

How to install XAMPP on Windows

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Issue 1 EN



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Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the universe for such a journey, even if the road is bumpy sometimes. To my husband, Carlos, thank you for loving me, and sometimes running extra errands so that I can just write another line, compile just one more program, change something 'little' in a design. To my family and friends, thank you for putting up with my demeanours, and you have been a source of inspiration and support.

What my lawyer makes me say:

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Reader Feedback

Feedback is always welcome. Let me know what you think – perhaps what you liked or even disliked. Drop an email to ermsitgirl@zellism.com.

Have fun!

Zelna Ellis M.

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This is a quick tutorial that will show you how to install XAMPP on Windows.

As a programmer and designer I always have a development environment. It is never a good idea to test a new programme, website, blog website and design on a production site ("life site").

In this walkthrough you will see how easy it is install XAMPP It will be your playground to try things out, test it before publishing it. You will use your browser and the URL (website address): <http://localhost>. By default, "localhost" is the default domain name for your PC. It resolves to IP address 127.0.0.1.

Well what exactly is XAMPP?

[WikiPedia](#) defines XAMPP as follows:

XAMPP (pronounced zæmp or ɛks.æmp) is a free and open source cross-platform web server package, consisting mainly of the Apache HTTP Server, MySQL database, and interpreters for scripts written in the PHP and Perl programming languages.

Let's go!

Go and hop over to [Apache Friends - XAMPP for Windows](#) to learn more. Since I've encountered problems with sending mail on XAMPP 1.7.3 (currently the latest version), I reverted back to version 1.7.2. At [SourceForge](#) you can browse all the versions and download the previous versions (I recommend that you download xampp-win32-1.7.2.exe for now).

Downloading and Installing XAMPP

[Download XAMPP](#) at SourceForge and run the executable file.

An installation wizard will appear.

Select the install button.

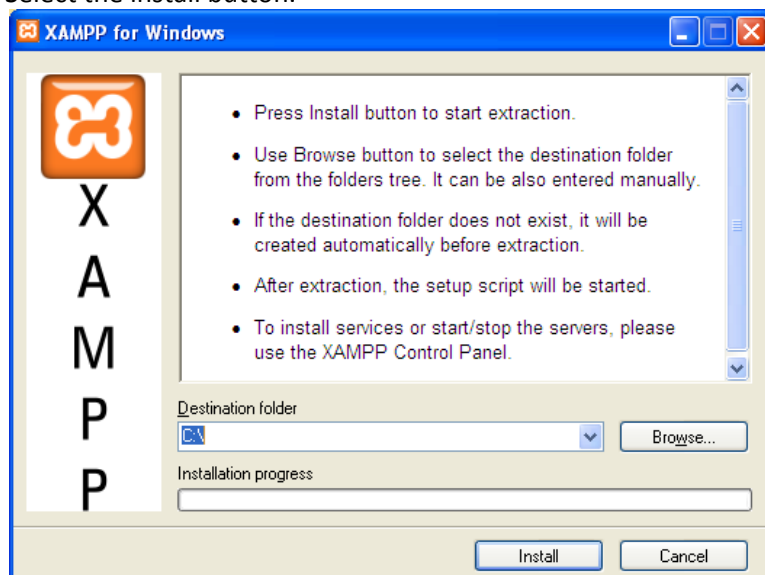


Figure 1 Installation Wizard

Wait for the program to extract. By default it will extract the entire package to C:\XAMPP folder.

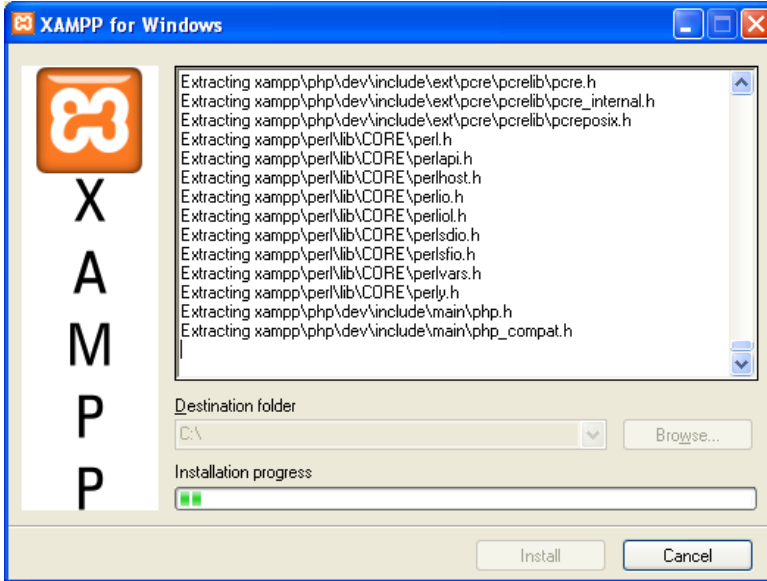


Figure 2 Installation in progress

Once XAMPP has extracted the file a command prompt window will appear that will ask you a few questions to complete the installation.

