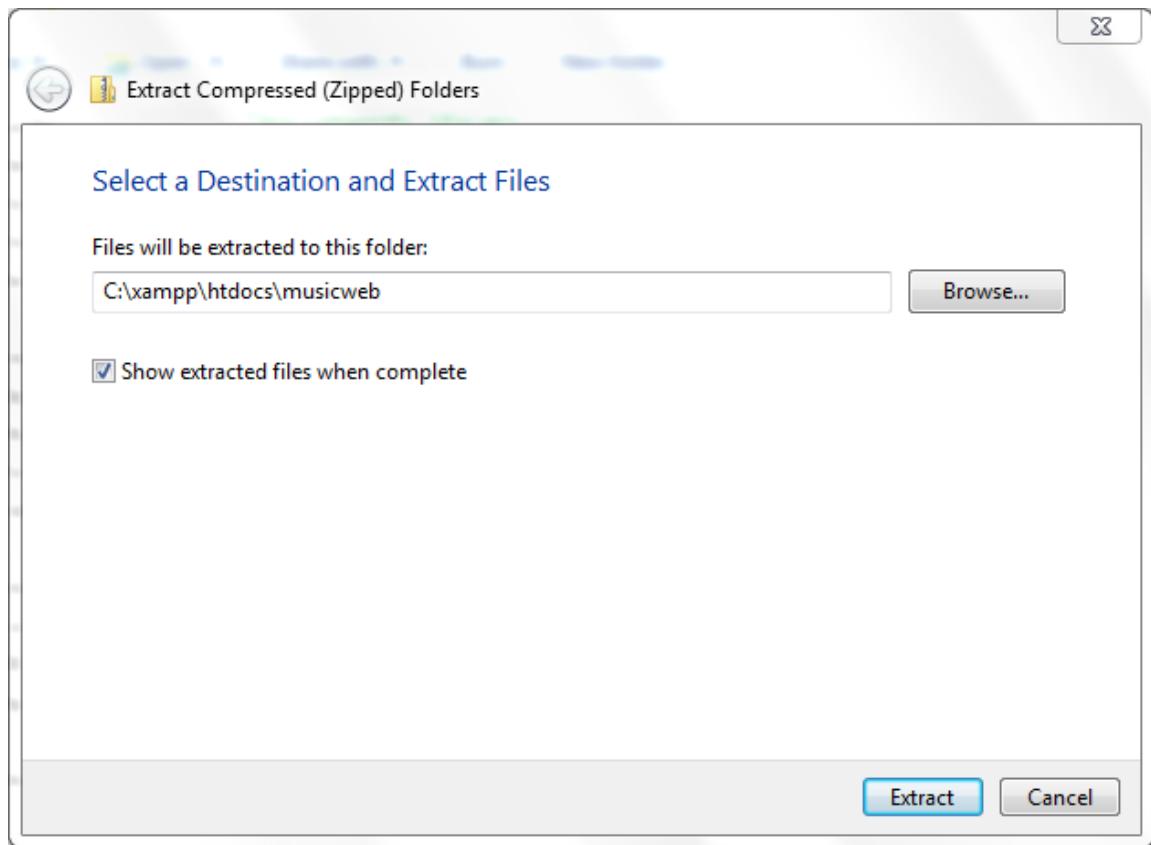
We assume that you are using the XAMPP based Apache and MySQL installation and have set up the Ecom ODBC connection as per the ODBC Tutorial associated with this guide.

If you have not yet set up the Ecom database, download a populated file from <http://viu.eng.rpi.edu/lab/2/musicweb.mdb> and use it as the ecom ODBC Data Connection, as mentioned in the next section.

