

# Install SimpleRisk on WAMP Server

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## Introduction

SimpleRisk is a simple and free tool to perform risk management activities. Based entirely on open source technologies and sporting a Mozilla Public License 2.0, a SimpleRisk instance can be stood up in minutes and instantly provides the security professional with the ability to submit risks, plan mitigations, facilitate management reviews, prioritize for project planning, and track regular reviews. It is highly configurable and includes dynamic reporting and the ability to tweak risk formulas on the fly. It is under active development with new features being added all the time and can be downloaded for free or demoed at <https://www.simplerisk.it/>.

## Disclaimer

The lucky security professionals work for companies who can afford expensive GRC tools to aid in managing risk. The unlucky majority out there usually end up spending countless hours managing risk via spreadsheets. It's cumbersome, time consuming, and just plain sucks. When Josh Sokol started writing SimpleRisk, it was out of pure frustration with the other options out there. What he's put together is undoubtedly better than spreadsheets and gets you most of the way towards the "R" in GRC without breaking the bank. That said, humans can make mistakes, and therefore the SimpleRisk software is provided to you with no warranties expressed or implied. If you get stuck, you can always try sending an e-mail to [support@simplerisk.it](mailto:support@simplerisk.it) and we'll do our best to help you out. Also, while SimpleRisk was written by a security practitioner with security in mind, there is no way to promise that it is 100% secure. You accept that as a risk when using the software, but if you do find any issues, please report them to us so that we can fix them ASAP.

## Installing WAMP Server

Although SimpleRisk can run on just about any platform that runs PHP and MySQL, for the purpose of this guide we will work in Windows using WAMP Server. This guide will from here on out be speaking of setup and installation on this platform. Before we begin the steps to

installation first we must prep the environment. First we must disable IIS these steps can vary differently but on Windows 8 and 10 the following will disable IIS.

### Disable IIS

1. Right-Click start menu and click Programs & Features
2. On the left hand border of the menu click "Turn Windows features on or off"
3. Find Internet Information Security tree root and disable it. (This will allow our server to operate traffic on port 80.)

### Installing WAMP

1. Navigate to [www.wampserver.com](http://www.wampserver.com) and select your language of choice from the top right of the page.
2. Near the center of the top of the page you should find the "Download" link go ahead and navigate there to find the applicable version for your architecture and click the yellow download button should be labeled "WAMP SERVER 64 BITS (X64) 3.0.6" or "WAMP SERVER 43 BITS (X86) 3.0.6"
3. Open your file directory containing the downloaded installer and run it. Read installer carefully as there are some prerequisites for installation of WAMP. A copy of the requirements: -- VC9 Packages (Visual C++ 2008 SP1)

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=5582>

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=2092>

-- VC10 Packages (Visual C++ 2010 SP1)

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=8328>

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=13523>

-- VC11 Packages (Visual C++ 2012 Update 4)

The two files VSU4\vcredist\_x86.exe and VSU4\vcredist\_x64.exe to be download are on the same page: <http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=30679>

-- VC13 Packages] (Visual C++ 2013)

The two files VSU4\vcredist\_x86.exe and VSU4\vcredist\_x64.exe to be download are on the same page: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=40784>

-- VC14 Packages (Visual C++ 2015 Update 3)

The two files vcredist\_x86.exe and vcredist\_x64.exe to be download are on the same page: <http://www.microsoft.com/fr-fr/download/details.aspx?id=53840>

If you have a 64-bit Windows, you must install both 32 and 64bit versions, even if you do not use Wampserver 64 bit.

4. Once the former has been installed you can continue through the installer by choosing next. Choose the install directory wisely as you will have to go here frequently during the setup. For this guide I have left it at "C:/wampserver" and will be referred to as installation directory throughout the rest of the guide. (The installer will also ask for what browser you're going to use. This will be your way of connecting to localhost for this example I will use Internet Explorer (iexplore.exe).)

