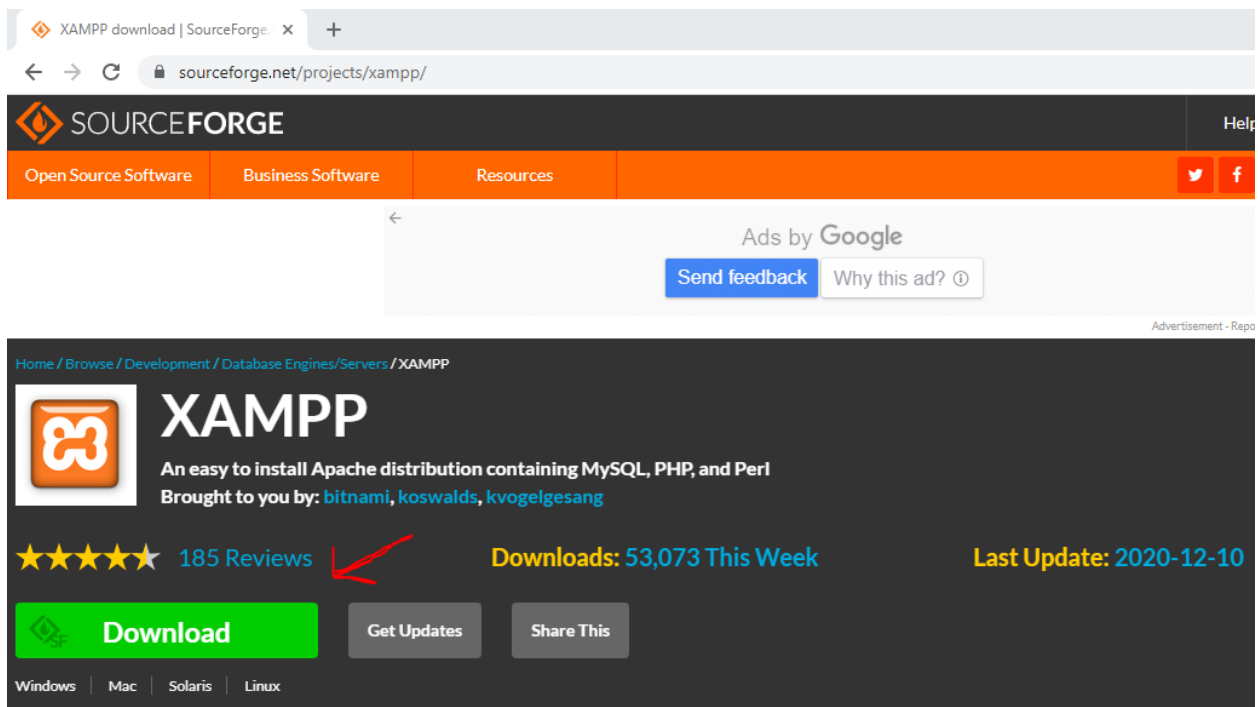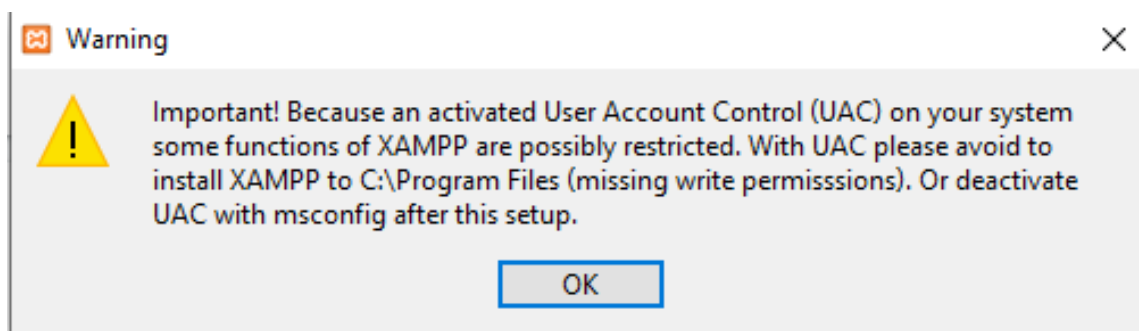# Step 1: Download and install XAMPP on your computer

The first step on your way to install WordPress locally is to download and install the XAMPP software. You can download the Windows installer file https://sourceforge.net/projects/xampp/

Once the download finishes, run the file you downloaded to launch the XAMPP installer, you might get a warning like this:

Just click **OK** to continue. Depending on your Windows configuration, you get a prompt about User Account Control (UAC). Just continue through that prompt. Once you get through the prompts, you should see the standard installer screen:
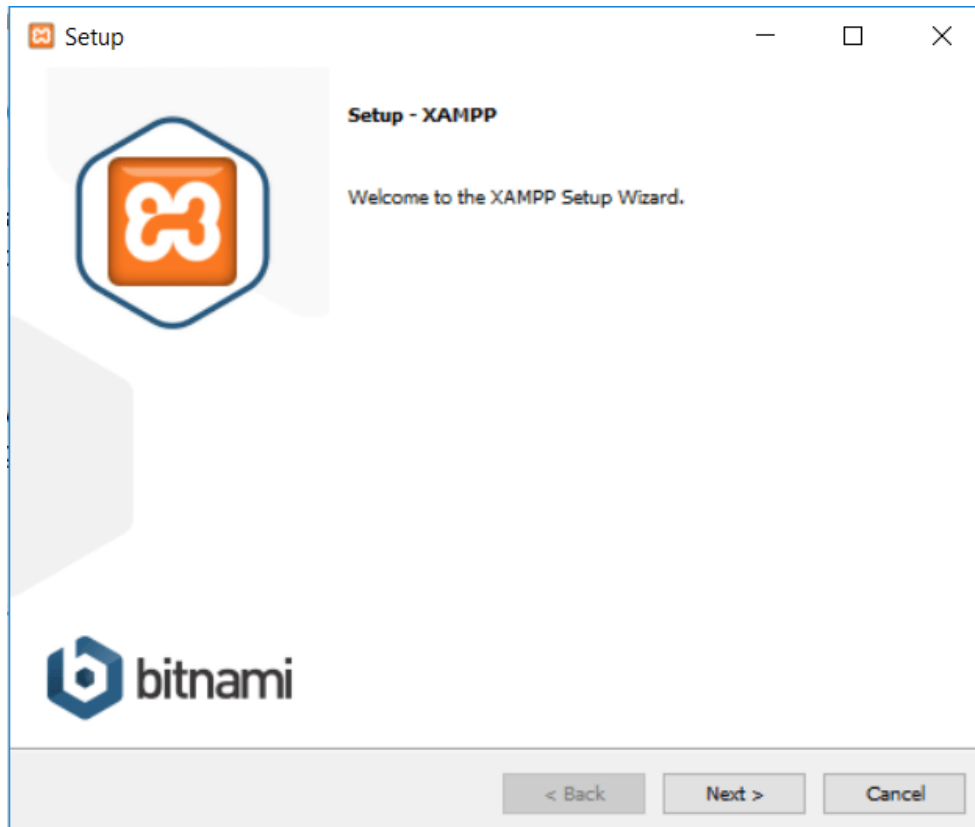

Just click **Next** to continue.