Type 'y' and press the Enter key to create Start Menu and Desktop shortcuts.

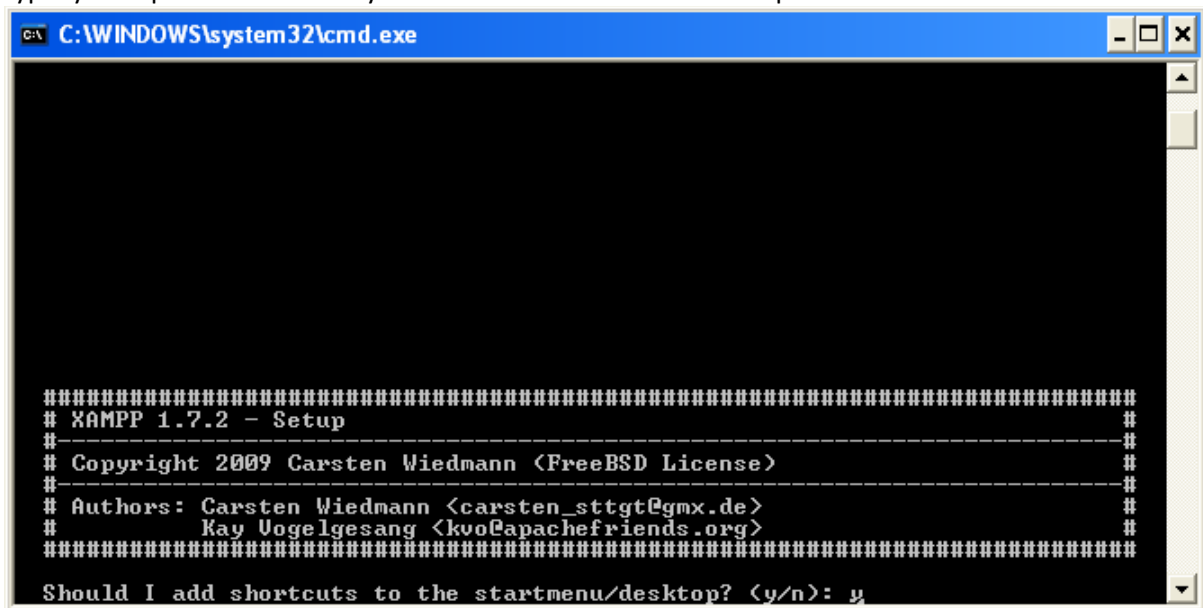
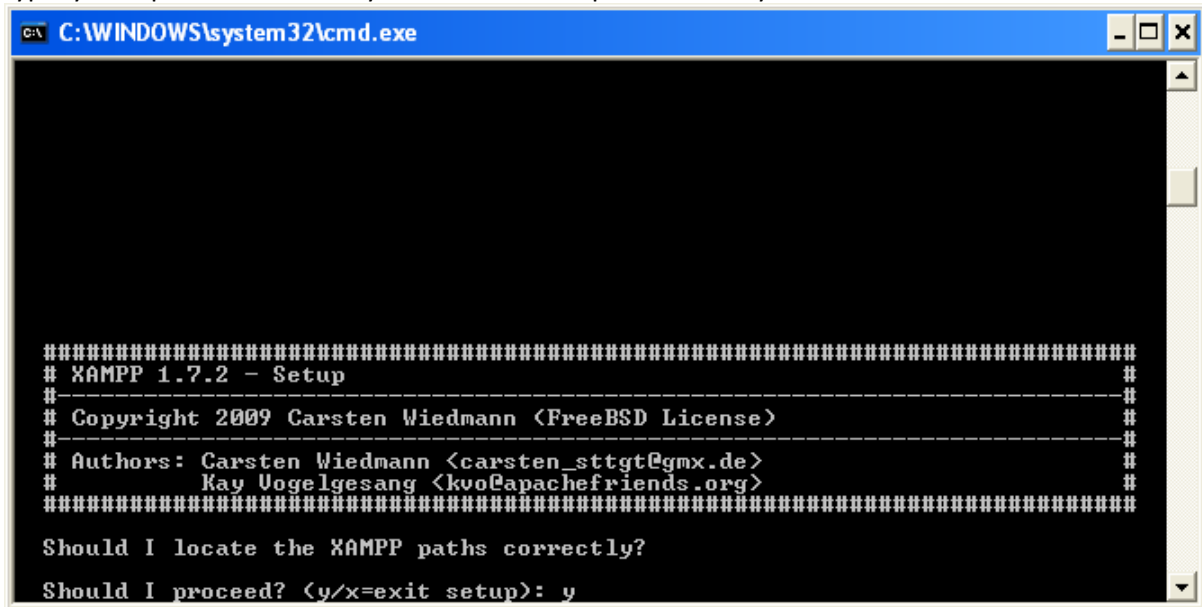


