

1DA1611:A

Advanced Internet Programming

Project nr. 11 Report: 2023-05-11

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Plan:

- Familiarize oneself with Content Management Systems and their use-cases;
- Explain installation and usage of PrestaShop CMS;
- Explain installation and usage of Textpattern CMS.

Given task:

Tasks

1. Please install and test the assigned CMS. Prior to do so, *please read carefully the attached to the CMS documentation.*
2. If the assigned CMS doesn't work well, *please feel free to select another one, among those which have not been assigned yet, providing the License is of GNU type.*
3. Please indicate *what are the necessary additional tools indispensable* in order to make the CMS functional (additional privileges? Database management system? Others – like document management system or image management system? Etc.) .

An exhaustive description of

1. the installation process,
2. the using mode

will be included in the final report.

Prestashop, Textpattern – Priadko Illia

1. Introduction to Content Management Systems.

Content Management Systems (CMS) are software applications (usually packages) designed to create, manage, and modify digital content, such as websites, blogs, and online stores, without requiring extensive technical knowledge for the hoster. CMSes provide a fairly intuitive interface, enabling hosts to easily add, edit, and organize content, making website management more efficient and accessible.

In this context, two popular CMSes assigned for my analysis are **PrestaShop** and **Textpattern**.

- PrestaShop is a feature-rich e-commerce CMS that empowers businesses to set up and manage online stores with ease. It offers a wide range of customizable themes, modules, and plugins to enhance the functionality and appearance of online stores. PrestaShop is published under the **Open Software License**

(OSL), a permissive open-source license that allows users to modify, distribute, and use the software freely. This open-source nature encourages a vibrant community of developers and enthusiasts to contribute to its ongoing development and improvement.

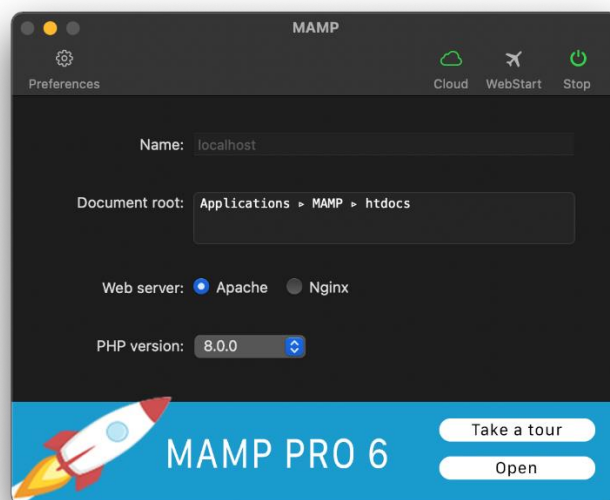
- **Textpattern**, on the other hand, is a flexible and lightweight CMS suitable for content-focused websites, including blogs and news portals. It offers a user-friendly interface and an array of powerful features to create and manage dynamic websites efficiently. Textpattern is licensed under the **GNU General Public License (GPL)**, a widely used free software license that grants users the freedom to use, modify, and distribute the software. This license fosters collaboration and ensures that the software remains accessible to all users.

By installing and testing both PrestaShop and Textpattern, the aim of the project is to gain hands-on experience with two different CMSes, each tailored to different and quite specific purposes. The analysis is going to cover the installation of these tools, as well as feature showcase in each respective fields.

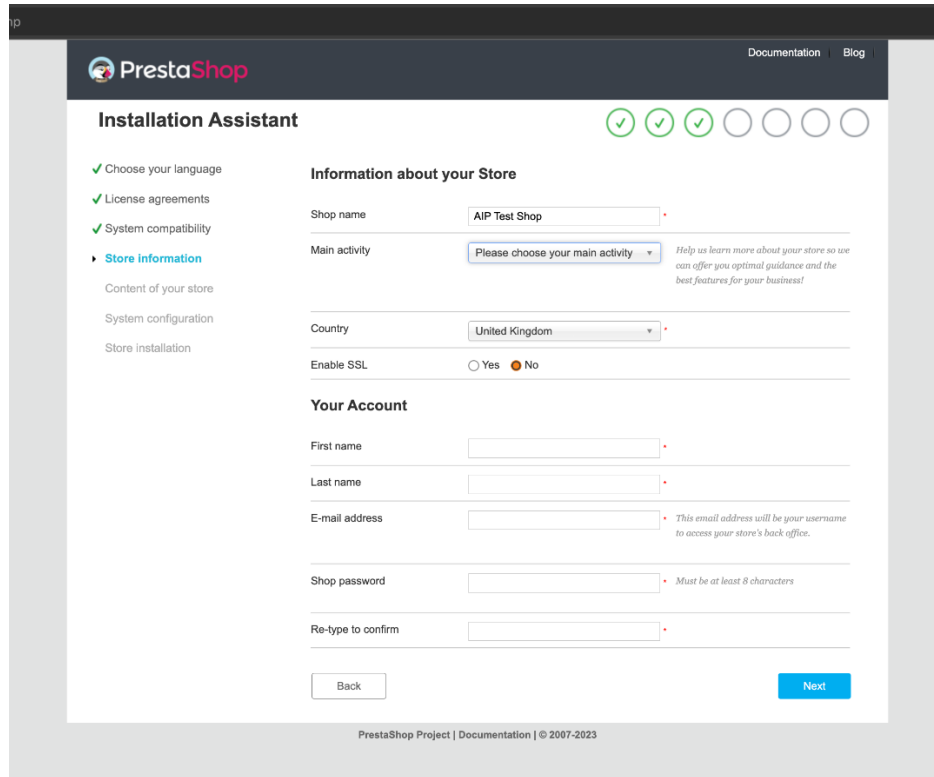
2. PrestaShop CMS

Below is going to be a step-by-step description of the installation process, referring to [PrestaShop's official documentation](#). Unfortunately, due to additional privileges required, the CMS could not be installed on lab computers, so I used a laptop running macOS 10.13.