Uploading MusicWeb to the XAMPP/Apache Installation

In order to get MusicWeb installed on our server, we must download the ZIP archive at <http://viu.eng.rpi.edu/lab/2/musicweb.zip> as well as the populated database (if you do not already have it set up) from <http://viu.eng.rpi.edu/lab/2/musicweb.mdb>

Save the archive to your desktop. When it is downloaded, right click on it and Extract All to a folder called musicweb inside the htdocs folder of your XAMPP/Apache installation (you may need to create the musicweb folder).
(C:\xampp\htdocs\musicweb)



Next, download the file at <http://homepages.rpi.edu/~malveg/func> and **overwrite the current func.php** in the musicweb directory. This is a critical step as the default installation will not work with modern PHP versions (4+).

Now we will check to make sure the installation was successful. Start your web server. (If you have been following this guide you must open the XAMPP Control Panel and then start the Apache web server). When the server is started, open your browser and navigate to <http://localhost/musicweb>

If your installation was successful, your screen should look like the following:

Firefox ▾

MusicWeb: Your Music. Your Way

localhost/musicweb/index.php

Disable Cookies CSS Forms Images Information Miscellaneous Outline Resize Tools View Source Options

musicweb.rpi.edu May 14, 2013

PAM HALL

Enjoy deep discounts on hundreds of songs from up-and-coming stars. Build \$7.99 or \$9.99 CDs, click on SPECIAL when you see it. The **MusicWeb** Clearance Sale ends May 1, 2002 at 11:59 p.m. so buy your bargains today!

Explore

- [[HOME](#)]
- [Alternative](#)
- [Classical](#)
- [Dance](#)
- [Easy Listening](#)
- [Heavy Metal](#)
- [Rap](#)
- [Reggae](#)
- [Rhythm and Blues](#)
- [Rock](#)

Music News

The CDNOW Interview: A new hit album, millions of dollars, Pam Anderson for a girlfriend: [Has there ever been a better time to be Kid Rock?](#)

This Week In 1991: Lenny Kravitz, Public Enemy Face Gulf War; Sting Apologizes ...

Best Features Of 2001: From Aaliyah to Kid Rock, the biggest artists of the year [tell their stories](#) in their own words.

Justin Timberlake Giving [Dance Lessons](#), Britney Spears Offering Video [Cameo](#)

Brandy [Comes Full Circle](#) On Full Moon

[continued...](#)

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If you have errors or warnings on your page regarding ODBC connections, you may have not set up ODBC correctly for the Ecom database. Please make sure you follow the ODBC tutorial associated with this guide and have a populated database (such as is available at <http://viu.eng.rpi.edu/lab/2/musicweb.mdb>)