Figure 3 Add shortcuts

Install XAMPP on Windows

Type 'y' and press the Enter key to locate XAMPP paths correctly.

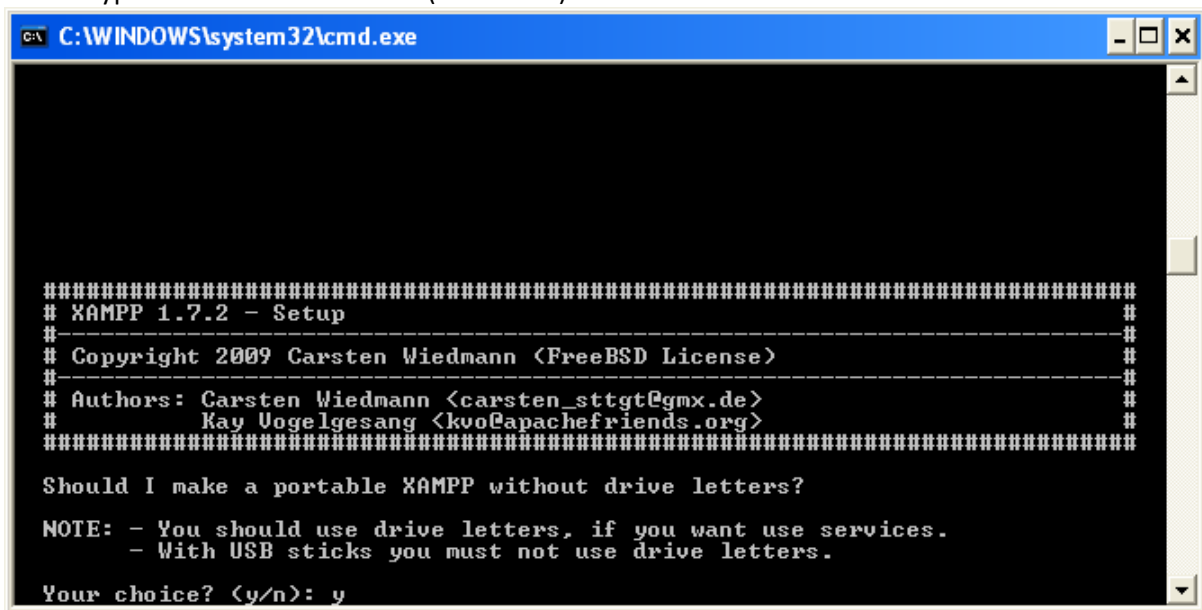


```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

#####
# XAMPP 1.7.2 - Setup                                     #
#-----#
# Copyright 2009 Carsten Wiedmann <FreeBSD License>     #
#-----#
# Authors: Carsten Wiedmann <carsten_sttgt@gmx.de>      #
#           Kay Vogelgesang <kvo@apachefriends.org>      #
#####
Should I locate the XAMPP paths correctly?
Should I proceed? <y/x=exit setup>: y
```

Figure 4 Locate XAMPP paths

Type 'y' and press the Enter key if you install XAMPP on a hard disk including external hard disk drives. Type 'n' for USB Flash drives (USB Sticks).