### Setting up WAMPServer

1. Navigate to your WAMP server installation directory and open "wampmanager.exe".
2. Download the SimpleRisk software at "<https://www.simplerisk.com/download>" (you will need only the WEB BUNDLE, you will need to click manual install near the top to see it.)
3. Extract the downloaded files into a place you will be able to find easily for this example I

have extracted the WEB BUNDLE into “C:/SimpleRisk”.

4. While wampmanager is running, navigate to “localhost/” in your browser chosen during installation. This page should look like the following.

The screenshot displays the WampServer 3.0.6 - 64bit interface. At the top left is the WampServer logo. To the right of the logo, it says "Version 3.0.6 - 64bit" and has two dropdown menus set to "english" and "classic". Below this is the "Server Configuration" section, which includes "Apache Version: 2.4.23 - Documentation", "PHP Version: 5.6.25 - Documentation", and "Server Software: Apache/2.4.23 (Win64) PHP/5.6.25 - Port defined for Apache: 80". Under "Loaded Extensions", there are four columns of extension names, each preceded by a gear icon. Below the extensions is the "MySQL Version: 5.7.14 - Port defined for MySQL: 3306 - Documentation". At the bottom, there are four sections: "Tools" with links to "phpinfo()", "phpmyadmin", and "Add a Virtual Host"; "Your Projects" with the text "No projects yet. To create a new one, just create a directory in 'www'."; "Your Aliases" with links to "adminer", "phpmyadmin", and "phpsysinfo"; and "Your VirtualHost" with a link to "localhost". At the very bottom, there is a link to "Wampserver Forum".

5. At the far bottom left of the page choose “add a VirtualHost”

6. You will be on a page for configuring the virtualhost the first dialogue should contain what you want to call the virtual host in this case we call it simplerisk if you are going to be running the server on a local network and wish the other system to have access enter an IP in the second dialogue of where you’d like the virtual host to be found at. The third dialogue box should contain the file path to the simplerisk web bundle we downloaded earlier. Once filled out properly it should look something like this.



## Add a VirtualHost - Back to homepage

• Version 3.0.6 - 64bit english

Apache Virtual Hosts `c:/wamp64/bin/apache/apache2.4.23/conf/extra/httpd-vhosts.conf`

VirtualHost already defined:

ServerName : localhost - Directory : c:/wamp64/www

Windows hosts `C:\WINDOWS\system32\drivers\etc\hosts`

Name of the **Virtual Host** No diacritical characters (éçñ) - No space - No underscore(\_) **Required**

simplerisk

If you want to use VirtualHost by IP: **local IP** 127.x.y.z **Optional**

Complete absolute **path** of the VirtualHost **folder** Examples: C:/wamp/www/projet/ or E:/www/site1/ **Required**

C:/SimpleRisk/

Start the creation of the VirtualHost (May take a while...)

7. The next step is we need to adjust the virtual host we just created to allow for the SimpleRisk api to function properly. (This is required even if you are not using the API Extra.) To edit the virtual host right-click the WAMP server system tray icon, then choose Apache, inside you will find httpd-vhosts.conf open it. Once open you will need to match your simplerisk virtual host to match the example below. (Note: Setting a "ServerAlias" and changing "Require Local" to "Require all granted" are only necessary if you intend to access your SimpleRisk instance from outside the local network. You will also have to left-click WAMP manager in the task bar and click "Put Online" at the bottom to open the virtual host to the public.) Example:

```
<VirtualHost *:80>
```

```
    ServerName simplerisk
```

```
    DocumentRoot "c:/wamp64/www/simplerisk"
```

```
    <Directory "c:/wamp64/www/simplerisk/">
```

```
        Options +Indexes +Includes +FollowSymLinks +MultiViews
```

```
        AllowOverride All
```

```
        allow from all
```

```
    </Directory>
```

</VirtualHost>

8. Next we need to change the thread stack size to do this: open the httpd.conf by left-clicking the wamp task tray icon, selecting the apache tree and finally clicking httpd.conf. Now at the very bottom of this text file add the following:

```
<IfModule mpm_winnt_module>  
    ThreadStackSize 8388608  
</IfModule>
```

9. Nearing the end in setting up WAMP for SimpleRisk will be to change the PHP version to 7.2 or greater. Left click the wamp task tray icon and select PHP then Version and lastly 7.3.1 or highest revision of PHP 7 available. With versions from December 2022 and later please use PHP 8.1 or newer.

