

Developing Web Database Applications

Selected PHP & MySQL Resources

<http://isaachunter.net/DatabaseDriven>

PHP (<http://www.php.net>)

- [DevShed](http://www.devshed.com/c/a/PHP/) (PHP articles/tutorials) <<http://www.devshed.com/c/a/PHP/>>
- [PHP Builder](http://www.phpbuilder.com/) (consult articles w/ user feedback; forums) <<http://www.phpbuilder.com/>>
- [PHP/MySQL Tutorial](http://webmonkey.wired.com/webmonkey/99/21/index2a.html) <<http://webmonkey.wired.com/webmonkey/99/21/index2a.html>>

MySQL (<http://www.mysql.com>)

- [MySQL Reference Manual](http://dev.mysql.com/doc/) (esp. searchable HTML version with user comments) <<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/>>
- [MySQL Tutorial](http://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql/en/Tutorial.html) (great way to learn basic concepts and commands) <<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql/en/Tutorial.html>>
- [DevShed](http://www.devshed.com/c/a/MySQL/) (MySQL articles/tutorials) <<http://www.devshed.com/c/a/MySQL/>>
- [phpMyAdmin](http://www.phpmyadmin.net/) (**very useful** MySQL administrative interface) <<http://www.phpmyadmin.net/>>
- [MySQL Forums](http://forums.mysql.com/) (help, troubleshooting ideas, and examples) <<http://forums.mysql.com/>>

Content Management Systems

- [OpenSourceCMS](http://www.opensourcecms.com/) (try “live” systems) <<http://www.opensourcecms.com/>>

GENERAL RESOURCES

Dunlap, Isaac Hunter. “Open Source Database Driven Web Development.” Oxford: Chandos Publishing, <Forthcoming: November 2006>. 250pp. <<http://www.isaachunter.net/DatabaseDriven>>.

Gianna, Andrew. “Database-Driven Web Sites: Taking Your Web Presence to the Next Level.” *Tech Soup* 8 April 2002. Accessed 19 March 2006: <<http://www.techsoup.org/howto/articles/databases/page1326.cfm>>.

Ullman, Larry. *PHP for the World Wide Web*. Peachpit Press, 2001. 278pp. New 3rd ed. (forthcoming 2006) available, 506pp. (\$16). Excellent guide for true PHP beginners. Highly recommended! When you feel ready, see also Ullman’s *PHP Advanced for the World Wide Web* (2002); and Sklar, David and Adam Trachtenberg. *PHP Cookbook*. O’Reilly, 2002. 608pp. (\$25).

Welling, Luke and Laura Thomson. *PHP and MySQL Web Development*. 3rd ed. Sams Pub., 2005. 984pp. (\$31). Not as accessible for the beginner, but has thorough explanations and examples that can help along the way.

Yank, Kevin. *Build Your Own Database Driven Website Using PHP & MySQL*. 3rd ed. Norwood, MA: Sitepoint, 2004. 275pp. (\$25). (Formerly free online, now only 1st four chapters on web). Great overview and code examples; covers tools and techniques to build your own db-driven site and CMS. If you’re serious about developing a db-driven site, this is definitely worth pursuing.

Zeidman, Peter. *Creating a PHP-Based Content Management System*. *Intranet Journal* 6 July 2004. Accessed 19 March 2006: <http://www.intranetjournal.com/articles/200407/ij_07_06_04a.html>.

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ANATOMY OF A *Database Driven* WEBPAGE

Selected entries from MySQL database table "gen_webdata"

gen_webdata_id	gen_webdata_title	gen_webdata_body
135	Curriculum Library Information	<P> The Curriculum Library, a branch of the Univer...
111	Instruction	<P> <div class=regheader>Library Instruction Prog...

index.php
(a simple PHP/HTML script that creates a connection to the MySQL database, obtains some content, and displays a webpage)

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN">
<html lang=en><head><title>WIU Libraries -- Curriculum Library Information</title>
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/library/style/wiulib.css"></head><body>
```

```
<?php // open (declare) PHP
```

```
//declare a variable for later use:
```

```
$id = '135'; // (135 = row number of "Curriculum Library Information" data)
```

```
//make connection to your MySQL database:
```

```
mysql_connect ("www.mysql.host.com:12345", "username", "password"); // connect (don't forget the port #)
mysql_select_db (libweb) or die ("Unable to select database!"); // select the "libweb" database
```

```
//query the database, grabbing data from the table (gen_webdata) :
```

```
$query = "SELECT * FROM gen_webdata WHERE gen_webdata_id = '$id'"; // query the database
```

```
$result = mysql_query($query) or die ("Error in query"); // obtain the data
```

```
$row = mysql_fetch_array($result); // organize the data (put into an array)
```

```
//for simplicity, assign the elements ("pieces of data") of the array to variables ("data holders") for later use:
```

```
$TITLE = ($row['gen_webdata_title']); // (the "title header" of the webpage)
```

```
$BODY = ($row['gen_webdata_body']); // (the "body" of the webpage)
```

```
//begin displaying webpage content:
```

```
print "$TITLE"; // display the title
```

```
?> // close PHP
```

```
<HR> <P> <span class="fnt12"> // embed some HTML/CSS tags
```

```
<? // re-open PHP
```

```
if ($BODY) // if the data is available...
```

```
{
print ("$BODY"); // ...then, display the body.
}
```

```
else { // ...but if unavailable, then...
```

```
print "Error: Please Notify Library Information Systems";
}
```

```
?> // close PHP
```

```
</span></body></html> // close HTML/CSS tags
```