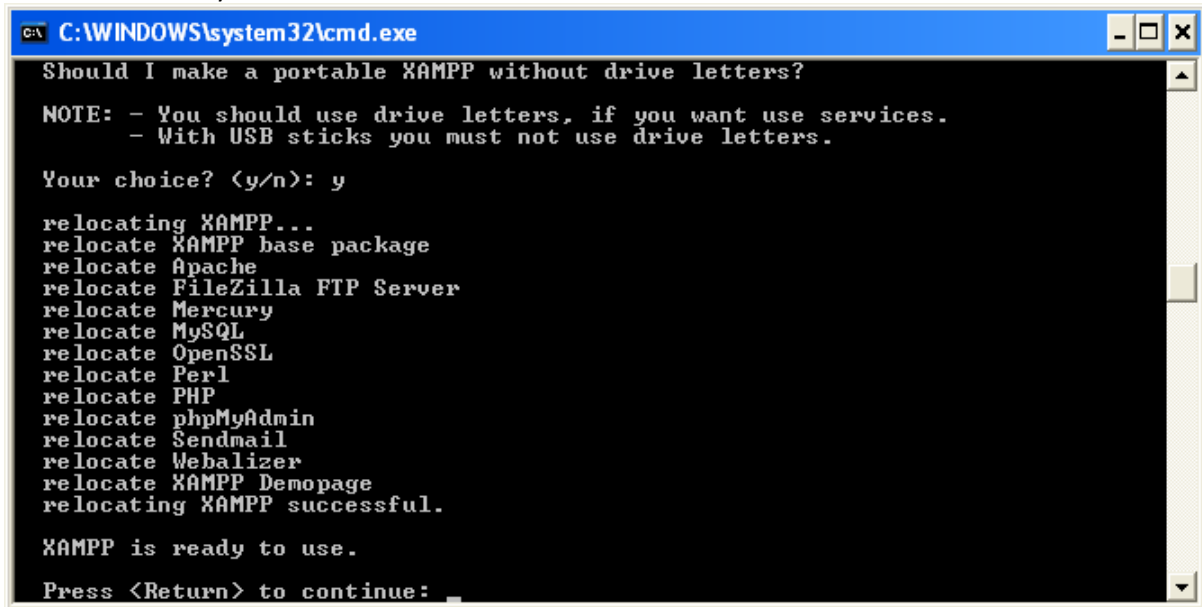


```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

#####
# XAMPP 1.7.2 - Setup                                     #
#-----#
# Copyright 2009 Carsten Wiedmann <FreeBSD License>     #
#-----#
# Authors: Carsten Wiedmann <carsten_sttgt@gmx.de>      #
#           Kay Vogelgesang <kvo@apachefriends.org>      #
#####
Should I make a portable XAMPP without drive letters?
NOTE: - You should use drive letters, if you want use services.
      - With USB sticks you must not use drive letters.
Your choice? <y/n>: y
```

Figure 5 Drive Letters

Press the Enter key



```

C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
Should I make a portable XAMPP without drive letters?

NOTE: - You should use drive letters, if you want use services.
      - With USB sticks you must not use drive letters.

Your choice? <y/n>: y

relocating XAMPP...
relocate XAMPP base package
relocate Apache
relocate FileZilla FTP Server
relocate Mercury
relocate MySQL
relocate OpenSSL
relocate Perl
relocate PHP
relocate phpMyAdmin
relocate Sendmail
relocate Webalizer
relocate XAMPP Demopage
relocating XAMPP successful.

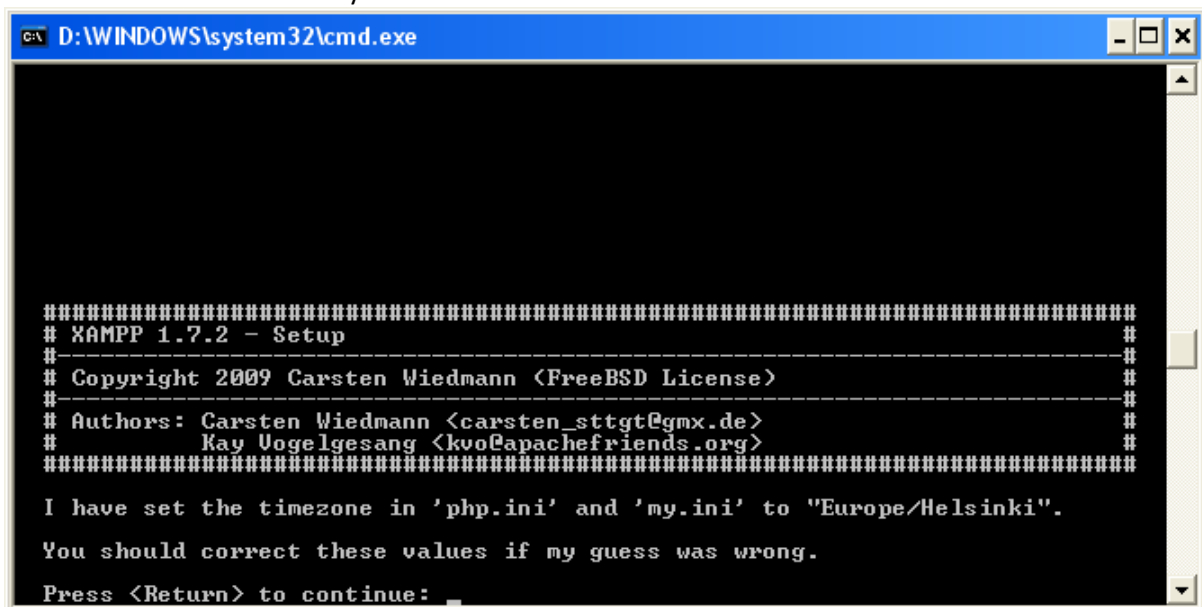
XAMPP is ready to use.

Press <Return> to continue:

