WDV341 Intro PHP

SQL – SELECT Command

The SELECT command is used to pull information from a table in a database. It can be used to pull a selection of rows/records and it can be used to get a specific record/row.

When the SELECT command is processed it will create a result on your page. The result is like a mini table that you have on your page. You can then use PHP to process the information from the result much like you would do with an array.

Formats  
  
**SELECT \* FROM table-name;**

In this format the \* symbol acts a wildcard and pulls all the fields for all the rows in the table. This command will pull all the rows from your table. This is the most generic form. It is very inefficient to use this command once your table starts to grow.

**SELECT column-name,column-name FROM table-name;**

This format allows you to specify which columns you wish to have in your result. This is the recommended method. Your result will only contain the columns that you need to process. It will still pull all the rows from your table.

**SELECT column-name,column-name FROM table-name WHERE column-name operator value;**

This format will restrict your result to those rows that meet the WHERE condition. This allows you to ‘filter’ your result to the records/rows that you need rather than all of them.

*Example:* SELECT event\_presenter FROM event\_table WHERE event\_presenter = “Mary Smith”; The result set will only contain those events where “Mary Smith” is the presenter.

Resources:

<http://www.w3schools.com/sql/sql_select.asp> W3Schools SQL Tutorial