On the next screen, you can choose which components to install. To install XAMPP and WordPress, **you do not need all of the components. In addition to the required components, all you need are:**
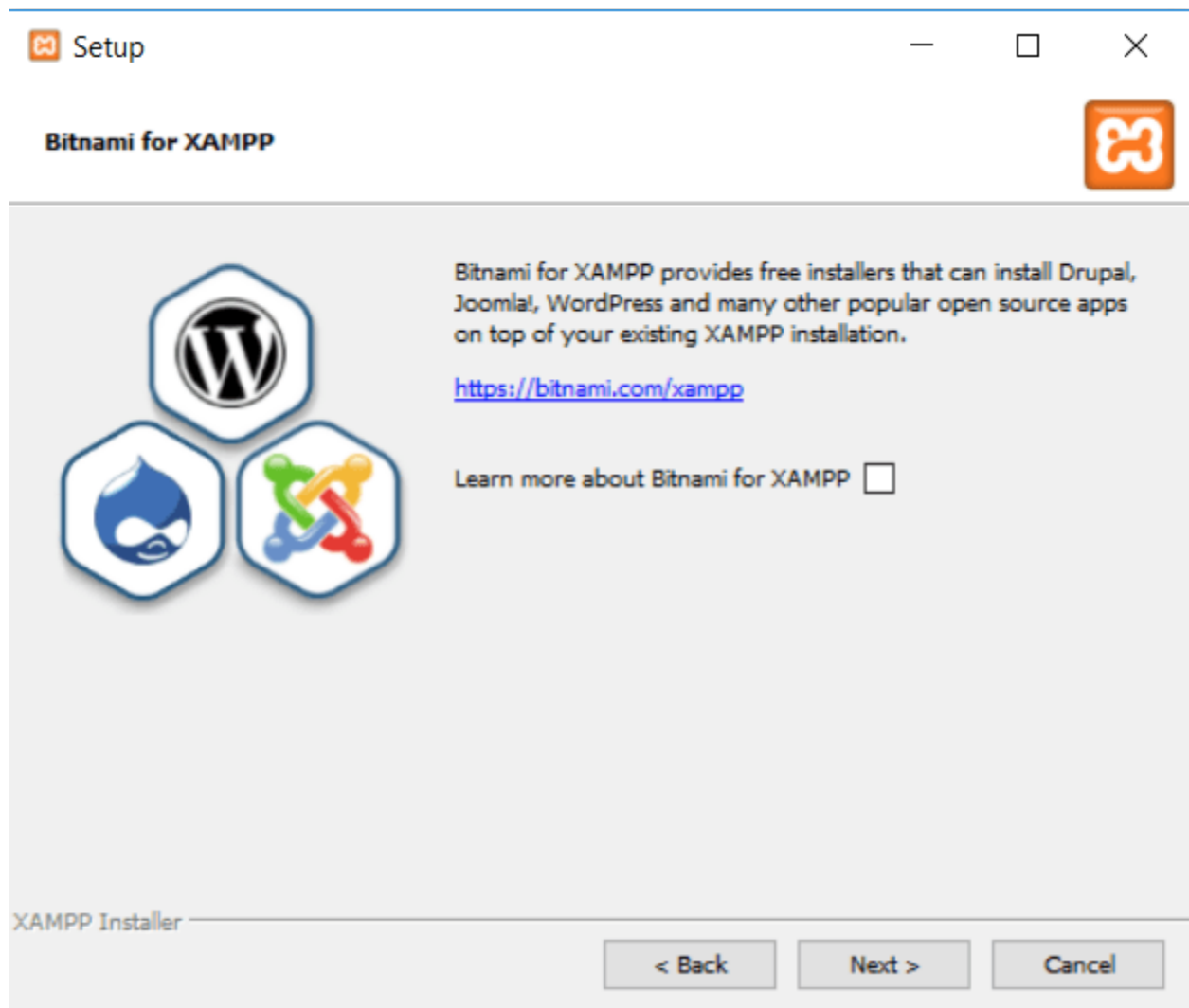
- **MySQL**
- **PHPMyAdmin**
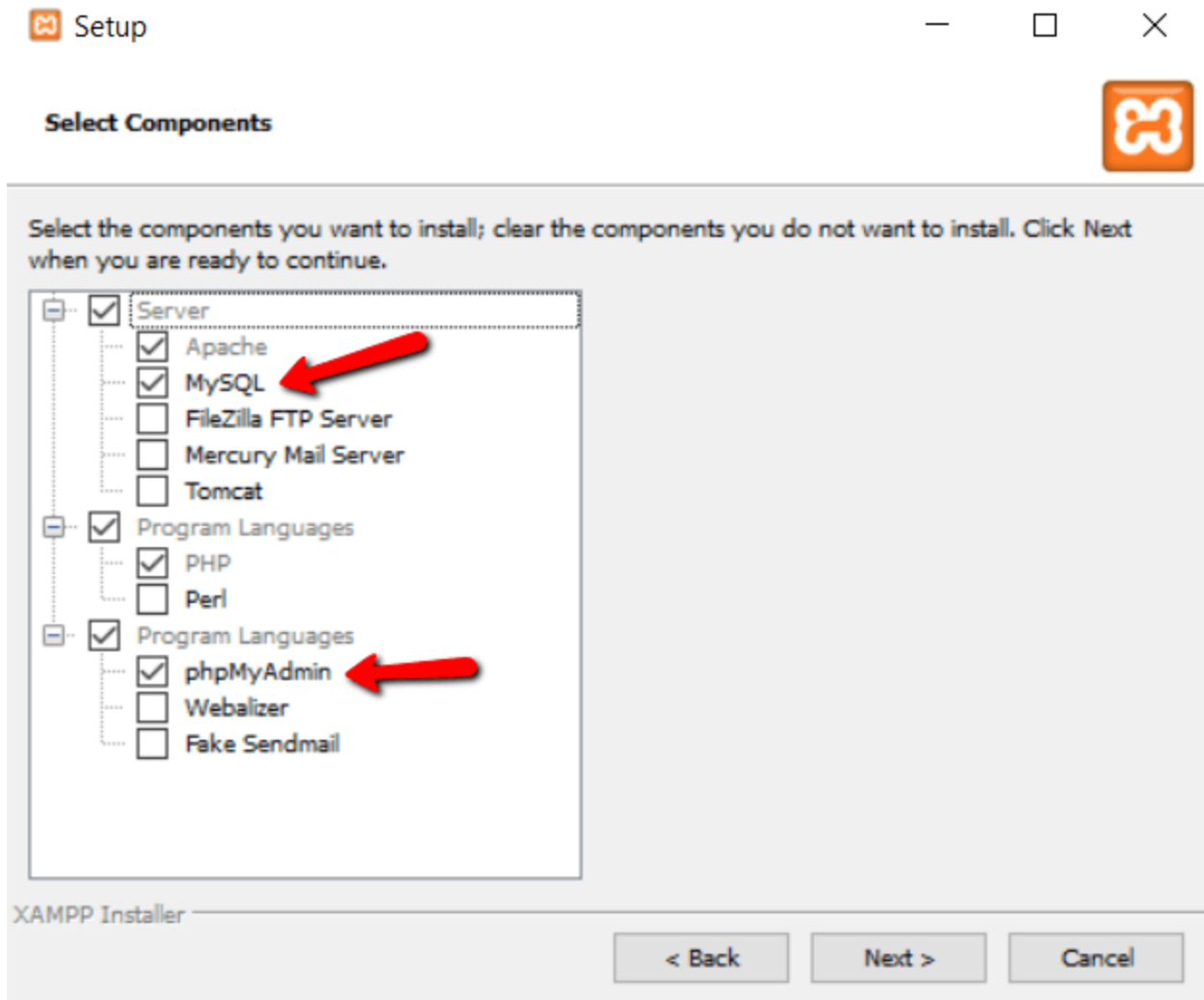
Again, this is all that's needed to install WordPress locally. Uncheck everything else and click **Next.**
