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Setup Apache, MySQL, PHP and PHPMyAdmin

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There are a lots of complications when trying to install AMP stack on Arch Linux. I tried many things and this is what worked for me. Hope it will help you too.

Apache

To install Apache web server you can use pacman as following.

```
$ sudo pacman -S apache
```

Then it will be installed and now you have to configure the server. All the configurations are stored in `/etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf` file and use your favorite editor to edit it. (in my case, it's `nano`)

```
$ sudo nano /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf
```

Now we will peek into few important settings.

Port

```
Listen 80
```

This is the port where HTTP daemon runs. You can change it if you want, but 80 is the default HTTP port.

Comment the “*unique_id_module*”

You can use CTRL+w to find it in `nano` . Then that line will be as following.

```
#LoadModule unique_id_module modules/mod_unique_id.so
```

ServerAdmin

This is optional, you can change the server admin email address, so it will be displayed on server error messages.

```
ServerAdmin gnomez.grave@gmail.com
```

Restart HTTPD

You can use `systemctl` to deal with `httpd`. Remember to restart the `httpd` whenever you've done any change to any apache related configuration.

```
$ sudo systemctl restart httpd
```

If it gives you a warning like

```
httpd: Could not reliably determine the server's fully qualified domain name, using 127.0.0.1 for
ServerName
```

you should edit `/etc/hosts` and insert `localhost` as an entry.

For that, use `$ sudo nano /etc/hosts` and add `localhost` to the entry with `127.0.0.1` . Then it will look like this.

127.0.0.1

localhost.localdomain

localhost

arch

Now your Apache server is ready to go. Your public_html folder is located in `/srv/http` by default.

Now let's test the server. Create index.html file inside and type a simple HTML code. (For now, you need admin privileges to write to `/srv/http`. We will see how to fix that later on.)

```
$ sudo nano /srv/http/index.html
<html>
  <head><title>Apache Home</title></head>
  <body><h1>Apache Server is working...!!</h1></body>
</html>
```

Then open your web browser and type `localhost` and press enter. Your browser should show "Apache Server is working...!!".

Change the default Document Root

The default doc root is `/srv/http`. If you want to change it to something like `/home/praneeth/www`, here is the way.

Open `httpd.conf` file and edit the following.

```
DocumentRoot "/home/praneeth/WWW"
```

and

```
<Directory "/home/praneeth/WWW">
```

to the same directory you specified above. But now if you tried to access localhost after restarting `httpd`, you may get an "Access forbidden Error 403 localhost" error. That's because `http` user don't have permission to read the directory you specified.

There are few ways to fix this, but I'm mentioning the way worked for me.

To fix this, `http` user MUST be given the permission to your specified folder. So you simply can add `http` user to the user group, where the owner of your home directory belongs. (in my case it's `users`)

```
$ sudo gpasswd -a http users
```

But now, every user in the above user group have the access to that folder. So you can do something like this.

```
$ sudo chmod g+rx-w /home/praneeth
$ sudo chmod -R g+rx-w /home/praneeth/www
```

Baaamm...!! Now you are ready to go. Restart the `httpd` and refresh your web browser.

PHP

To install php and other needed libraries, you can use following command.

```
$ sudo pacman -S php php-apache php-gd php-mcrypt
```

It will install PHP, but still you have to enable it in httpd.conf. Open httpd.conf and add these lines to the bottom of it.

```
# Use for PHP 5.x:  
LoadModule php5_module modules/libphp5.so  
AddHandler php5-script php  
Include conf/extra/php5_module.conf
```

(Don't forget to restart httpd)

Now you are done with PHP. Now test it by creating a .php file (ex: info.php) in your doc root and type these lines in it.

```
<?php  
phpinfo();  
?>
```

Save it and type localhost/info.php and you should get the PHP Info page.

MySQL

You can install MySQL by following command. (Now MySQL distribution for Arch Linux is known as MariaDB)

```
$ sudo pacman -S mysql
```

Then it will install MySQL and you can run the MySQL server by using systemctl.

```
$ sudo systemctl start mysqld
```

Then you can configure the MySQL server by following command.

```
$ sudo mysql_secure_installation
```

Then you can change the configurations. (It's better if you enter a password for the MySQL server.)

Now you have to enable MySQL to communicate with PHP. For that you have to edit php.ini and enable mysql.

```
$ sudo nano /etc/php/php.ini
```

Remove the semi-colon (;) before the expected extensions to be enabled.

```
extension=mysqli.so
extension=mysql.so
```

Now you are ready to go with Apache-MySQL-PHP.

PHPMyAdmin

PHPMyAdmin is a GUI to manage you MySQL databases. You can install it by as following.

```
$ sudo pacman -S phpmyadmin
```

You have to install php-mcrypt if you don't have it.

Now you need following command to get a sample config file for PHPMyAdmin.

```
$ sudo cp /etc/webapps/phpmyadmin/apache.example.conf /etc/httpd/conf/extra/httpd-phpmyadmin.conf
```

And add these lines to httpd.conf

```
# phpMyAdmin configuration
Include conf/extra/httpd-phpmyadmin.conf
```

If you want to allow access from any host, edit /etc/webapps/phpmyadmin/.htaccess and change

```
deny from all
```

to

```
allow from all
```


And make sure /etc/httpd/conf/extra/httpd-phpmyadmin.conf has following information.


```
Alias /phpmyadmin "/usr/share/webapps/phpMyAdmin"
<Directory "/usr/share/webapps/phpMyAdmin">
    AllowOverride All
    Options FollowSymlinks
    Order allow,deny
    Allow from all
    php_admin_value open_basedir "/srv/:/tmp/:/usr/share/webapps:/etc/webapps:/usr/share/pear/"
</Directory>
```

Go to your web browser and enter `localhost/phpmyadmin` and you should get it working.

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