

Training Day 12 Report

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S.T.E.P – Science & Technology Entrepreneurs' Park, GNDEC, Ludhiana

Topic Covered: Introduction to XAMPP & Local Server Setup

Introduction

On Day 12 of the MERN Stack training, we were introduced to **XAMPP**, a popular free and open-source local server solution. This tool helps developers run and test PHP-based web applications on their local machines without needing an external hosting environment.

What is XAMPP?

- **XAMPP** stands for **Cross-platform, Apache, MySQL, PHP, and Perl**.
- It provides a **local development environment** to run dynamic websites and web applications.
- Comes pre-packed with **Apache Server, MySQL (or MariaDB), PHP, and phpMyAdmin**.

Why Use XAMPP?

- Easily test and run PHP scripts without internet access.
- Ideal for learning and practicing backend development.
- Lightweight and beginner-friendly interface.
- Includes tools like phpMyAdmin for managing MySQL databases.

Steps to Install and Set Up XAMPP

1. **Download XAMPP** from the official Apache Friends website: <https://www.apachefriends.org>
2. **Install** the setup by following on-screen instructions.
3. Launch the **XAMPP Control Panel**.
4. Start the following services:

- **Apache** (for running PHP and hosting files)
 - **MySQL** (for managing databases)
5. Access the local server by visiting:
- `http://localhost/`
- or open `http://localhost/phpmyadmin/` for managing databases.

Directory Structure

- All web files should be placed inside the htdocs folder in the XAMPP directory.
- Example file path:
`C:\xampp\htdocs\myproject\index.php`

Activities Performed

- Installed and configured XAMPP on local systems.
- Verified Apache and MySQL services.
- Opened localhost in the browser to ensure it's working.
- Created a simple PHP file and displayed output on the local server.
 - `<?php`
 - `echo "XAMPP is running successfully!";`
 - `?>`

Task of the Day

- Create a folder named testsite in htdocs.
- Inside it, add an index.php file that displays your name and current date/time using PHP.
- Run the file at `http://localhost/testsite/index.php`