```

Figure 6 XAMPP is ready after allocating a drive letter.

Next you will see a notification about the time zone. You will see a bit later on how to change the time zone. Press the Enter key for now.



```

D:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

#####
# XAMPP 1.7.2 - Setup                                     #
#-----#
# Copyright 2009 Carsten Wiedmann <FreeBSD License>     #
#-----#
# Authors: Carsten Wiedmann <carsten_sttgt@gmx.de>      #
#           Kay Vogelgesang <kvo@apachefriends.org>      #
#####

I have set the timezone in 'php.ini' and 'my.ini' to "Europe/Helsinki".
You should correct these values if my guess was wrong.

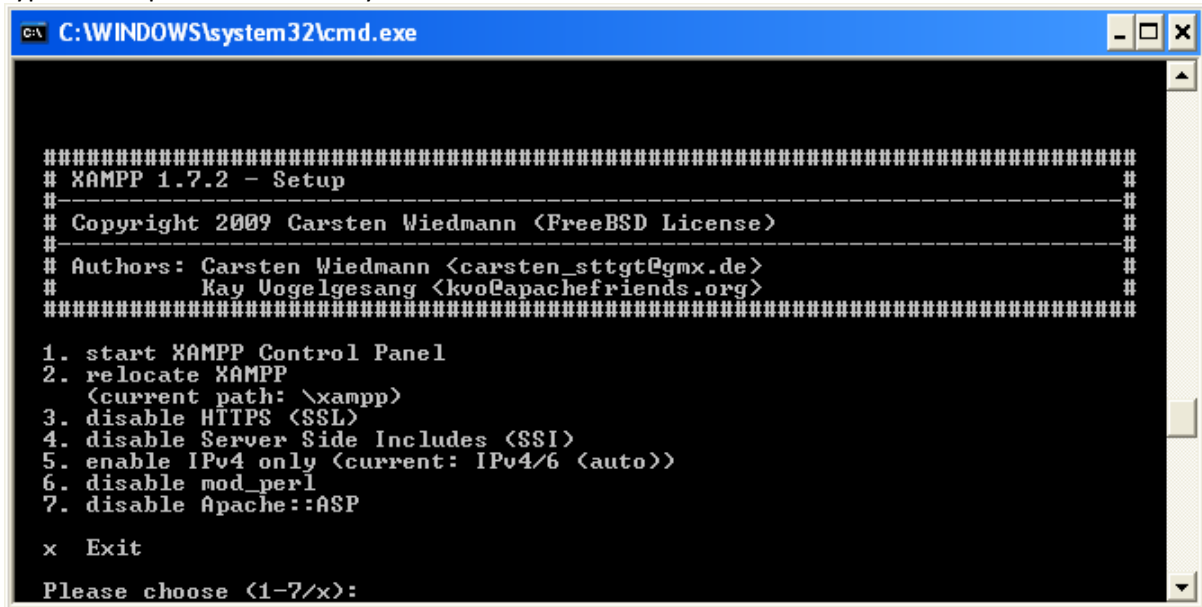
Press <Return> to continue:

```

Figure 7 Timezone notification

Install XAMPP on Windows

Type 'x' and press the Enter key to close the screen.