After checking my machine is in line with the minimal system requirements for PrestaShop's local development environment, I proceeded to install a compatible local web server. The official documentation recommends MAMP, which I also used.

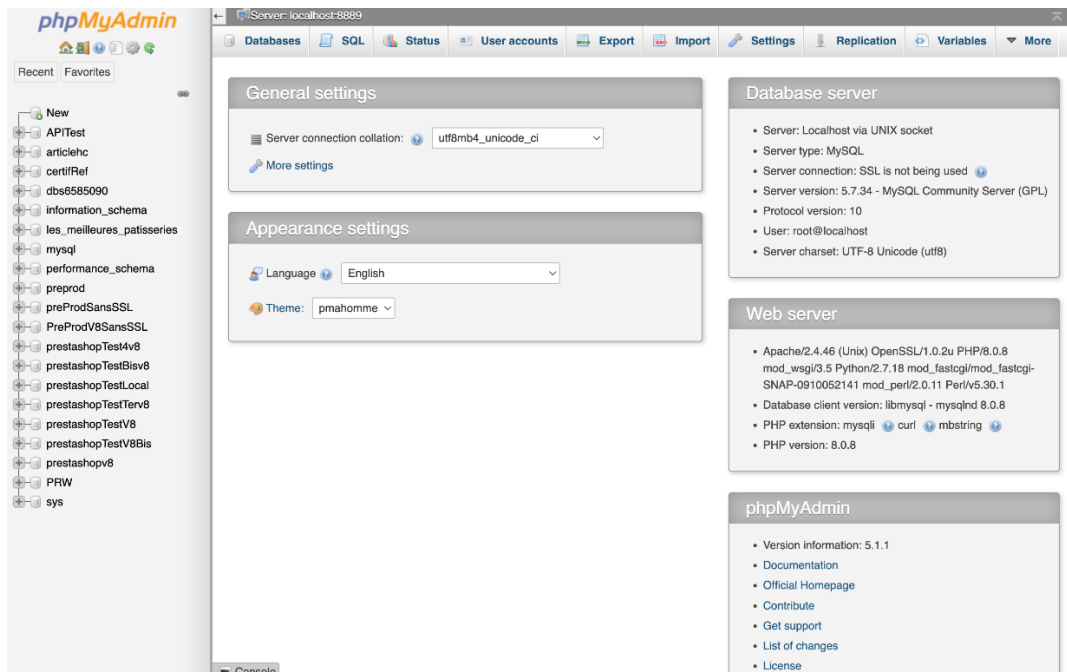


After referring it to the folder containing PrestaShop's installation files, I started the server and was greeted by the installation wizard accessible in-browser.



The screenshot shows the PrestaShop Installation Assistant web interface. The top navigation bar includes the PrestaShop logo and links for Documentation and Blog. The main heading is "Installation Assistant", followed by a progress bar with six steps: 1. Choose your language (checked), 2. License agreements (checked), 3. System compatibility (checked), 4. Store information (active), 5. Content of your store, and 6. System configuration. The "Store information" section contains the following fields: Shop name (AIP Test Shop), Main activity (Please choose your main activity), Country (United Kingdom), and Enable SSL (No). The "Your Account" section contains: First name, Last name, E-mail address (with a note: "This email address will be your username to access your store's back office."), Shop password (with a note: "Must be at least 8 characters"), and Re-type to confirm. At the bottom are "Back" and "Next" buttons. The footer reads "PrestaShop Project | Documentation | © 2007-2023".

Another important step was to set up a MySQL database, which comes included with MAMP. I accessed the web UI and made a new database for my soon-to-become online store.



The screenshot shows the phpMyAdmin web interface for a MySQL server on localhost:8889. The left sidebar lists a tree of databases, including "New", "API/Test", "articlehc", "certifRef", "dbs6585090", "information_schema", "mysql", "performance_schema", "preprod", "preProdSansSSL", "PreProdV8SansSSL", "prestashopTest4v8", "prestashopTestBisv8", "prestashopTestLocal", "prestashopTestTerv8", "prestashopTestV8", "prestashopTestV8Bis", "prestashoppv8", "PRW", and "sys". The main panel displays configuration settings for the selected database: General settings (Server connection collation: utf8mb4_unicode_ci), Appearance settings (Language: English, Theme: pmahomme), Database server (Server: Localhost via UNIX socket, Server type: MySQL, Server connection: SSL is not being used, Server version: 5.7.34 - MySQL Community Server (GPL), Protocol version: 10, User: root@localhost, Server charset: UTF-8 Unicode (utf8)), Web server (Apache/2.4.46 (Unix) OpenSSL/1.0.2u PHP/8.0.8, mod_wsgi/3.5 Python/2.7.18 mod_fastcgi/mod_fastcgi-SNAP-0910052141 mod_perl/2.0.11 Perl/v5.30.1, Database client version: libmysql - mysqlnd 8.0.8, PHP extension: mysqli, curl, mbstring, PHP version: 8.0.8), and phpMyAdmin (Version information: 5.1.1, Documentation, Official Homepage, Contribute, Get support, List of changes, License). A "Console" tab is visible at the bottom left.