10. Lastly we need to update 2 settings the memory\_limit set for PHP in the PHP.ini. Left-Click the WAMP task tray icon and select the PHP tree and within you will see PHP.ini click it and it should open in your default text editor. Next search (ctrl+f) for “memory\_limit” update this value to 256M

Now find “max\_input\_vars” to make sure it is not commented out with a “;” if so remove the semi-colon then set the value to “3000”. Save the file.

Now we just need to left click the WAMP task tray icon go to the MySQL tree then MySQL settings and where you see default\_storage\_engine = MyISAM hover over it and a new menu option with “innodb” should appear. Select this and wait for WAMP to restart before moving to the next steps.

## Accessing Simple Risk and Installing Database

1. Restart all WAMP services by finding the green W in your task tray and left-clicking and selecting “restart all services”. You should be able to now go into your browser when it completes restarting and type “/simplerisk” you should be taken to a page letting you know simplerisk cannot communicate with the database. Looks something like this.

SimpleRisk is unable to communicate with the database. You should double-check your settings in the config.php file. If the problem persists, you can try manually connecting to the database using the command 'mysql -h <hostname> -u <username> -p' and specifying the password when prompted. If the issue persists, contact support and provide a copy of any relevant messages from your web server's error log.

**(!) Fatal error: Call to a member function prepare() on null in C:\SimpleRisk\includes\authenticate.php on line 869**

**Call Stack**

#	Time	Memory	Function	Location
1	0.0003	279944	{main} ( )	...\index.php:0
2	0.0151	4334128	<a href="#">session_start</a> ( )	...\index.php:39
3	0.0151	4334400	sess_open ( )	...\index.php:39
4	0.0151	4334568	sess_gc ( )	...\authenticate.php:747

2. To install the database we first must set a password on the mysql database since WAMP by default leaves this blank which simplerisk will not allow for an unsecured database. Left click the wampserver manager task tray icon the green W and select MySql then MySql Console.

3. It will ask for the password leave blank and hit enter then type the following commands in this order

3a. Type "use mysql;"

3b. Type "set password for 'root'@'localhost' = password('<yourpassword>');"

(if using server by ip substitute step for "set password for 'root'@'<chosenIP>' = password('<yourpassword>');"

This should look like the following.

```
Enter password:
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 5
Server version: 5.7.14 MySQL Community Server (GPL)

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affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql> use mysql
Database changed
mysql> set password for 'root'@'localhost' = password('testpassword');
Query OK, 0 rows affected, 1 warning (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```

4. One last step of preparation before we install the database will be to disable strict mode.



Navigate to the following directory in the wamp install should be something like "C:\wamp64\bin\mysql\mysql5.7.14". Open My.ini in a text editor of choice. Scroll down until you find the code that resembles the screenshot below and remove the ";" before the command "sql-mode=". Now edit this line to read:

sql-mode="NO\_ENGINE\_SUBSTITUTION"

Save and close the text file. Restart all service through the WAMP taskbar icon. An example is displayed below of the My.ini.

