**PHP:** PHPis a server-side scripting language designed for web development but also used as a general-purpose programming language. Originally created by Rasmus Lerdorf in 1994. PHP originally stood for Personal Home Page, but it now stands for the periodic acronym PHP Hypertext Preprocessor. PHP code may be embedded into HTML code, or it can be used in combination with various web template systems, web content management systems, and web frameworks.

During 2014 and 2015, a new major PHP version was developed, which was numbered **PHP 7**. As with any piece of software, PHP has a release life cycle in which has to adhere to in order to keep pushing things forward and making improvements. Each major release of PHP is typically fully supported for two years after its release. During that time, bugs and security issues are fixed and patched on a regular basis.

**PHP 7** is a major release of PHP programming language and is touted to be a revolution in the way web applications and their features are:

* **Improved performance** − Having PHPNG code merged in PHP7, it is twice as fast as PHP 5.
* **Lower Memory Consumption** − Optimized PHP 7 utilizes lesser resource.
* **Scalar type declarations** − Now parameter and return types can be enforced.
* **Many fatal errors converted to Exceptions** − Range of exceptions is increased covering many fatal errors converted as exceptions.
* **Secure random number generator** − Addition of new secure random number generator API.
* **Return and Scalar Type Declarations** − Support for return type and parameter type added.

**XAMPP** stands for Cross Platform, Apache, Maria DB (MySQL), PHP, Perl. XAMPP is a free and open source cross-platform web server solution stack package developed by Apache Friends, consisting mainly of the Apache HTTP Server, Maria DB database, and interpreters for scripts written in the PHP and Perl programming languages.

**DATABASE: MySQL** is a fast, easy-to-use RDBMS being used for many small and big businesses. MySQL is developed, marketed and supported by MySQL AB, which is a Swedish company. MySQL is becoming so popular because of many good reasons −

* MySQL is released under an open-source license. So you have nothing to pay to use it.
* MySQL is a very powerful program in its own right. It handles a large subset of the functionality of the most expensive and powerful database packages.
* MySQL uses a standard form of the well-known SQL data language.
* MySQL works on many operating systems and with many languages including PHP, PERL, C, C++, JAVA, etc.
* MySQL works very quickly and works well even with large data sets.
* MySQL is very friendly to PHP, the most appreciated language for web development.
* MySQL is customizable. The open-source GPL license allows programmers to modify the MySQL software to fit their own specific environments.

**CMS:** WordPress is an Open Source software system used by millions of people around the world to create beautiful websites and blogs. It is completely customizable by the use of themes and plugins. “WordPress is web software you can use to create a beautiful website or blog. We like to say that WordPress is both free and priceless at the same time.”

Themes can be easily downloaded from the official WordPress site or from hundreds of other places around the web. The same goes with plugins, which are used to extend the functionality of your WordPress site.

As well as being a fantastic blogging and content management system, one of the huge benefits is the wealth of information out there. There’s a great community of people behind the design & development of the WordPress system itself. People from all over the world contribute their time, knowledge and skill to keeping WordPress updated and secure. There’s also a huge number of designers, developers & bloggers who share their knowledge through blog posts, tutorials, reviews, videos and the creation of thousands of themes & plugins.

**Framework:** Code Igniter is a powerful open-source PHP framework with a very small footprint, created by Rick Ellis in 2006. Code Igniter was born from Expression Engine, essentially a collection of refactored classes originally written for Ellis Lab's flagship CMS. Code Igniter does all the heavy lifting for you while maintaining high performance. It will simplify PHP syntax, streamline the code underlying your web pages, and—best of all—have you churning out dynamic, interactive, professional websites in no time.

Here are some of the principal benefits of coding your next project in Code Igniter:

• It makes coding in PHP simple, quick and user-friendly.

• It’s an excellent framework for learning more about how PHP works as you code.

• It underpins the Model/View/Controller (MVC) approach to web development—a best practice philosophy all developers should adhere to.

• It’s built on a linear, easy-to-use folder structure.

• It’s open source and simple to configure and customize for your own needs.

You can construct your own cleaner URI lines in Code Igniter.

**Notepad++** is a simple text editor for Microsoft Windows. It has been included in all versions of Microsoft Windows since Windows 1.0 in 1985. It is a common text-only (plain text) editor. The resulting files—typically saved with the .txt extension— have no format tags or styles, making the program suitable for editing system files that are to be used in a DOS environment.

* Notepad++ can edit files of almost any format like txt, html, php etc.
* Notepad++ offers only the most basic functions, such as finding text.
* Easy to use implementation of Shortcut Keys for Basic Editing Functions.