PrestaShop

Documentation | Blog

Installation Assistant

- ✓ Choose your language
- ✓ License agreements
- ✓ System compatibility
- ✓ Store information
- ✓ Content of your store
- ▶ **System configuration**
- Store installation

Configure your database by filling out the following fields

To use PrestaShop, you must **create a database** to collect all of your store's data-related activities. Please complete the fields below in order for PrestaShop to connect to your database.

Database server address: 127.0.0.1:8889
The default port is 3306. To use a different port, add the port number at the end of your server's address i.e "4242".

Database name: prestashop_dir

Database login: root

Database password:

Tables prefix: ps_

Drop existing tables: ☒

[Test your database connection now!](#)

✖ Database Server is not found. Please verify the login, password and server fields (PDOException)

[Back](#) [Next](#)

PrestaShop Project | Documentation | © 2007-2023

After some further simple setup, the “store” was ready. PrestaShop comes with a boilerplate pre-included, meaning the base is already set up, and now the host/owner is free to amend and change the contents of their new site as they see fit.



Your installation is finished!

You have just finished installing your shop. Thank you for using PrestaShop!

Please remember your login information:

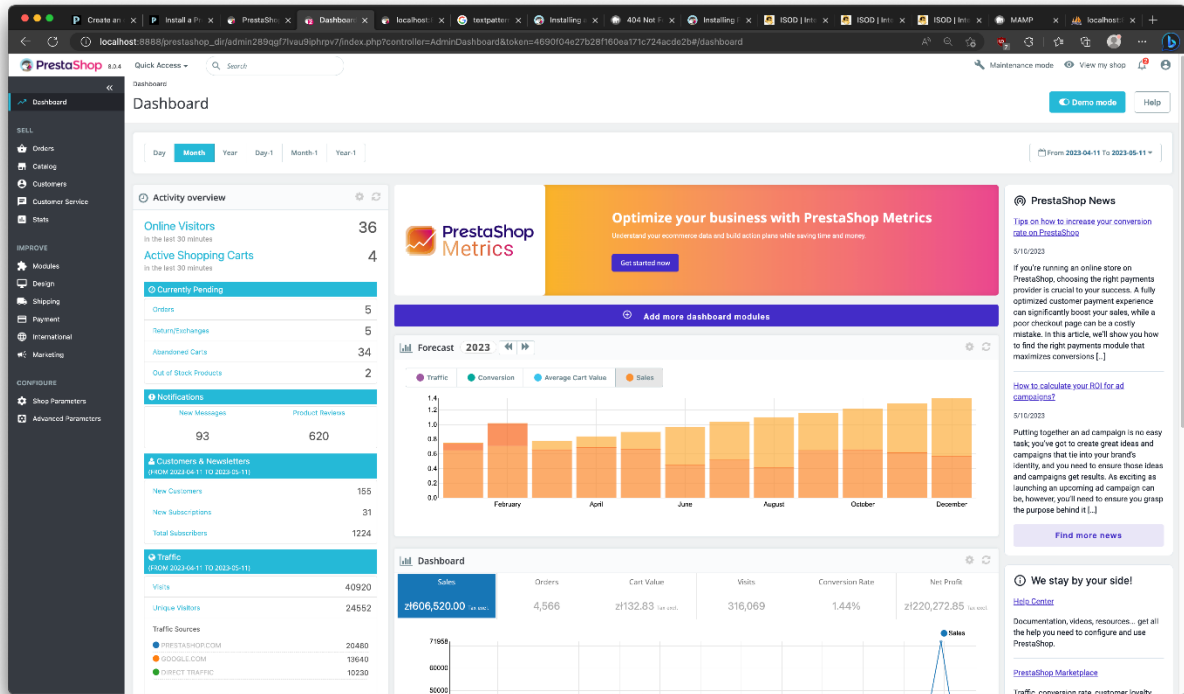
The “shop” I have created is called “AIP Test Shop”. Next up is a demonstration of features available for the owner of said store, including but not limited to:

- E-commerce functionality, visual customisation
- Product catalogue management
- Order and customer management
- Payment and shipping integration


- Analytics

Examples:

Analytics dashboard, with all the new information about orders and products (Demo mode can be enabled to populate the graphs and metrics with example info):



Customer and order management, with contact information, order UI, and notifications of incoming orders to the back-office (admin tools provided for the storeowner):



cool boy


(sminem@boy.cool)

05/11/2023

10:46

sdfsdfs

Your answer to cool boy



Dear Customer, you will receive your turquoise classic shortly.

Regards,
- Illia, the back office worker (apparently)

my store

CLOTHES ACCESSORIES ART

Search our catalog

Home / Order confirmation

✓ YOUR ORDER IS CONFIRMED


An email has been sent to the sminem@boy.cool address.

Your order on AIP Test Shop is complete.

You have chosen the cash on delivery method.

Your order will be sent very soon.

For any questions or for further information, please contact our [customer support](#).

ORDER ITEMS	UNIT PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL PRODUCTS
 Example Product (Blue)	€11,228.77	1	€11,228.77
Subtotal			€11,228.77
Shipping and handling			Free
TOTAL (TAX INCL.)			€11,228.77

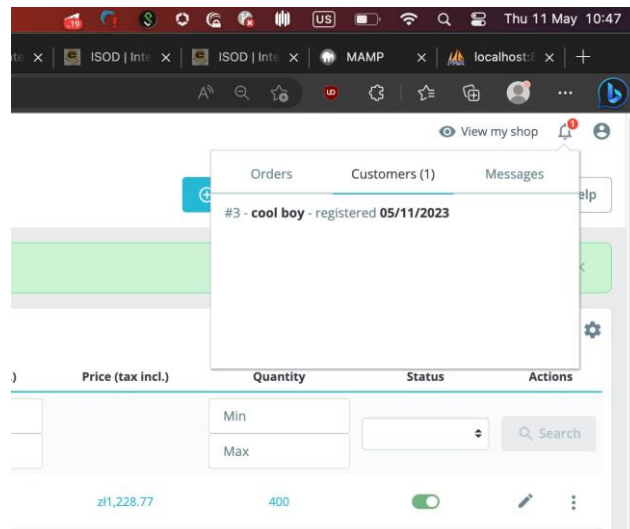
ORDER DETAILS:

Order reference: MNCAPKFF

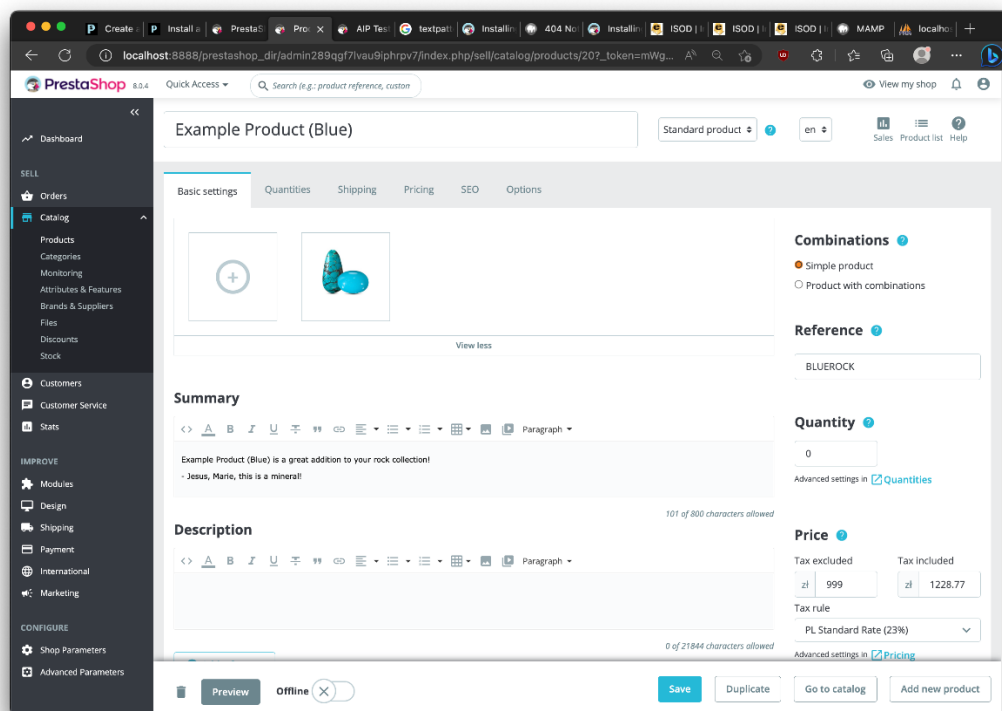
Payment method: Cash on delivery (COD)