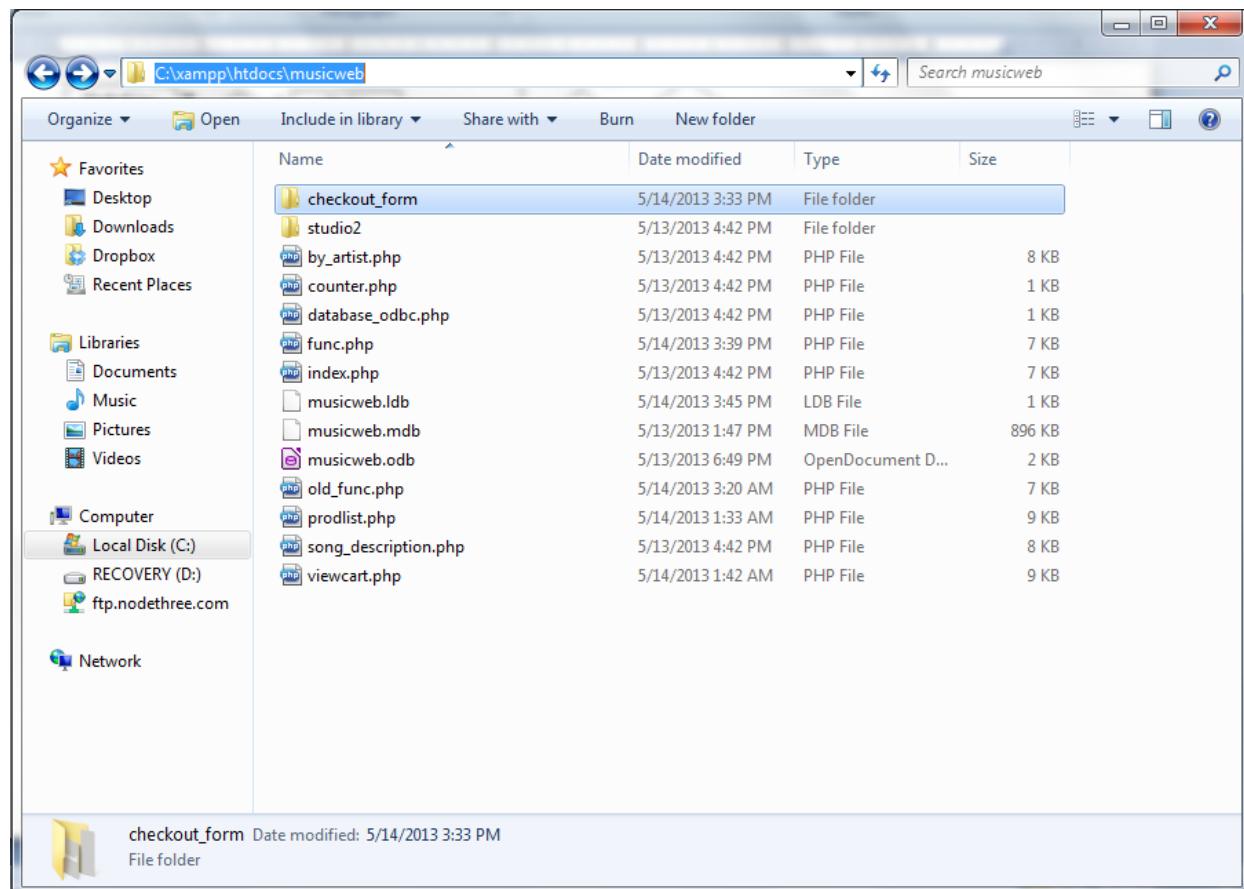
Implementing the Checkout Process

Now that the MusicWeb front-end (customer facing side) is up and running, we would like to implement the checkout process.

From a more general view of the process, we will need to get customer specifics such as name, credit card, shipping and billing information. We will also need to submit the customer's cart to production. Carrying out this process will require us to create a form and then a function that will communicate with the database, as we have seen previously through the loading of categories and songs.

The first thing we are going to do is build the checkout form. When a customer clicks the checkout button, they will be directed to this form. On the form they will input their information and then have the option to Submit their Order.

Download the `checkout_form` folder at http://homepages.rpi.edu/~malveg/checkout_form.zip and upload it into your `htdocs/musicweb` directory. The form was built using the form builder at <http://www.phpform.org/>, and then had some elements of the `viewcart.php` file combined into it.