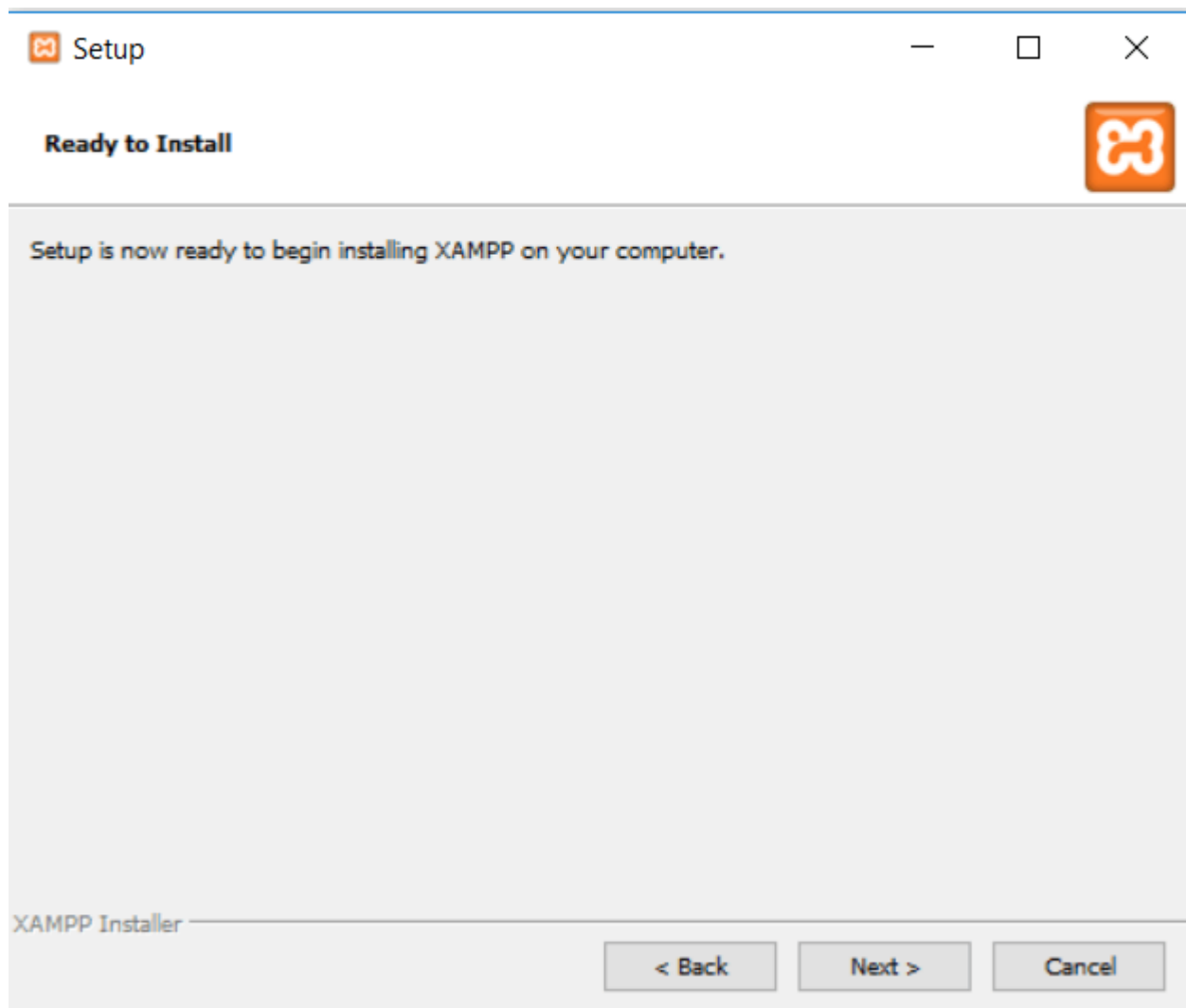
You can now select which folder to install XAMPP in. I always leave it as the default:
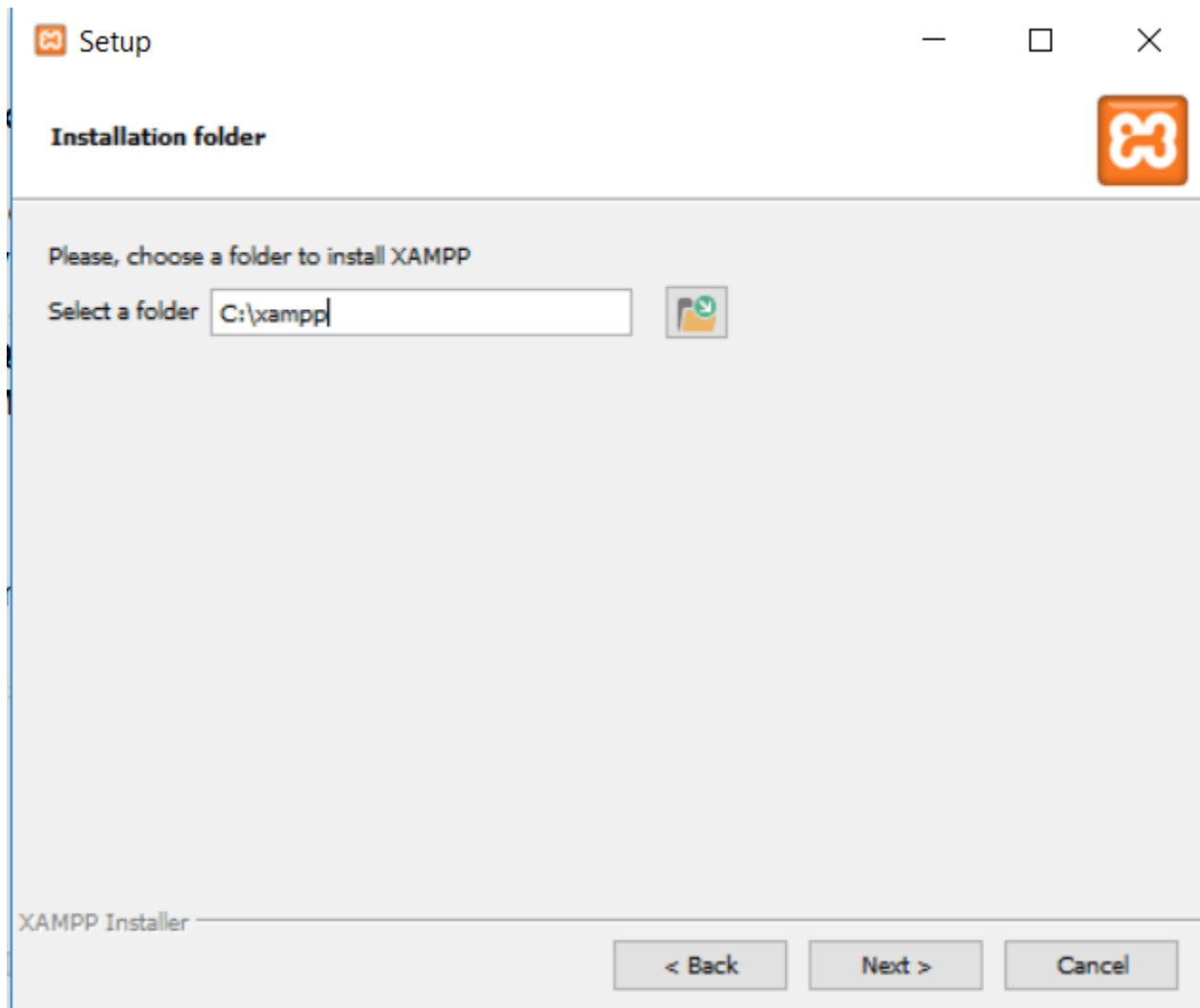
On the next screen, you'll get a prompt asking you to install **Bitnami for XAMPP.** You do **not** need this to install XAMPP and WordPress, so just uncheck the box:
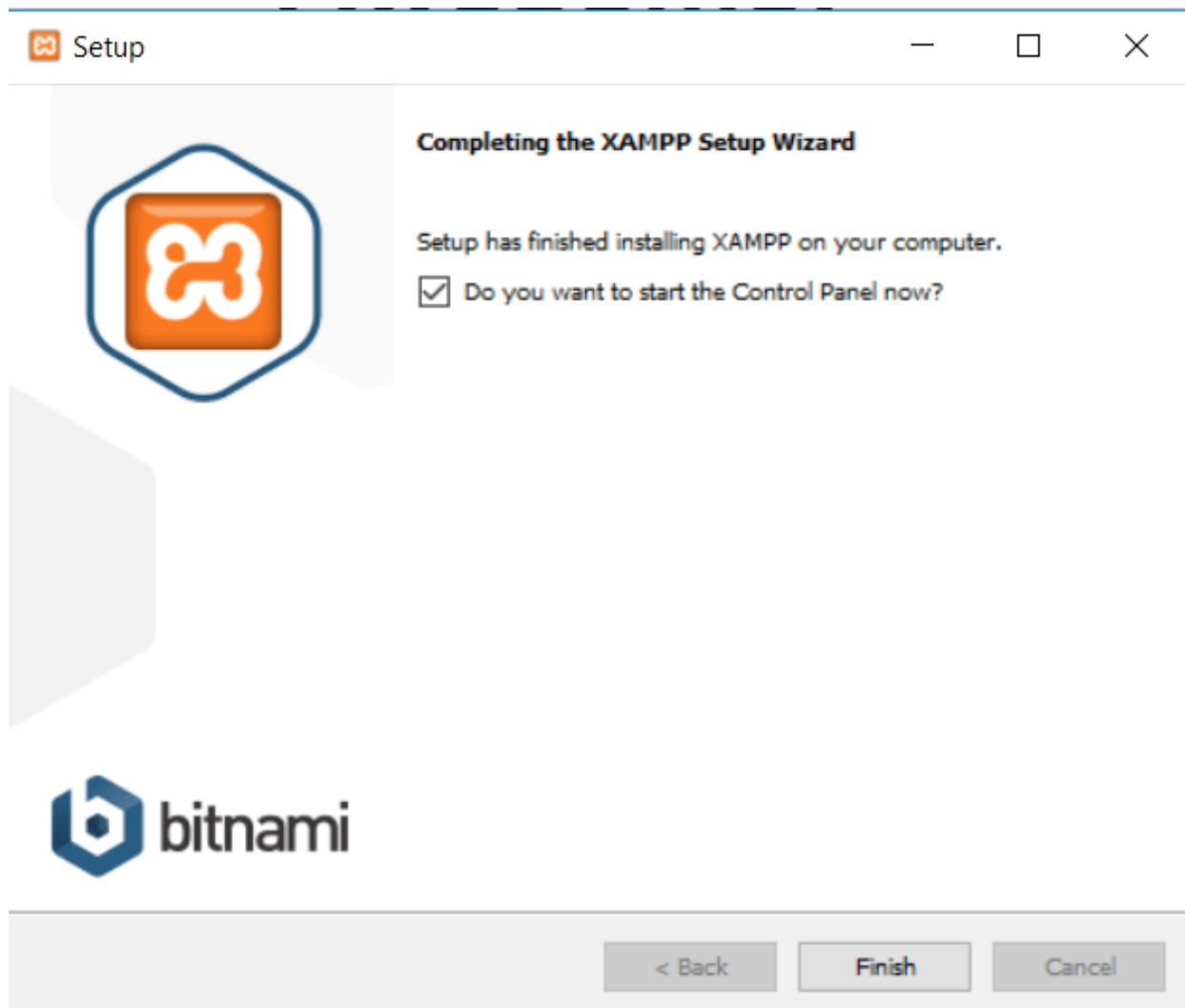
Once you click **Next**, you're ready to run the install:

The install process might take a few minutes:

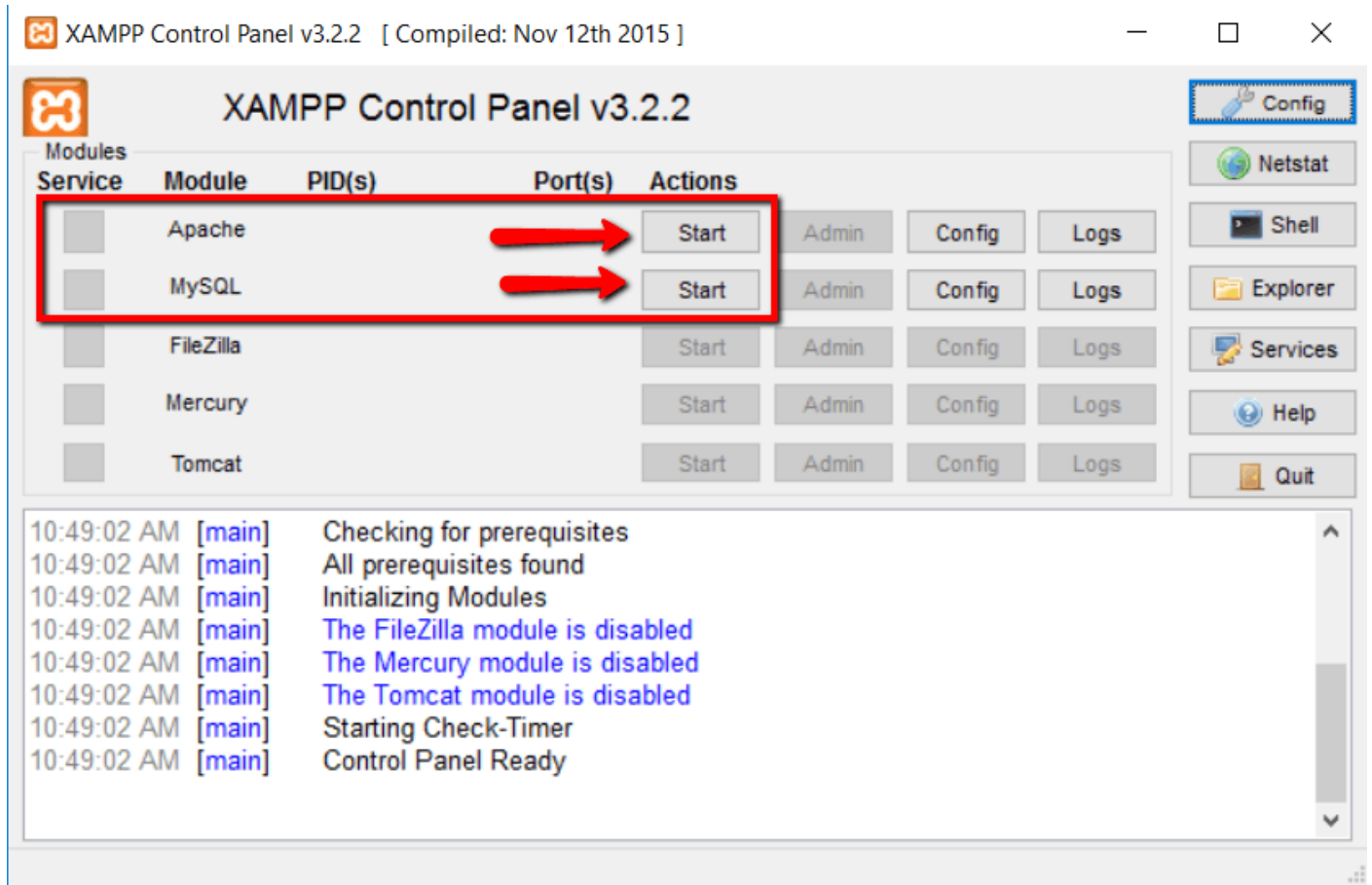Once it finishes, you can launch the control panel to start working with XAMPP:

Step 2: Start the modules and test your server

To install XAMPP and WordPress properly, you'll need to run two modules:
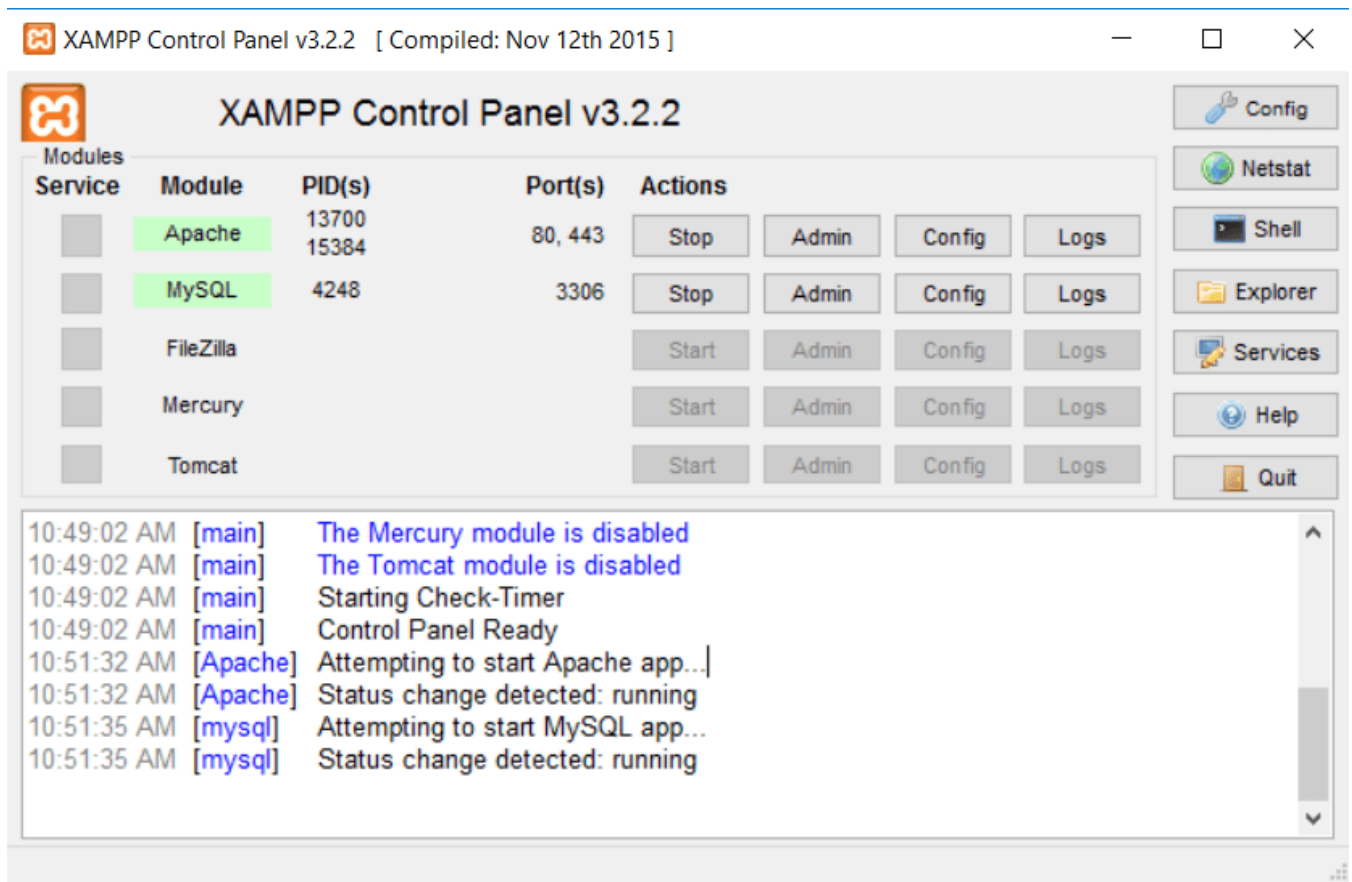
- Apache
- MySQL

