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Simple Login with CodeIgniter in PHP

Posted by aarias in PHP

[CodeIgniter](#) is an open source Web Application framework built in PHP designed to make your life as a programmer easier, while allowing you good speed for development, and also good performance when the site is up and running.

Being a Java developer for over 10 years, when I had to move to PHP I chose CodeIgniter for the following reasons:

- Easy to install and configure (being a newbie in PHP this was crucial)
- Clean and elegant [MVC](#) implementation
- Uses [Active Record](#) pattern for database access
- Overall small footprint and good performance

Usually when you are building a program, the login/logout functionality is a must we always have to go through, so this quick tutorial will focus on this functionality, taking advantage of the benefits of using CodeIgniter instead of doing it from scratch in PHP.

Requirements

- [CodeIgniter](#) framework. By the time this tutorial was done,

the latest version was **2.0.2**

- Any Apache/PHP/MySQL stack. You can install the applications independently, or install one of those packages that have all of them bundled together.

Installing CodeIgniter

To install CodeIgniter, you only need to unzip the Zip file you download from the site into your **htdocs** directory and you're good to go. We'll configure the database access later.

Create the database

For this tutorial, you need a MySQL database with the following table:

```
1 CREATE TABLE `users` (  
2   `id` tinyint(4) NOT NULL AUTO  
3   `username` varchar(10) NOT N  
4   `password` varchar(100) NOT I  
5   PRIMARY KEY (`id`)  
6 ) ENGINE=MyISAM DEFAULT CHARS
```

Remember also to add at least one user. We'll add one user called **bob** with password **supersecret**.

```
1 insert into users (username,
```

Configure CodeIgniter

Database Access

Update the file **application/config/databa**

se.php in your CodeIgniter installation with your database info:

```
1 $db['default']['hostname'] =  
2 $db['default']['username'] =  
3 $db['default']['password'] =  
4 $db['default']['database'] =
```

Default Controller

We need to tell CodeIgniter to land into our login page instead of the default welcome page. Update the file **application/config/routes.php** in your CodeIgniter installation with your controller's name. We'll call our landing controller **login**.

```
1 $route['default_controller'] =
```

Default Libraries

In the file **application/config/autoload.php** you can configure the default libraries you want to load in all your controllers. For our case, we'll load the database and session libraries, since we want to handle user sessions, and also the URL helper for internal link generation

```
1 $autoload['libraries'] = array(  
2 ...  
3 $autoload['helper'] = array('
```

Encryption Key

When you use the **session** library, you need to set the **encryption_key** in the file **application/config/config.**

php.

```
1 $config['encryption_key'] = '!
```

The Code

Here are the actual Views.

Controllers and Model we are using for the login functionality.

User Model (application/models/user.php)

```
1 <?php
2 Class User extends CI_Model
3 {
4     function login($username, $password)
5     {
6         $this->db->select('id,
7         $this->db->from('users
8         $this->db->where('username' => $username)
9         $this->db->where('password' => $password);
10    };
11    $this->db->limit(1);
12
13    $query = $this->db->get($this->db->select($this->db->from($this->db->where($this->db->where($this->db->limit(1));
14
15    if($query->num_rows() == 1)
16    {
17        return $query->result();
18    }
19    else
20    {
21        return false;
22    }
23 }
24 ?>
```

Login Controller (application/controllers/login.php)

```
1 <?php if ( ! defined('BASEPATH')) exit('No direct script access allowed');
2
3 class Login extends CI_Controller {
4
5     function __construct()
6     {
7         parent::__construct();
8     }
9
10    function index()
11    {
12        $this->load->helper(array('form', 'url'));
13        $this->load->view('login_view');
14    }
15
16 }
17
18 ?>
```

Login View (application/views/login_view.php)

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C
2 >
3 <html xmlns="http://www.w3.or
4 <head>
5 <title>Simple Login with C
6 </head>
7 <body>
8 <h1>Simple Login with Code
9 <?php echo validation_erro
10 <?php echo form_open('veri
11 <label for="username">Us
12 <input type="text" size=
13 <br/>
14 <label for="password">Pa
15 <input type="password" s
16 <br/>
17 <input type="submit" val
18 </form>
19 </body>
</html>
```

VerifyLogin Controller (application/controllers/verifylogin.php)

This controller does the actual validation of the fields and checks the credentials against the database.

```
1 <?php if ( ! defined('BASEPATI
2
3 class VerifyLogin extends CI_
4
5 function __construct()
6 {
7     parent::__construct();
8     $this->load->model('user',
9 }
10
11 function index()
12 {
13     //This method will have th
14     $this->load->library('form
15
16     $this->form_validation->se
17     $this->form_validation->se
18 ;
19
20 if($this->form_validation-
21 {
22     //Field validation faile
23     $this->load->view('login
24 }
25 else
26 {
27     //Go to private area
28     redirect('home', 'refres
29 }
30
31 }
32
33 function check_database($pas
34 {
35     //Field validation succee
36     $username = $this->input->
37
38     //query the database
39     $result = $this->user->log
40
41 if($result)
```

```

42     {
43         $sess_array = array();
44         foreach($result as $row)
45         {
46             $sess_array = array(
47                 'id' => $row->id,
48                 'username' => $row->
49             );
50             $this->session->set_us
51         }
52         return TRUE;
53     }
54     else
55     {
56         $this->form_validation->
57         return false;
58     }
59 }
60 }
?>

```

Home Controller (application/controllers/home.php)

This is the private page (only authenticated users can access it).

```

1  <?php if ( ! defined('BASEPATH'))
2  session_start(); //we need to
3  class Home extends CI_Controller
4
5  function __construct()
6  {
7      parent::__construct();
8  }
9
10 function index()
11 {
12     if($this->session->userdata)
13     {
14         $session_data = $this->session->userdata;
15         $data['username'] = $session_data['username'];
16         $this->load->view('home_view', $data, TRUE);
17     }
18     else
19     {
20         //If no session, redirect to login
21         redirect('login', 'refresh');
22     }
23 }
24
25 function logout()
26 {
27     $this->session->unset_userdata('username');
28     session_destroy();
29     redirect('home', 'refresh');
30 }
31
32 }
33
34 ?>

```

Home Page View (application/views/home_view.php)

```

1  <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
2  <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
3

```

```
4 <head>
5 <title>Simple Login with C
6 </head>
7 <body>
8 <h1>Home</h1>
9 <h2>Welcome <?php echo $us
10 <a href="home/logout">Logo
11 </body>
</html>
```

The code is pretty easy to follow and understand. Also, [you can download the code from here](#), so you can install it and test it in your location. You'll only need a full installation of CodeIgniter 2.0.2 and the table in your MySQL database. If you need any help, feel free to leave us a comment or shoot us an email.

Also, this code uses a pretty basic form validation from CodeIgniter. If you need a more complex validation process, check [CodeIgniter's Form Validation](#) docs at their site.

Cheers!

3 Comments



irul

September 17, 2014

at 8:57 pm

Its very nice script..
very helpfull for
newbe like me...
thankyou..

REPLY



Gyanranjan

September 20, 2014

at 1:47 am

Thank You,
This is a well
website for me to
work with
codeigniter.

REPLY



Gajender

September 22, 2014

at 3:25 am

It's really a very easy to follow code. Thank you for posting. I have just started learning code ignitor. It would be really helpfull for me if u give some links and sources from where I can get the material to practice.

REPLY

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