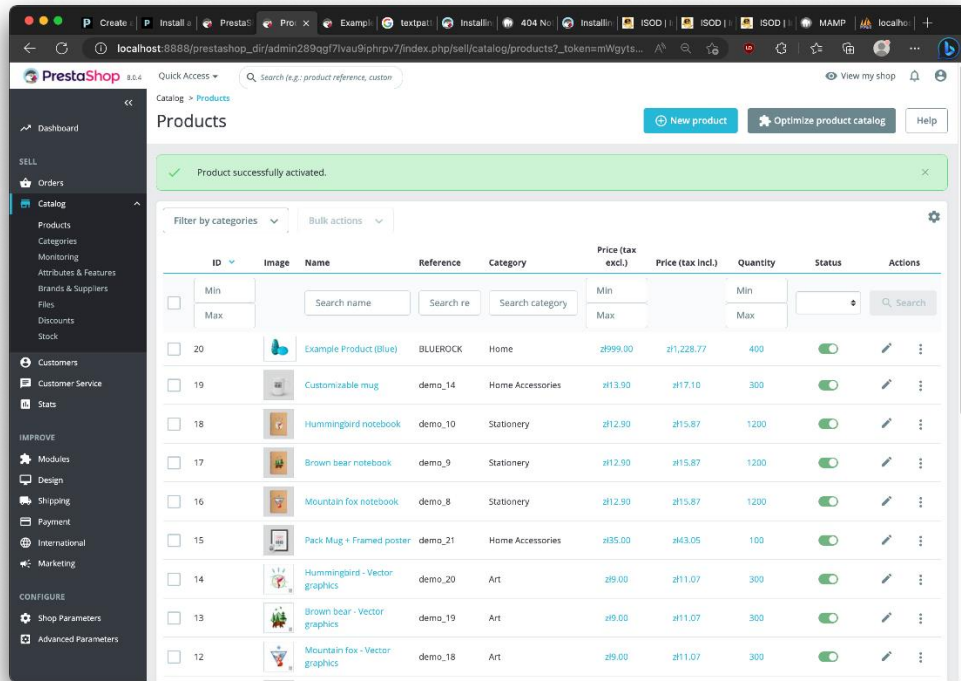
Shipping method: Click and collect

Pick up in-store



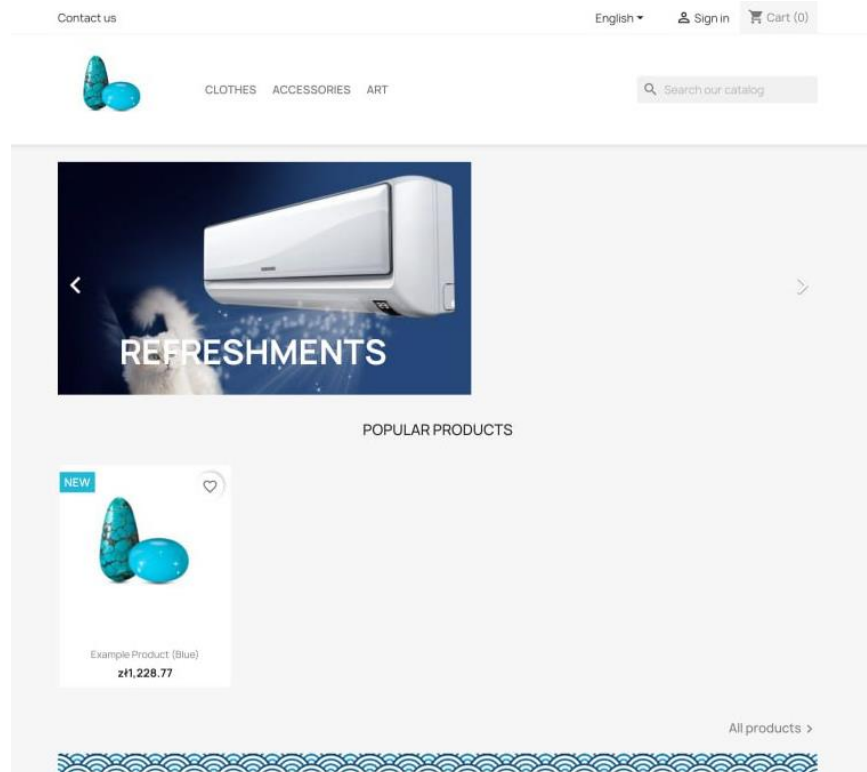
Product catalogue management; PrestaShop allows managing stock, and products from the back-office component of the site:





Customization options, branding:

I was able to quickly and easily amend the default theme with my own “branding”, and change the homepage to my liking.



These are just some of the main features that PrestaShop offers to create and manage successful online stores. It is safe to say that its comprehensive feature set makes it a popular choice for businesses of all sizes seeking a powerful e-commerce CMS.

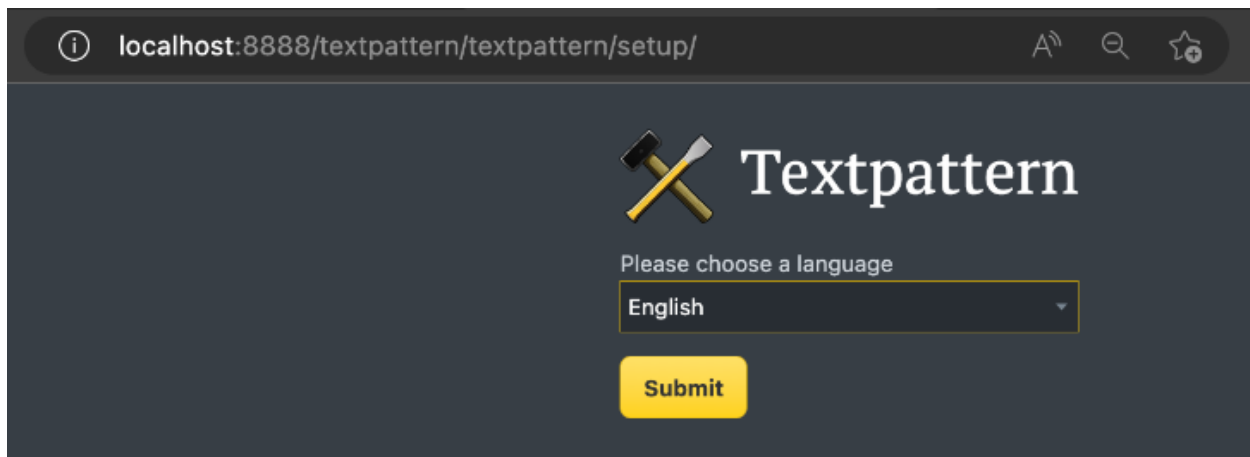
3. Textpattern CMS

Similar steps were conducted to install and use Textpattern too. Here are some main features this CMS provides for users:

