



# Perl web hosting for beginners

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# Background

- Programming newbie

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- Want to host a simple dynamic website

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- Process must be easy

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- Programming newbie
- Want to host a simple dynamic website
- Process must be easy
- Using Microsoft Windows

# Why use Perl?

- Perl makes easy things easy and hard things possible

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- Perl makes easy things easy and hard things possible
- Well supported, available by default on every shared host provider's servers



# Why use Perl?

- Perl makes easy things easy and hard things possible
- Perl is available by default on every shared host provider's servers (GNU/Linux)
- Perl is Modern

# Why use shared hosting?

- Inexpensive

# Why use shared hosting?

- Inexpensive
- Easy to setup

# Strawberry Perl

- Perl distribution for Windows

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- Up to date (Perl version 5.16.2)



# Apache

- Most popular web server

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- Windows binaries available at <http://httpd.apache.org/download.cgi>

# Mojolicious

- Next generation web framework

# Mojolicious

- Next generation web framework
- Easy to deploy (only dependent on core Perl5)

# Configuring Apache

- Allow the use of *.htaccess* files

```
<Directory "C:/Program Files/Apache Software Foundation/Apache2.2/cgi-bin">
```

```
    AllowOverride All
```

```
    Options FollowSymLinks
```

```
    Order allow,deny
```

```
    Allow from all
```

```
</Directory>
```

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```
</Directory>
```

- Enable *mod\_rewrite*

```
LoadModule rewrite_module modules/mod_rewrite.so
```

# Configuring Mojolicious app

- Goes into Apache's *htdocs* folder

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- Goes into Apache's *htdocs* folder as *app.pl*

```
#!/perl
use 5.10.1;
use strict;
use lib qw(lib);
use Mojolicious::Lite;
get '/' => sub {
    return shift->render('index');
};
get '/*page' => sub {
    my $self = shift;
    return $self->render( $self->param('page') );
};
app->start('cgi');
```



# Configuring Mojolicious app

- Goes into Apache's *htdocs* folder as *app.pl*
- Templates go into *htdocs/templates*

htdocs/templates/index.html.ep

htdocs/templates/contact.html.ep

...

# Configuring .htaccess file

- Execute Perl programs as CGI

AddHandler cgi-script .pl  
Options +ExecCGI

# Configuring .htaccess file

- Execute Perl programs as CGI
- Route all requests to Mojolicious app

```
RewriteEngine On
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f
RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d
RewriteRule ^(.*)$ app.pl/$1 [L,QSA]
```

# Configuring .htaccess file

- Execute Perl programs as CGI
- Route all requests to Mojolicious app
- Deny listing of templates

```
<FilesMatch ".html.ep">  
    Order deny,allow  
    Deny from all  
</FilesMatch>
```

# Configuring .htaccess file

- Execute Perl programs as CGI
- Route all requests to Mojolicious app
- Deny listing of templates
- Directory index points to app

DirectoryIndex app.pl

# Configure templates

- Add Perl code to templates

<h1>Unix epoch</h1>

<p>

Server time is: <%= time %>

</p>

# Questions?

# Thank You!

Talk available at

<https://github.com/arpadszasz/perl-hosting-beginners-talk>