



PDO Connect to a Database

If you are asked should you use MySQLi or PDO?

Both MySQLi and PDO have their advantages.

PDO will work on **12** different database systems, whereas MySQLi will only work with MySQL databases.

So, if you have to **switch** your project to use another database, PDO makes the process easy. You only have to change the connection string and a few queries. With MySQLi, you will need to rewrite the entire code-queries included.

Both support **prepared statements**. Prepared statements protect SQL injection and are very important for web application security.

How to Connect a Database

Database login credentials (**server_name**, **database_user**, **password** and **database_name** to work with)

```
<?php
$servername = 'localhost';
$username = 'root';
$password = 'K@rn@ugh123';
$dbname = 'voting_system';

try{
    $handler = new PDO('mysql:host='.$servername.'; dbname='.$dbname.'', $username, $password);
    $handler->setAttribute(PDO::ATTR_ERRMODE, PDO::ERRMODE_EXCEPTION);
    echo 'Database Connected';
}catch(PDOException $e){
    echo 'Connection failed: '. $e->getMessage();
}

$handler = null;
?>
```