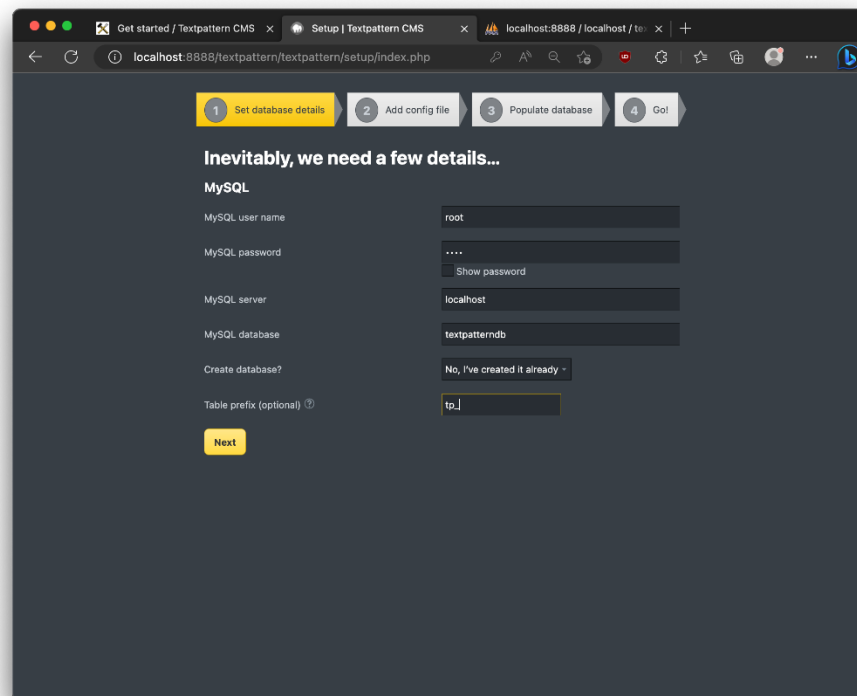
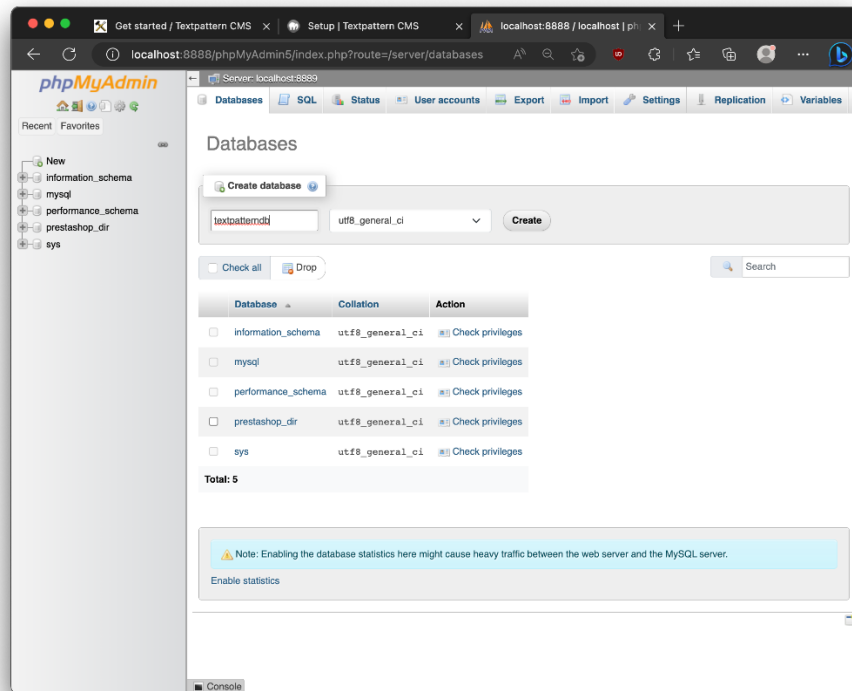
- Content creation and Editing
- Templating system
- Content organization
- User management and permissions
- Plugin ecosystem

Here is a brief step-by-step description of installation of Textpattern on my local development environment. Please note I used MAMP for this, as Textpattern also uses the same database and runtime components (PHP and MySQL).

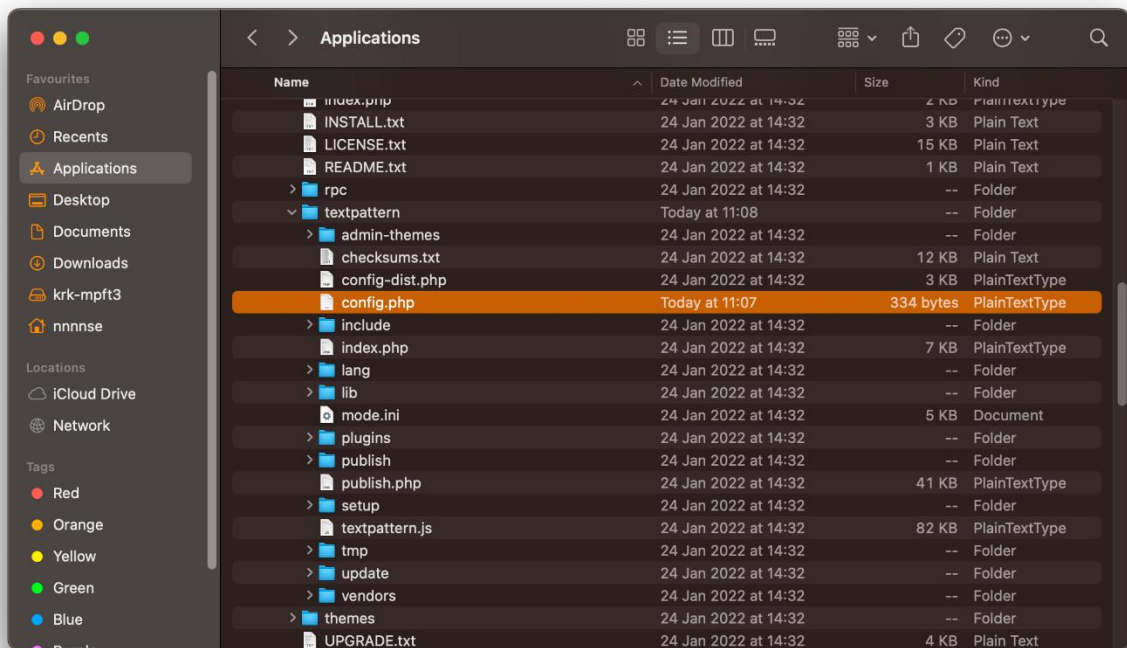
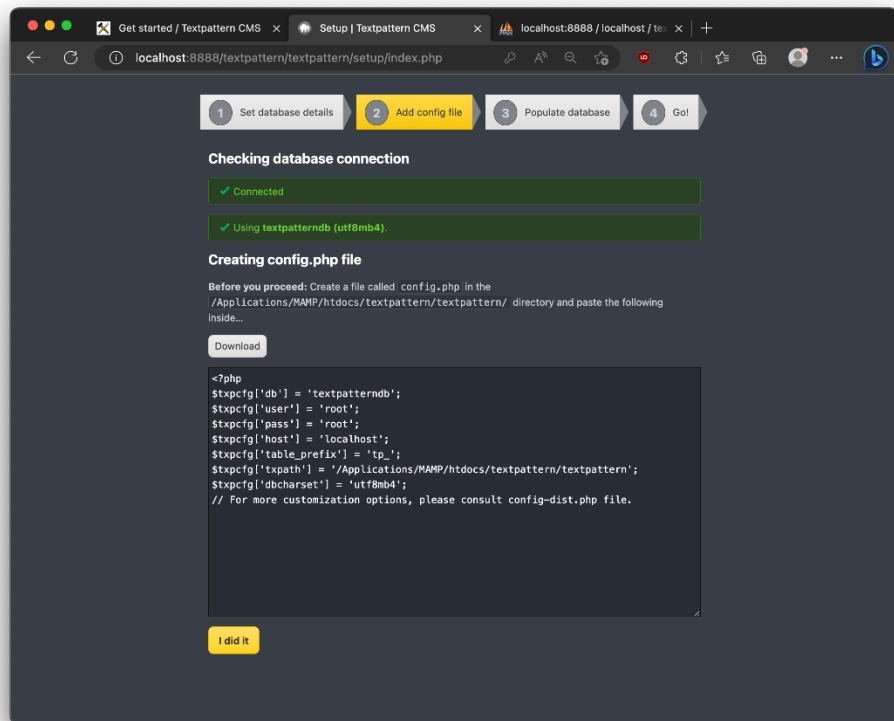
After placing the installation files into the website's directory, I was greeted by the setup wizard.