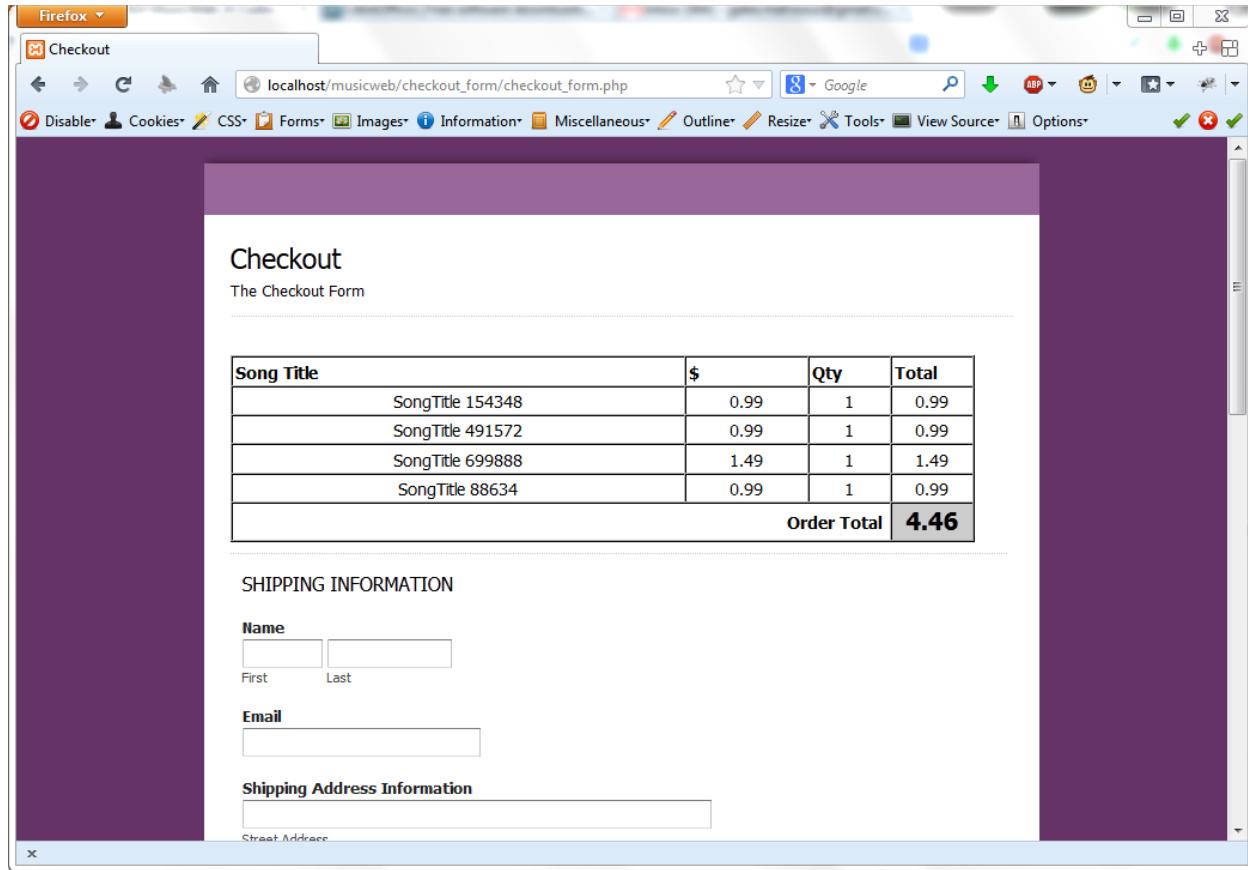
We must now edit the `func.php` file to take the user to the form, receive the inputs and then process them into the database. First we will add the following lines just before the end of the file (just before the closing `>` tag):

```

if(isset($_POST["checkout"]))
{
    header("Location: checkout_form/checkout_form.php");
}

```

These lines will move the user to the checkout form when they click the Checkout >> button. If everything is correctly set up, when the customer clicks on the Checkout >> Button when in the shopping cart, they will be taken to the following form:



Next we need to create a function to handle the inputs received from the form and insert them into the database. The following function will take the form inputs and insert them into the Customer and CreditCard tables. It will also add a CD to the CD table and then create an entry in the Order table from the combination of Customer, CreditCard, and CD information. As a final step, it will empty the shopping cart and send the user back to the homepage.

Add the following code just before the closing php (?) tag in func.php:

```

if(isset($_POST["doCheckout"]))
{
    session_start();
}

