



USING STORED PROCEDURES WITH PHP : INTRODUCTION

MySQL is commonly used in a set of web technologies known as LAMP. LAMP standards for Linux, Apache, MySQL and PHP but can also include other technologies such as Perl Python, Free BSD and PostgreSQL. The most common combination however is the traditional (if that can even be applied to IT) combination of PHP and MySQL. In the past MySQL has been little more than a datastore in the partnership simply responding to requests for data or accepting inserts and updates. The processing of the pages has been done in the PHP layer. However with the introduction of stored procedures in MySQL this now opens up the possibility of writing procedures within the database to improve performance and possibly more importantly improve security.

These tutorials are not intended to be an introduction to MySQL Stored Procedures or to programming in PHP. If you are not familiar with MySQL stored procedures please feel free to have a look at our tutorials here <http://mysql.gilfster.com/tutorials/introduction.php>

GETTING GOING

To program using PHP you will need to have either completed the stored procedures tutorials or be comfortable using ANSI standard procedural code. Stored procedures in MySQL are only available in MySQL version 5.0.1 or above. If a higher version is available we recommend you use as high a release as possible, this can be downloaded from the MySQL web site for free. In addition to MySQL we will be using a basic text editor, this is not necessary but will make our life a little easier.

The PHP tutorials have been written and run using Mac OS X, but they should run exactly the same on any other operating system you may be using.

To call stored procedures within PHP you need to be running PHP with the MySQLi extension. From what we understand this extension is included in PHP5 but not in PHP4, if your using PHP4 you may need to recompile it using an addition compile option, details of this can be found at the following link.

<http://uk.php.net/manual/en/ref.mysqli.php>

Installation and configuration of PHP is a little out of scope for this site and we are certainly not experts in the subject, if you need help refer to the PHP website <http://www.php.net>

CONVENTIONS

Finally a word on the conventions we will be using in the tutorials. Any code that you can type in will be displayed in one of two ways

```
//This is code seen for the first time.  
//Or code you have already seen but is being reference later
```

Changes to programs previously created during the tutorial will be shown in bold

```
//This is old code here  
//This is the line we want you to add
```

Any code which should be typed into MySQL will be shown with the following header

```
-- MYSQL --
```

And any code which should be typed into PHP will be shown with the following header

```
-- PHP --
```

You can download a zipped copy of all the sources used in each chapter using the menu. But after each section of code will be a link to the actual source code file that we used. We suggest you try typing in each section of code yourself as this can often help you understand what is actually going on, but if you can't get a particular program to work feel free to use our code. The source will appear as follows.

 [source.msp](#)

This area of the site is currently in development. For the moment please use the sample below if you need information on using stored procedures with PHP.

.... [Calling Functions From PHP](#) >



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