After which database access needs to be granted. I went back to MySQL's web UI and created a new database for Textpattern:



The database is now successfully connected, and a configuration file is created. It has to be placed in the root of Textpattern's directory to be accessible later.



And after a few short prompts to setup the admin access and some site settings, we are ready to write and publish with Textpattern!

1 Set database details

2 Add config file

3 Populate database

4 Go!

Creating database tables

You are about to create and populate database tables. At this stage you will also need to set up an administrator user account.

Your full name	Illia Priadko
Your email address	01155614@pw.edu.pl
Choose a login name ?	ipriadko
Choose a password ? Show password

Site configuration

Please enter the URL of your site. ?	http://localhost:8888/textpattern
Admin-side theme ?	Core: Hive
Public theme ?	Four Point Eight (4.8.8)

Next

1 Set database details

2 Add config file

3 Populate database

4 Go!

That went well!

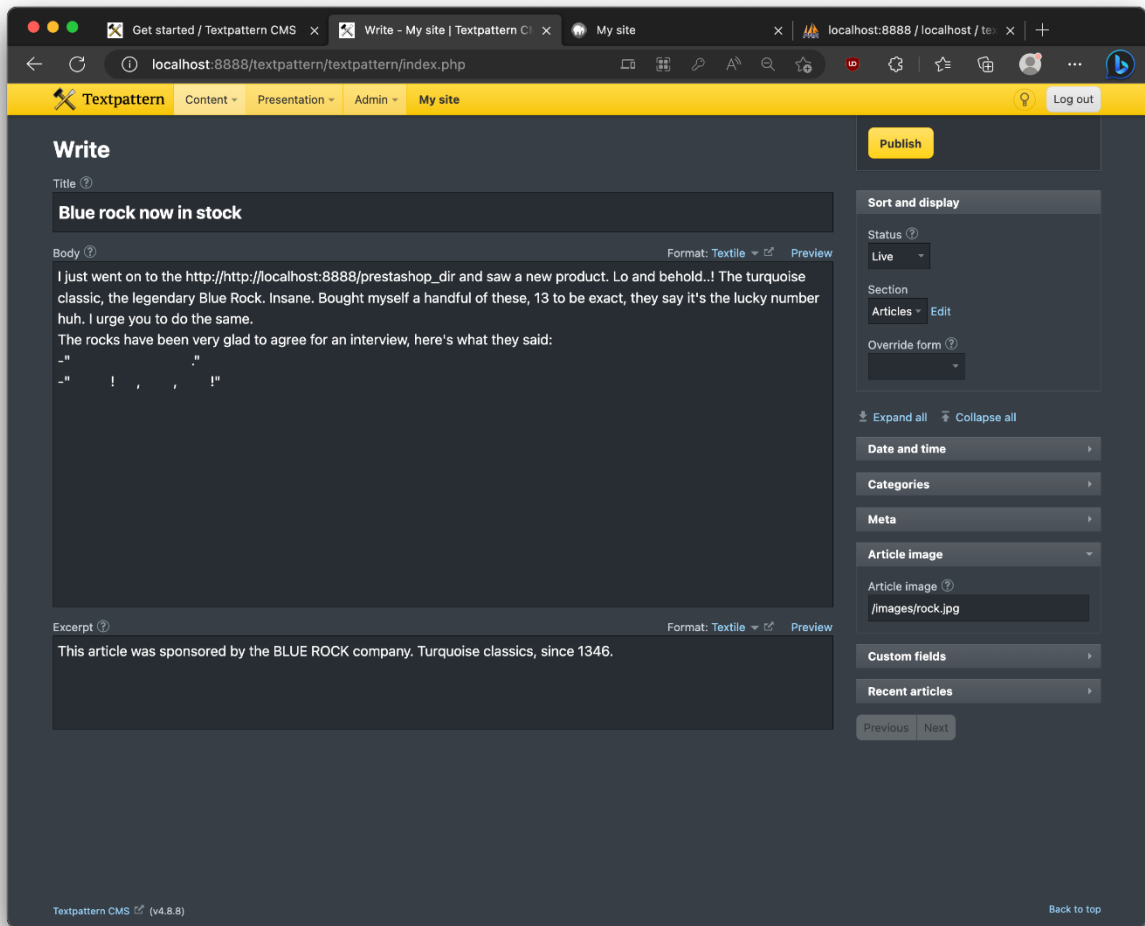
Textpattern database tables were created and populated. You should be able to access the [main interface](#) with the login and password you chose.