```

```

$post=$_POST;
$cart=$_SESSION['cart'];
doCheckout($post,$cart);
}

function doCheckout($post,$cart){
    //---- Get Customer SHIPPING Info
    $name = $post['element_1_1'].' '.$post['element_1_2'];
    $email = $post['element_3'];
    $shipping_street_address= $post['element_2_1'].' '.$post['element_2_2'];
    $shipping_city = $post['element_2_3'];
    $shipping_state = $post['element_2_4'];
    $shipping_zip = $post['element_2_5'];
    $shipping_country = $post['element_2_6'];      // Country not used in DB

    //---- Get Customer CREDIT CARD
    $cc_number = $post['element_4'];
    $cc_type = $post['element_5'];
    $cc_exp = $post['element_6_1'].'/>'.$post['element_6_2'].'/>'.$post['element_6_3'].' 12:00 AM';

    //---- Get Customer BILLING Info
    $billing_street_address= $post['element_7_1'].' '.$post['element_7_2'];
    $billing_city = $post['element_7_3'];
    $billing_state = $post['element_7_4'];
    $billing_zip = $post['element_7_5'];
    $billing_country = $post['element_7_6'];      // Country not used in DB

    $phone = $post['element_8_1'].$post['element_8_2'].$post['element_8_3'];

    // Connect to database
    $conn = odbc_connect('ecom','','');
    if (!$conn) {
        echo odbc_error();
    }

    // INSERT INTO Customer Table
    $sql = "INSERT INTO `Customer`(`CustomerName`, `CustomerAddress`, `CustomerCity`, `CustomerState`, `CustomerZip`,
CustomerTelephone`, `CustomerEmail`)".
        " VALUES ('".$name."', '".$shipping_street_address."', '".$shipping_city."', '".$shipping_state."', '".$shipping_zip."',",
" ".$phone."', '".$email."')";

    $result = odbc_exec($conn,$sql);

    // Get CustomerID
    $sql = "SELECT * from `Customer` WHERE CustomerName='".$name."' AND CustomerEmail='".$email."' AND CustomerTelephone='".$phone."'";
    ORDER BY 'CustomerID' DESC";
    $result = odbc_exec($conn,$sql);
    $cust_ID = odbc_result($result,"CustomerID");

    // INSERT INTO CreditCard Table
    $sql = "INSERT INTO `CreditCard`(`CC#`, `CCType`, `Exp_Date`, `CustomerID`, `BillingAddr`, `BillingCity`, `BillingState`,
`BillingZip`, `BillingTel`)".
        " VALUES ('".$cc_number."', '".$cc_type."', '".$cc_exp."', '".$cust_ID."', '".$billing_street_address."',",
" ".$billing_city."', '".$billing_state."', '".$billing_zip."', '".$phone."')";

    $result = odbc_exec($conn,$sql);

    // --- Create a CDPlaylist and CD
    $cd = rand();      // give the CD a random number

    // add to CD table
    $sql = "INSERT INTO `CD`(`CD#`, `CDTitle`, `CDDescription`) VALUES ('".$cd."', 'Various Artists - ".$cd."', 'Description ".$cd."')";
    $result = odbc_exec($conn,$sql);

    // add to CDPlaylist table
    foreach($cart as $s){
        $sql = "INSERT INTO `CDPlaylist`(`CD#`, `SongFileName`) VALUES ('".$cd."','".$trim($s['ProductID'], 'SongTitle_')."')";
        $result = odbc_exec($conn,$sql);
    }

    // generate order for Order table
    $sql = "INSERT INTO `Order`(`CustomerID`, `CD#`, `CC#`, `CD Title`, `CD Description`, `DateTime`) VALUES",
(":".$cust_ID.",'".$cd."','".$cc_number."','".$Various Artists - ".$cd."','".$Description ".$cd."','".date
    $result = odbc_exec($conn,$sql);

    //--- Finish up: Close out cart, redirect to homepage
}

