



PDO Introduction & How to Create 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 Create a Database

A database consists of one or more tables. You will need special **CREATE** privilege to create or to delete a database.

The **CREATE** statement

```
<?php
try{
    $handler = new PDO('mysql:host=localhost', 'root', 'K@rn@ugh123');
    $handler->setAttribute(PDO::ATTR_ERRMODE, PDO::ERRMODE_EXCEPTION);
    $sql = 'CREATE DATABASE voting_system';
    $handler->exec($sql);
    echo 'Database Created successfully';
}catch(PDOException $e){
    echo $sql. '<br />'. $e->getMessage();
}

$handler = null;
?>
```

If you know a certain code can throw an exception, we should wrap that code within the “try... catch block” as in the screenshot above.

TIP: A great benefit of PDO is that it has exception class to handle any problem that may occur in our database queries. If an exception is thrown within the try {} block, the scripts stops executing and flows directly to the first catch () {} block. In the catch block above we echo the SQL statement and the generated error message.