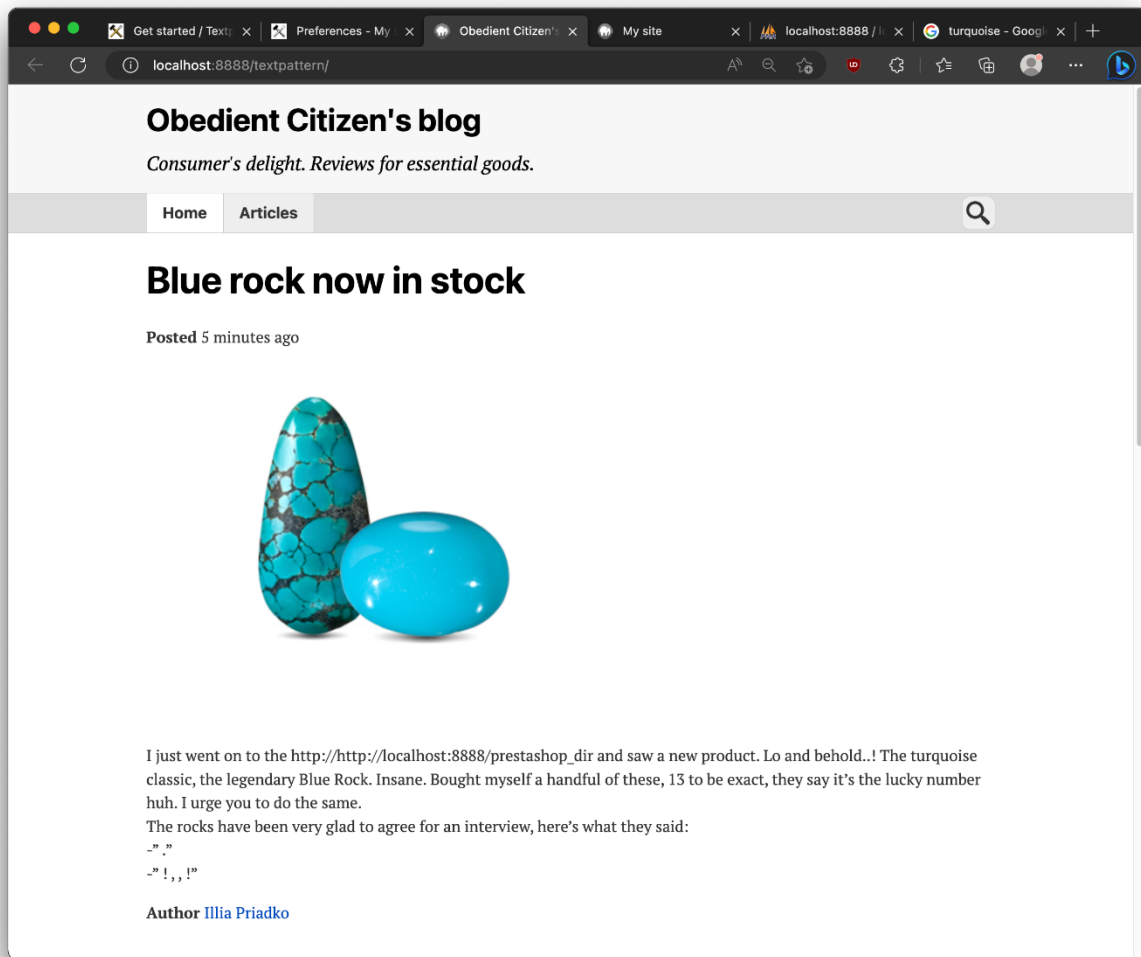
For security, you should now remove the `setup` directory from your `/textpattern/` directory. Please check the Admin Diagnostics panel from time to time for update announcements or troubleshooting hints.

Thank you for your interest in Textpattern

Log in now

Next up, to test out the newly created site, I made a simple example article, as well as some basic customizations, to personalize my newly-created blog.





All set! The article is published and ready to be shown to the rest of the world (as long as they have access to the local network, that is).

Conclusions:

In conclusion, the installation and usage of both **PrestaShop** and **Textpattern** CMSes have provided valuable insights into their capabilities and potential for future use.

During the exploration of **PrestaShop**, I successfully added a product to the catalog, processed an order, and customized the look and feel of my online store. The features and user-friendly UI of PrestaShop make it a versatile e-commerce CMS, offering a comprehensive solution for managing and growing an online store. The ability to easily add products, handle orders, and customize the store's appearance creates a compelling platform for business.

Similarly, in the case of **Textpattern**, I installed the CMS, created an example article, and made minor customizations to my blog. Textpattern's lightweight and content-centric approach make it an excellent choice for websites such as blogs and news portals. The simplicity of creating and managing articles, along with the flexibility of customizing templates, provides a solid foundation for building engaging and dynamic websites.

CMSes in general offer robust and useful features, customization options, not to mention the community that provides support and resources for easy reference. As this is my first time dealing with content management systems, these two serve as excellent starting points for consideration in my future projects, whether it involves setting up an online store or establishing a content-driven website for my own needs.