```

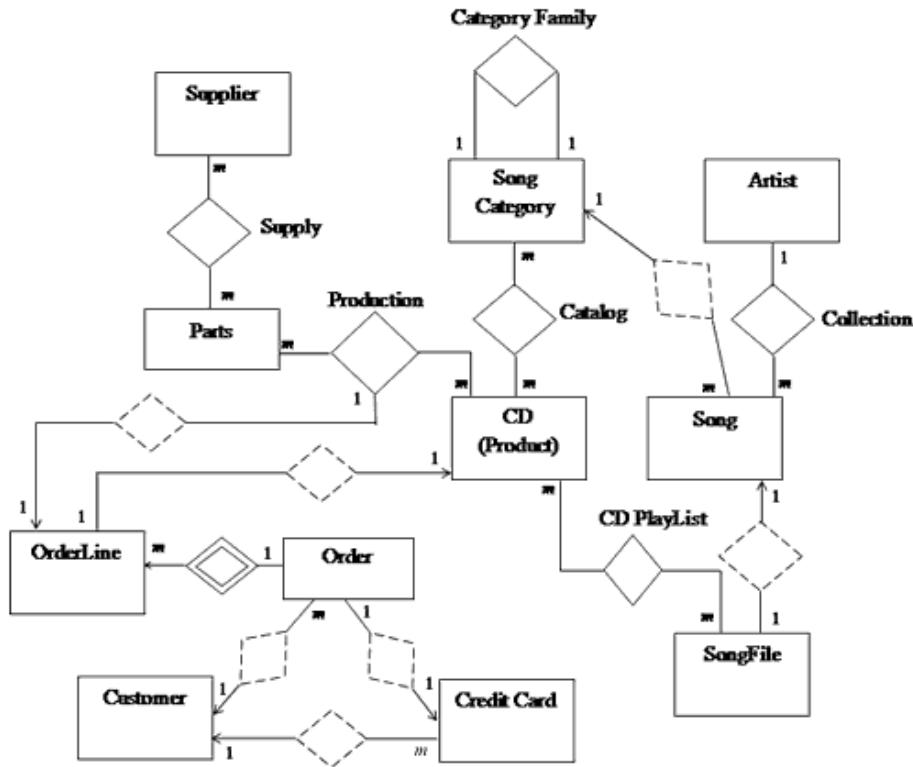
```
unset($_SESSION['cart']);
echo "<p>Your Order has been submitted - THANK YOU!</p>";
echo "<p>You will be redirected in 5 seconds...</p>";
sleep(5);
header("Location: index.php");
```