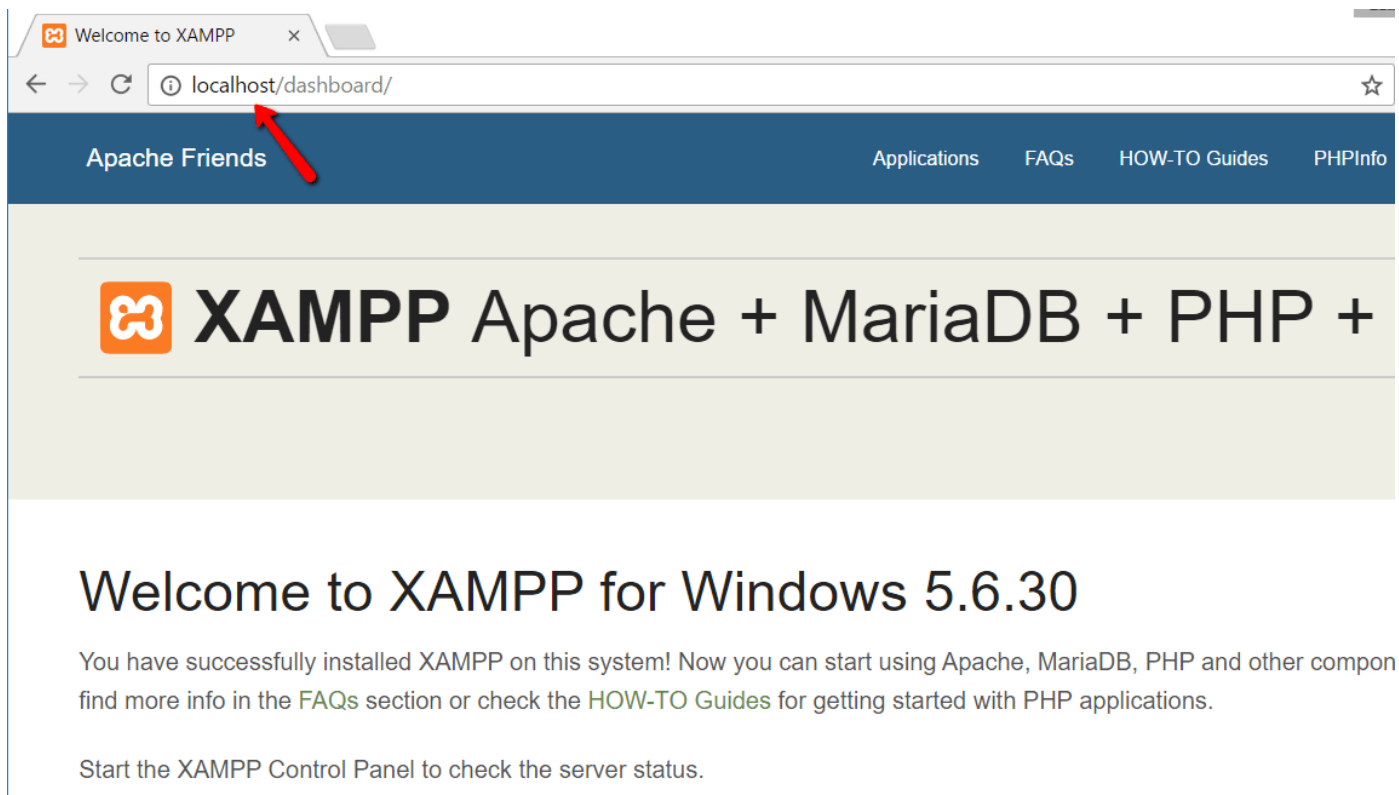You can start both modules from the XAMPP control panel:

Once you launch them, you should see their status turn to green:

And now you should be able to test that your local server is working by going to `http://localhost/` in your web browser of choice:

If all went well, you now have a functioning XAMPP server on your Windows PC! But now it's time to install XAMPP **and** WordPress. So here's how to get a WordPress site up and running on XAMPP.

Step 3: Add the WordPress files

If you've ever manually installed WordPress, the rest of the process should feel pretty familiar. First, you need to go to wordpress.org and download the latest version of WordPress.

Then, in Windows, navigate to the folder where you installed XAMPP. For me, that's `C://xampp`. It should be something similar for you. Then, in that folder, find the **htdocs** subfolder:

Name ^	Date modified	Type	Size
anonymous	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
apache	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
cgi-bin	2/24/2017 10:47 A...	File folder	
contrib	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
htdocs	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
img	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
install	2/24/2017 10:47 A...	File folder	
licenses	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
locale	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
mailoutput	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
mailtodisk	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
mysql	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
php	2/24/2017 10:47 A...	File folder	
phpMyAdmin	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	
src	2/24/2017 10:46 A...	File folder	

In **htdocs**, create a new folder for your test site. This folder name will become the sub-name used to access your site. For example, if you make the folder `testsite`, you'll access your site by going to `http://localhost/testsite`.