```
54
55 ; The default storage engine that will be used when create new tables
56 default-storage-engine=MYISAM
57 ; New for MySQL 5.6 default tmp_storage_engine if skip-innodb enable
58 ; default_tmp_storage_engine=MYISAM
59
60 ;To avoid warning messages
61 secure_file_priv="c:/wamp64/tmp"
62 skip-ssl
63
64 explicit_defaults_for_timestamp=true
65
66 ; Set the SQL mode to strict
67 ;sql-mode=""
68 sql-mode="NO_ENGINE_SUBSTITUTION"
69
70 ; Don't listen on a TCP/IP port at all. This can be a security enhancement,
71 ; if all processes that need to connect to mysqld run on the same host.
72 ; All interaction with mysqld must be made via Unix sockets or named pipes.
73 ; Note that using this option without enabling named pipes on Windows
74 ; (via the "enable-named-pipe" option) will render mysqld useless!
75 ;
76 ..
```

5. As of SimpleRisk release 20220401-001 the database installer is now included with the core download and no separate download is required. To access the installer to complete the installation navigate to <http://simplerisk> in your browser. If you have followed all steps up to this point correctly you should see the following.

## SimpleRisk Installer

You are running the SimpleRisk 20220306-001 release installer. SimpleRisk is a comprehensive GRC solution that is:

- **SIMPLE** - Intuitive workflows promotes organization-wide adoption.
- **EFFECTIVE** - From "Zero to GRC" in minutes.
- **AFFORDABLE** - Comprehensive Governance, Risk Management and Compliance at a fraction of the cost.

The next step will perform a health check of your system to ensure that it is ready for a SimpleRisk installation. It may take up to a minute for the health check to complete.

Click the "CONTINUE" button below to begin your SimpleRisk installation.

CONTINUE



Click "continue" to and you will be met with a healthcheck page. Please note we should see all green all the way down the list in Ubuntu installations. As long as everything is green you may proceed and click continue.

You should now see the database configuration page. You will be required to enter the credentials for the MySQL root user which was configured in an earlier step. An example of this page is shown below.