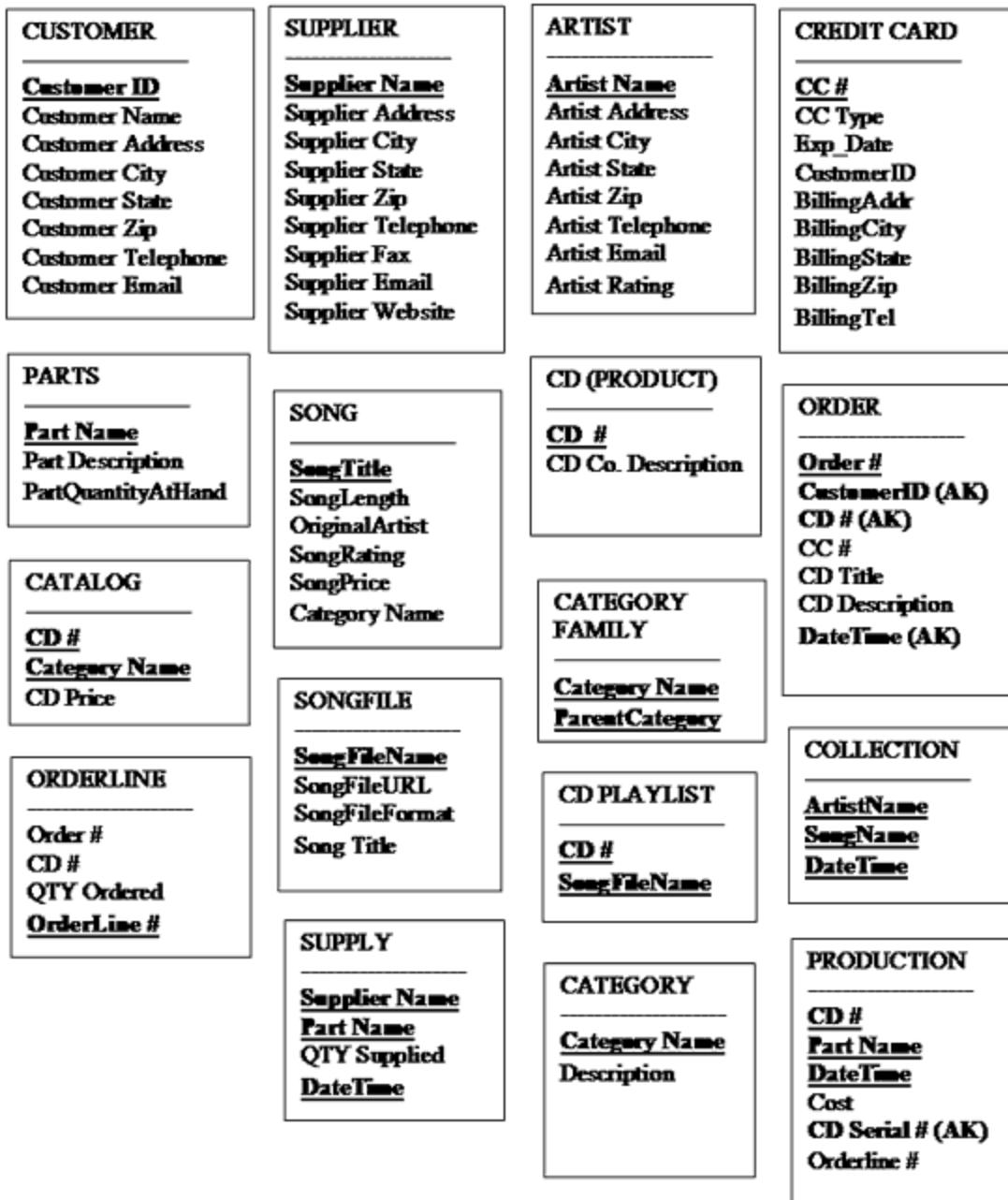
2

We have now successfully set up the MusicWeb website in our own XAMPP development environment, and have gone a step further and implemented the customer checkout procedure.

Database Normalization (Customers, Credit Cards and Orders)

It is worthwhile to review the concept of a normalized database and see how it is applicable to this example. Recall that the point of database normalization is to minimize redundancy and dependency. The procedure aims to put data into simple tables and then define relationships between them.





The MusicWeb database is a good example of normalization. Let us look at the process of generating an order. An order is defined by a customer, their CD purchase, and their credit card information. Looking at the Order table one would see that it does not store the actual customer name or telephone or address information. Instead it keeps just the CustomerID. The CustomerID is unique to a customer in the Customer table, and all personal information is stored there. This is an example of keeping redundancy to a minimum, as there is no need for both the Order table and the Customer table to keep personal information about the customer. The CreditCard table is the same way. While each card is unique, there can be multiple cards for a given customer.

For those still unconvinced about the benefits of normalization, imagine that the customer info, credit card and order tables were combined into one large table. Every time a returning customer pays with a different credit card, a new row would have to be made containing mostly similar information except for credit card information. This scenario could easily develop Insertion or Update Problems. For example if a customer wanted to change their credit card information on record, they would be forced to submit a new order. Furthermore, querying the table could become very costly due to the excess amount of data that would have to be parsed for a simple change.

Database design needs to consider the future. In particular, it needs to consider all queries, not just expected queries. A normalized database can be effectively used no matter what the query is. For example, in this case we could ask which credit card type is the most popular. Although this is not exactly a query that the database designer may have anticipated when designing table structure, because the database is normalized we can simply query the CreditCard table and derive the answer.

When developing a database for an information system, one should try to make it as normalized as possible. The mission for the information system can change over time, but if the information in the database is in a normalized form then the database can stay the same. A little bit of effective planning can limit costly future changes.