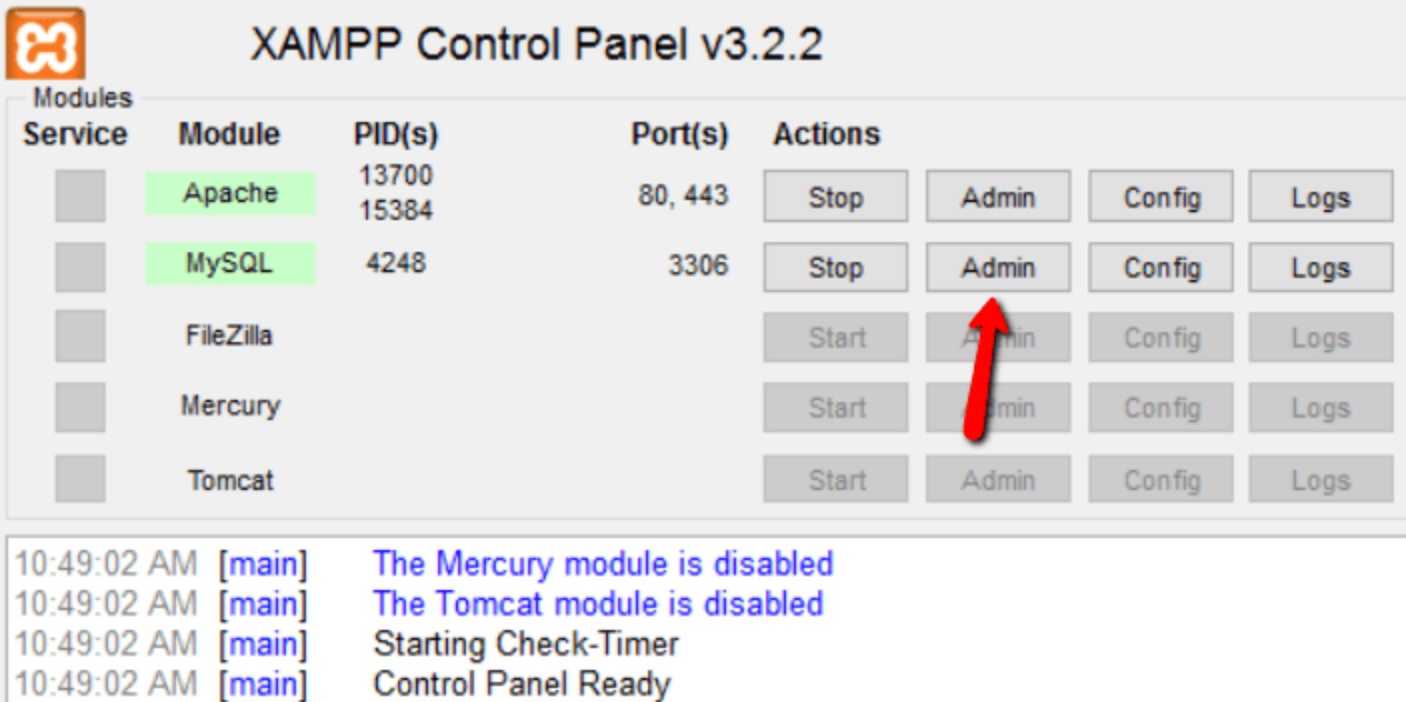Once you create the folder, extract the WordPress .zip file you downloaded from wordpress.org into it:

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
wp-admin	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	File folder	
wp-content	2/24/2017 11:00 A...	File folder	
wp-includes	2/24/2017 11:00 A...	File folder	
index	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	1 K
license	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	Text Document	20 K
readme	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	Chrome HTML Do...	8 K
wp-activate	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	6 K
wp-blog-header	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	1 K
wp-comments-post	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	2 K
wp-config-sample	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	3 K
wp-cron	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	4 K
wp-links-opml	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	3 K
wp-load	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	4 K
wp-login	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	34 K
wp-mail	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	8 K
wp-settings	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	16 K
wp-signup	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	30 K
wp-trackback	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	5 K
xmlrpc	2/24/2017 10:59 A...	PHP File	3 K

Step 4: Create a database for WordPress

Next, you need to create a MySQL database for your WordPress install. To do that, launch PHPMyAdmin from your XAMPP control panel:
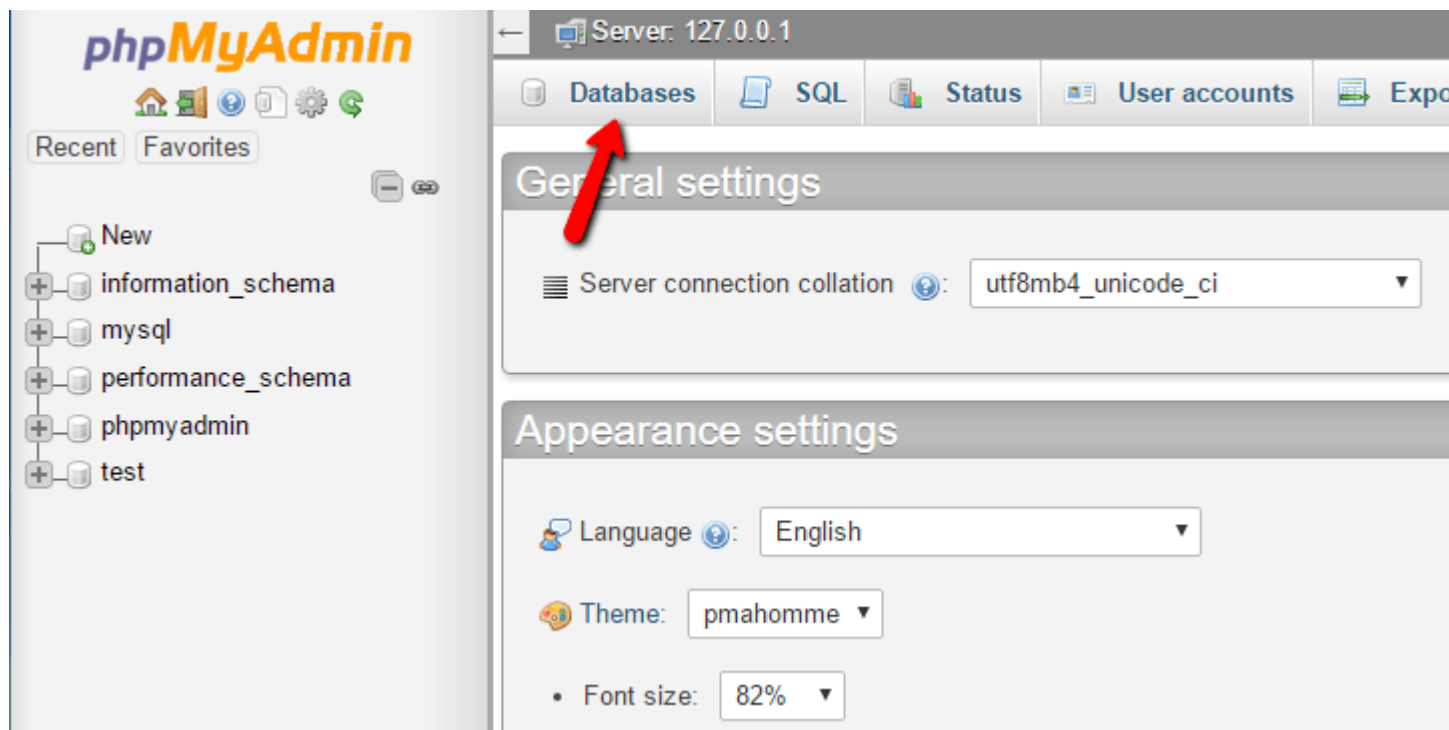
Then click on **Databases** at the top:

And enter a name for your database and click **Create**. Your name can be anything – just remember it because you'll need it for the next step:
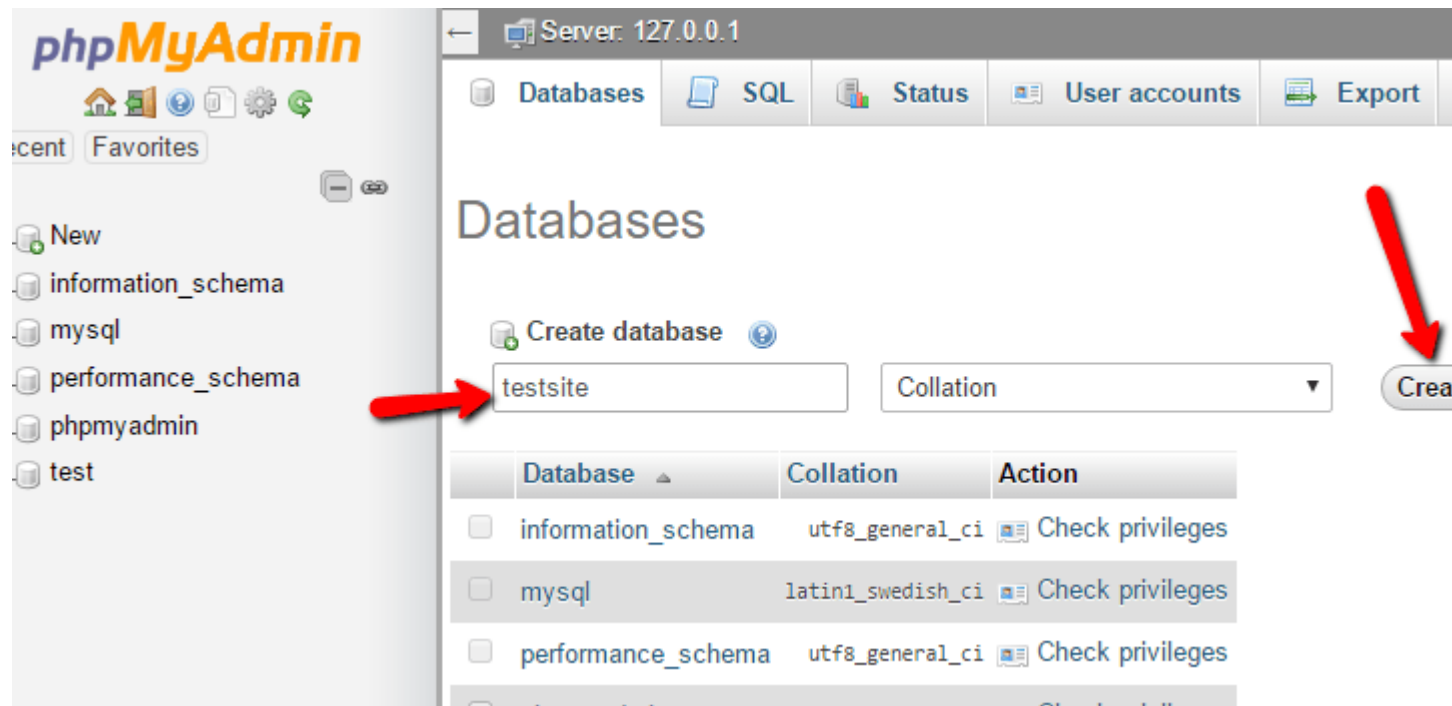
Unlike installing WordPress on a live web server, when you install XAMPP and WordPress, you don't need to worry about creating a database user.

Step 5: Install WordPress locally via the on-screen installer

When you visit your test site, you should see the normal WordPress installer. Remember, your test site is just `http://localhost/FOLDERNAME`:
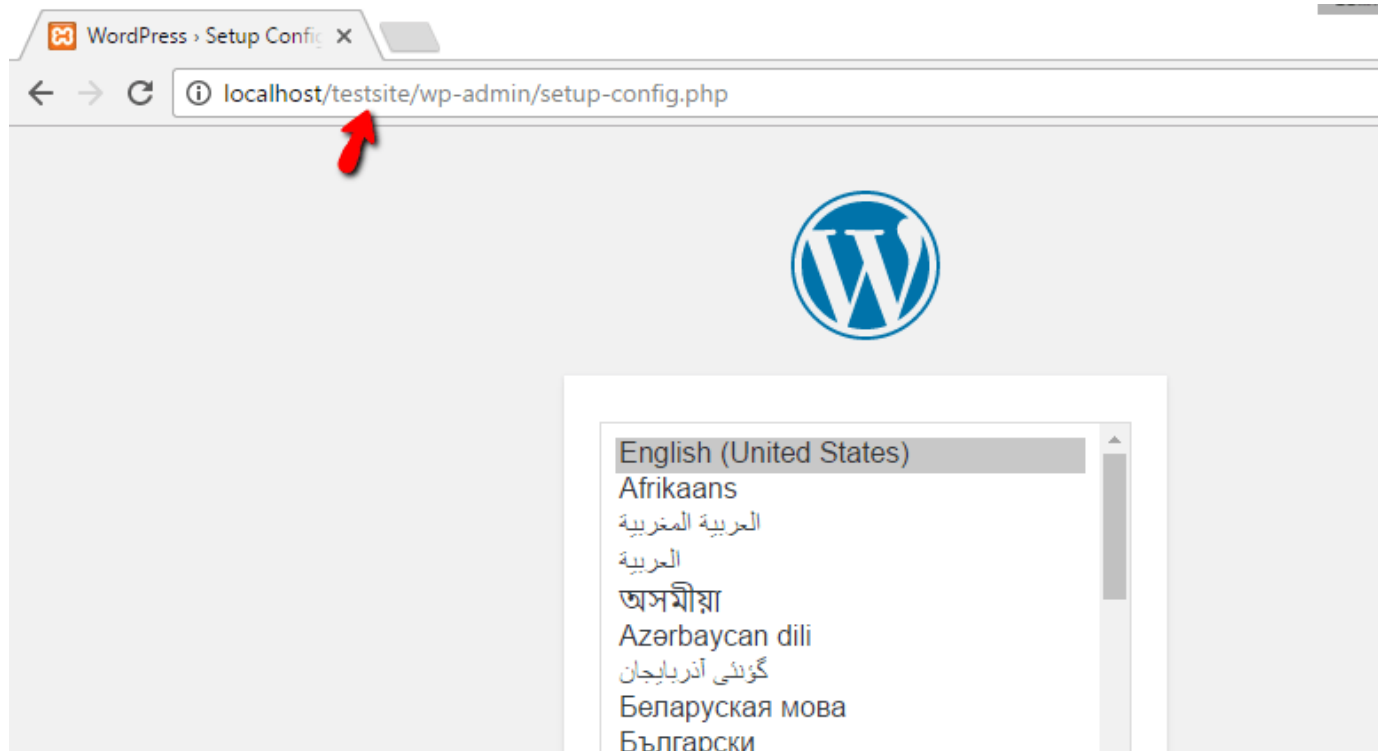
TASK:

Follow the steps above and free host a word press site using Xampp.