## Database Credentials

Enter your database information to proceed with SimpleRisk install:

### Database Connection Information

Database IP/Hostname:	<input type="text" value="localhost"/>	
Database Port:	<input type="text" value="3306"/>	
Database Username:	<input type="text" value="root"/>	
Database Password:	<input type="password" value="....."/>	

CONTINUE

Please note before continuing if you are setting up with an MySQL instance that is not local to the web server you will need to configure the Database IP/Hostname and port. In basic installations this step is not required and these values can be left as their defaults. Click “continue” once the credentials to access the MySQL server have been configured. You will now be able to configure the details of the SimpleRisk database. In a general installation all of these can be left default.

## Admin Account Creation

**Admin Account Information**

Username:

Full Name:

Email Address:

Password:

Confirm Password:

☒ Add me to the SimpleRisk mailing list for educational content and notifications about new releases.

**INSTALL**

We have now arrived at the final setup screen as seen above. Here you will configure your admin account and assign the details you will use to login to SimpleRisk with for that admin account. Please note that the use of a valid email address is highly recommended as this will be where password recovery emails will be sent. You are also given the opportunity to opt into our mailing list by checking the box at the bottom. In this you will receive product release updates and educational content related to the SimpleRisk platform. Once you see the image below in your browser you are finished and may click the “Go to SimpleRisk” button to login and begin using the application.

# SimpleRisk Installation

Database Schema Loaded Successfully!

Configuration file has been updated successfully.

SimpleRisk should now be communicating with the database.

[GO TO SIMPLERISK](#)

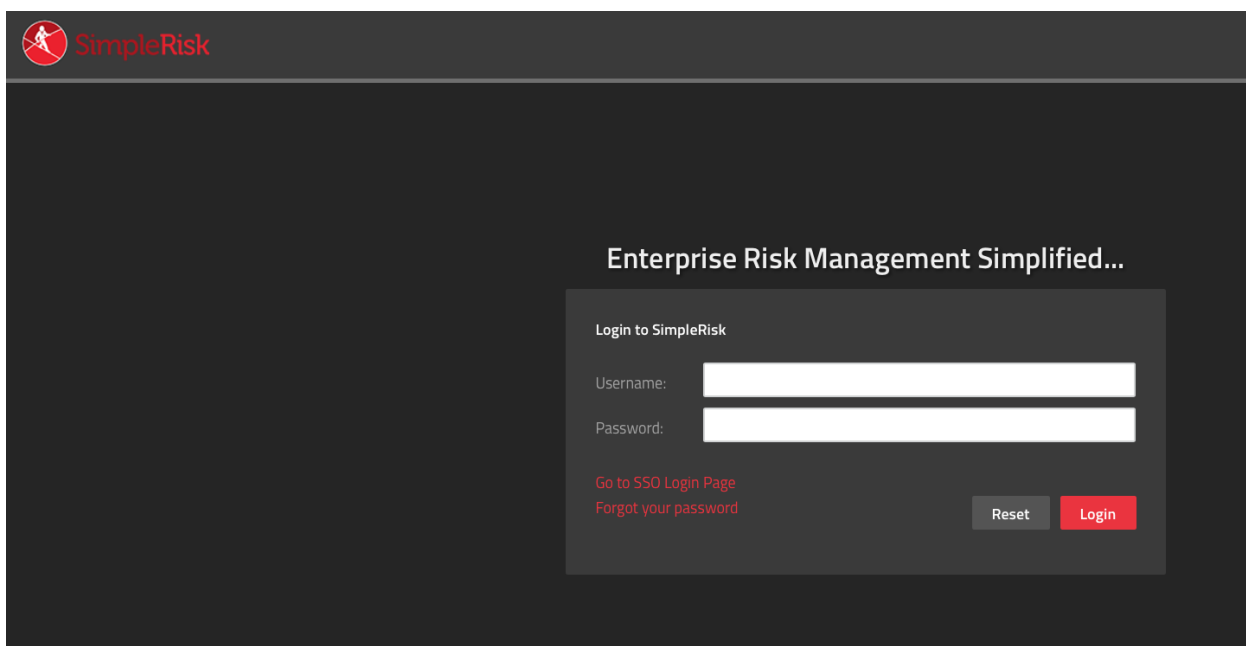
---