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

#####
# XAMPP 1.7.2 - Setup                                     #
#-----#
# Copyright 2009 Carsten Wiedmann <FreeBSD License>    #
#-----#
# Authors: Carsten Wiedmann <carsten_sttgt@gmx.de>     #
#          Kay Vogelgesang <kvo@apachefriends.org>      #
#####

1. start XAMPP Control Panel
2. relocate XAMPP
   <current path: \xampp>
3. disable HTTPS <SSL>
4. disable Server Side Includes <SSI>
5. enable IPv4 only <current: IPv4/6 <auto>>
6. disable mod_perl
7. disable Apache::ASP

x  Exit

Please choose <1-7/x>:
```

Figure 8 Notification that installation is finished

Correct the time zones

Open Windows Explorer and go to the directory C:\XAMPP\PHP and open the file php.ini with your favourite text editor.

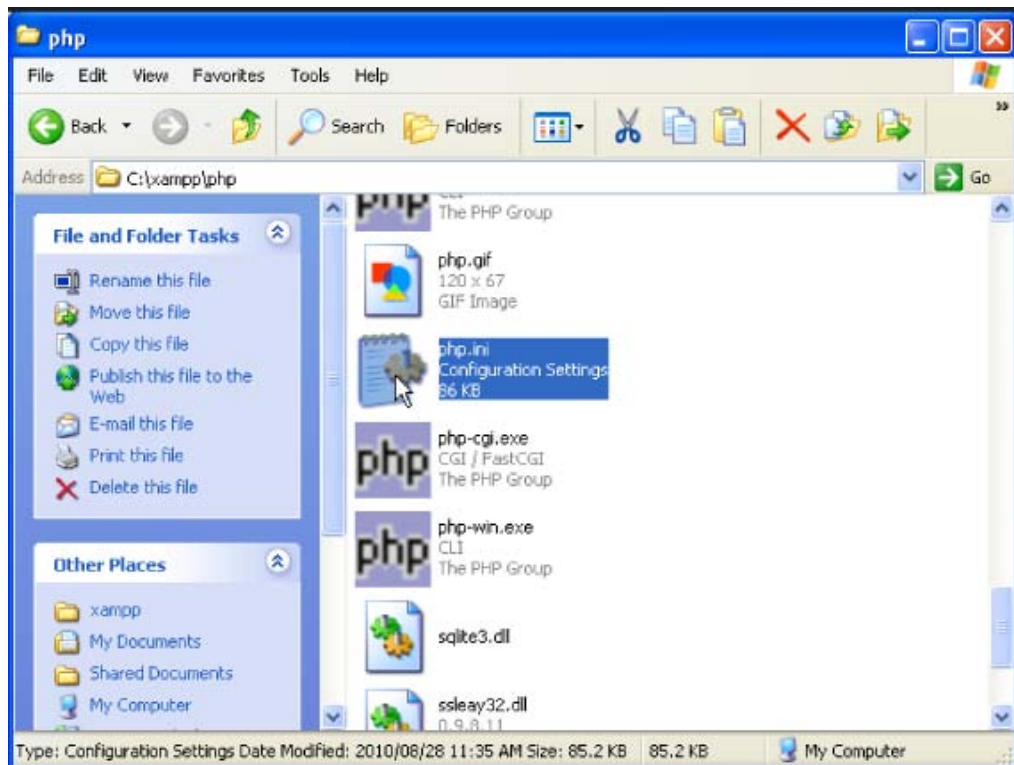
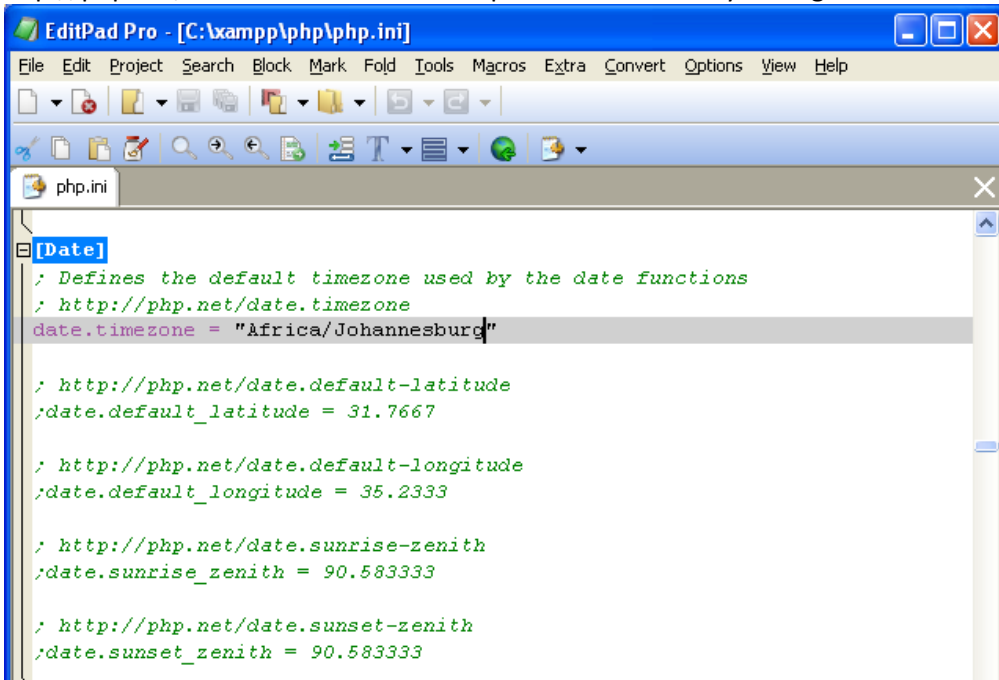


Figure 9 PHP folder

Scroll down to line 1014 to enter the correct time zone. To get the correct value go to <http://php.net/date.timezone> and look up the time zone for your region. Remember to save the file.



The screenshot shows the EditPad Pro application window titled "EditPad Pro - [C:\xampp\php\php.ini]". The window displays the contents of the php.ini file, specifically the [Date] section. The line `date.timezone = "Africa/Johannesburg"` is highlighted. Other settings visible include `date.default_latitude = 31.7667`, `date.default_longitude = 35.2333`, `date.sunrise_zenith = 90.583333`, and `date.sunset_zenith = 90.583333`. The status bar at the bottom indicates the file type as "Configuration Settings" and the date modified as "2010/08/28 11:36 AM".