```
<?php
/* This Source Code Form is subject to the terms of the Mozilla Public
 * License, v. 2.0. If a copy of the MPL was not distributed with this
 * file, You can obtain one at http://mozilla.org/MPL/2.0/. */
```

```
/* MySQL Database Host Name
```

## Logging in to SimpleRisk

You should now have performed all of the steps you need to for SimpleRisk to be up and running. Now is the moment of truth where we hopefully get to see if all of your hard work paid off. You now need to point your web browser to the URL where SimpleRisk would be installed. If you followed the optional instructions, then it should be located at <http://simplerisk/>. You will know that you've got the right page when you see something like this:

The image shows the SimpleRisk login page. At the top left is the SimpleRisk logo. The main heading is "Enterprise Risk Management Simplified...". Below this is a "Login to SimpleRisk" section with two input fields for "Username:" and "Password:". There are two links: "Go to SSO Login Page" and "Forgot your password". At the bottom right of the login section are two buttons: "Reset" and "Login".

SimpleRisk

Enterprise Risk Management Simplified...

Login to SimpleRisk

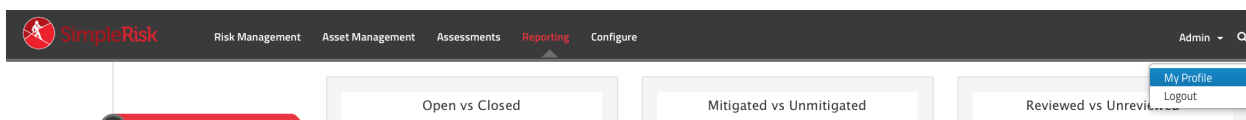
Username:

Password:

[Go to SSO Login Page](#)

[Forgot your password](#)

Enter username "admin" and password "admin" to get started. Then, select the "Admin" dropdown at the top right and click on "My Profile".

The image shows the SimpleRisk dashboard. At the top is a navigation bar with the SimpleRisk logo and several menu items: "Risk Management", "Asset Management", "Assessments", "Reporting" (which is highlighted with a red triangle), and "Configure". On the right side of the navigation bar is a dropdown menu for "Admin" with a search icon. Below the navigation bar, there are several cards or sections. One card is titled "Open vs Closed". Another card is titled "Mitigated vs Unmitigated". A third card is titled "Reviewed vs Unreviewed". On the right side of the dashboard, there is a "My Profile" button and a "Logout" button.

SimpleRisk

Risk Management Asset Management Assessments Reporting Configure

Admin - Q

Open vs Closed

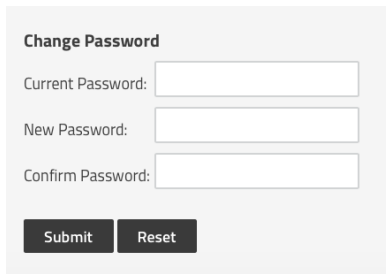
Mitigated vs Unmitigated

Reviewed vs Unreviewed

My Profile

Logout

Enter your current password as "admin" and place a new long and randomly generated password into the "New Password" and "Confirm Password" fields. Then click "Submit".

A screenshot of a 'Change Password' form. It has a title 'Change Password' at the top. Below it are three input fields: 'Current Password:', 'New Password:', and 'Confirm Password:'. At the bottom are two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Reset'.

You should receive a message saying that your password was updated successfully. If so, then this is your new “admin” password for SimpleRisk. If you received a message saying that “The password entered does not adhere to the password policy”, you can change the policy by selecting “Configure” from the menu at the top followed by “User Management” on the left side. You will see a “Password Policy” section at the bottom of the page where you can change the policy and try changing your password again.

## Registering SimpleRisk

This step is completely optional, but without it upgrades of SimpleRisk will require manual downloads of the new version, backing up your configuration file, extracting the new files, restoring the configuration file, and a database upgrade. It sounds like more effort than it really is, but we’ve made the process far simpler if you’re willing to tell us who you are. To register your SimpleRisk instance, select “Configure” from the menu at the top followed by “Register & Upgrade” from the menu at the left.

The screenshot shows the SimpleRisk web application interface. At the top is a dark navigation bar with the SimpleRisk logo and menu items: Risk Management, Asset Management, Assessments, Reporting, and Configure (highlighted in red). On the right of the bar are 'Admin' and a search icon. A left sidebar contains a vertical list of menu items, each with a circular icon: Configure Risk Formula, Configure Review Settings, Add and Remove Values, User Management, Redefine Naming Conventions, Asset Valuation, File Upload Settings, Mail Settings, Delete Risks, Audit Trail, Extras, Announcements, Register & Upgrade (highlighted with a red arrow), and About. The main content area is divided into sections. The top section, 'Register SimpleRisk', explains that registration provides contact information for updates and security notifications, and includes a 'Disable Registration Notice' button. Below this is an 'Instance ID:' label. The 'Registration Information' section contains input fields for Full Name, Company, Job Title, Phone, and E-mail Address, followed by a red 'Register' button. To the right, the 'Upgrade SimpleRisk' section states that registration is required to use the easy upgrade feature. A footer note at the bottom of the main area also states: 'Please register in order to be able to use the easy upgrade feature.'

Enter your information and select the “Register” button. This will create a unique Instance ID for your SimpleRisk instance and download the Upgrade Extra which enables functionality for one-click backups and upgrades. If you run into issues with the registration process, we recommend that you check to ensure that the “simplerisk” directory and its sub-directories are writeable by the www-data user (or whatever user Apache is running as).

**\*\* This completes your installation of SimpleRisk \*\***

## SimpleRisk Paid Support and Extras

Everything that you’ve seen up to this point is completely free for you to install and use, forever. That said, we offer a number of ways for you to enhance your SimpleRisk instance with even more functionality. If you like what you see, and find it useful, please consider purchasing one of our inexpensive Paid Support plans or Extra functionality so that we can continue to offer you the best open source risk management tool available. Thank you!