```
[Date]
; Defines the default timezone used by the date functions
; http://php.net/date.timezone
date.timezone = "Africa/Johannesburg"

; http://php.net/date.default-latitude
;date.default_latitude = 31.7667

; http://php.net/date.default-longitude
;date.default_longitude = 35.2333

; http://php.net/date.sunrise-zenith
;date.sunrise_zenith = 90.583333

; http://php.net/date.sunset-zenith
;date.sunset_zenith = 90.583333
```

Figure 10 Time zone setting in php.ini

Now go to the directory `C:\xampp\mysql\bin` and open the file `my.ini`.

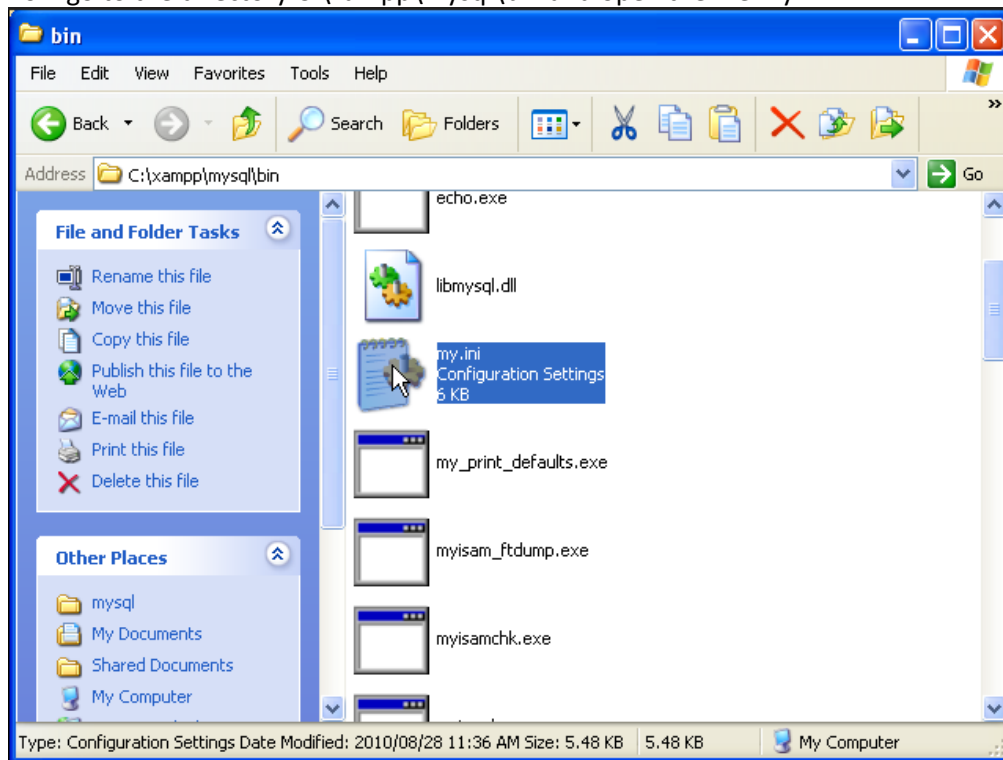


Figure 11 MySQL's bin folder

Install XAMPP on Windows

Scroll down to line 43 and enter the correct time zone. Remember to save the file.

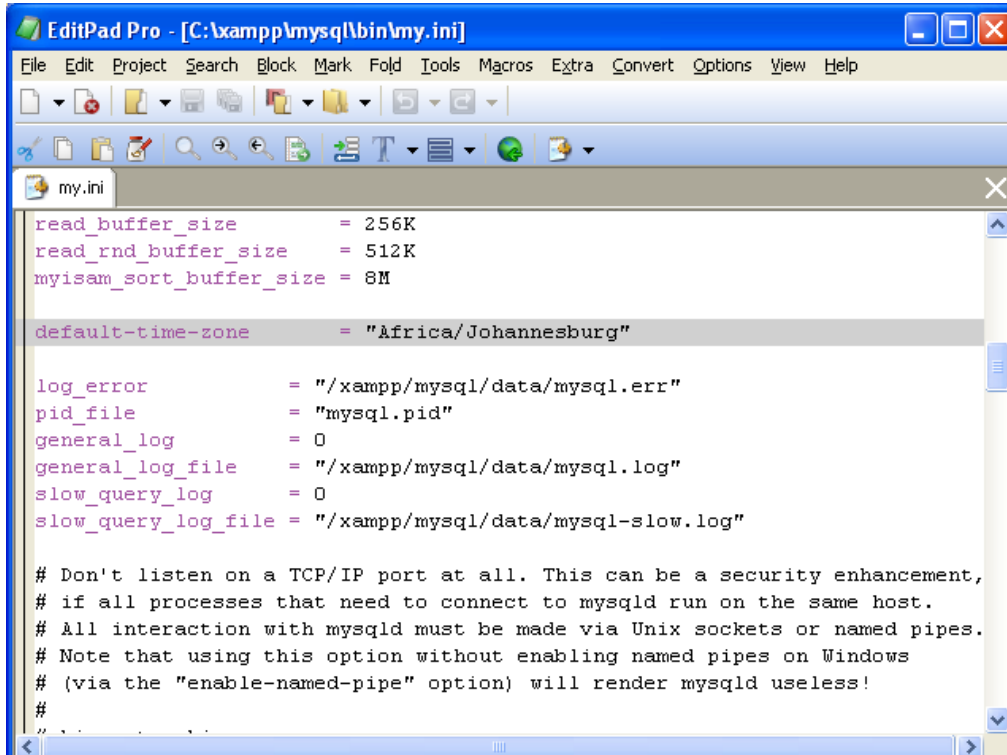


Figure 12 my.ini

You can close the above files.

Start Services XAMPP via the XAMPP Control Panel

Now let's go and check that XAMPP is functionally properly.

Start up the XAMPP Control Panel by double clicking on the desktop icon. Otherwise click on the Start menu → All programs → XAMPP for Windows → XAMPP Control Panel

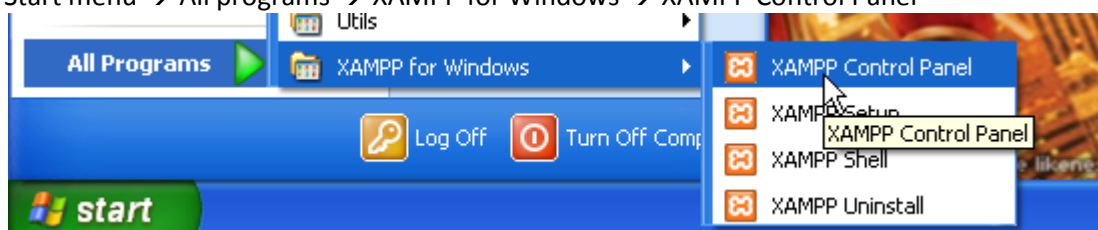


Figure 13 XAMPP Control Panel on the Menu

Select the Start button next to Apache.

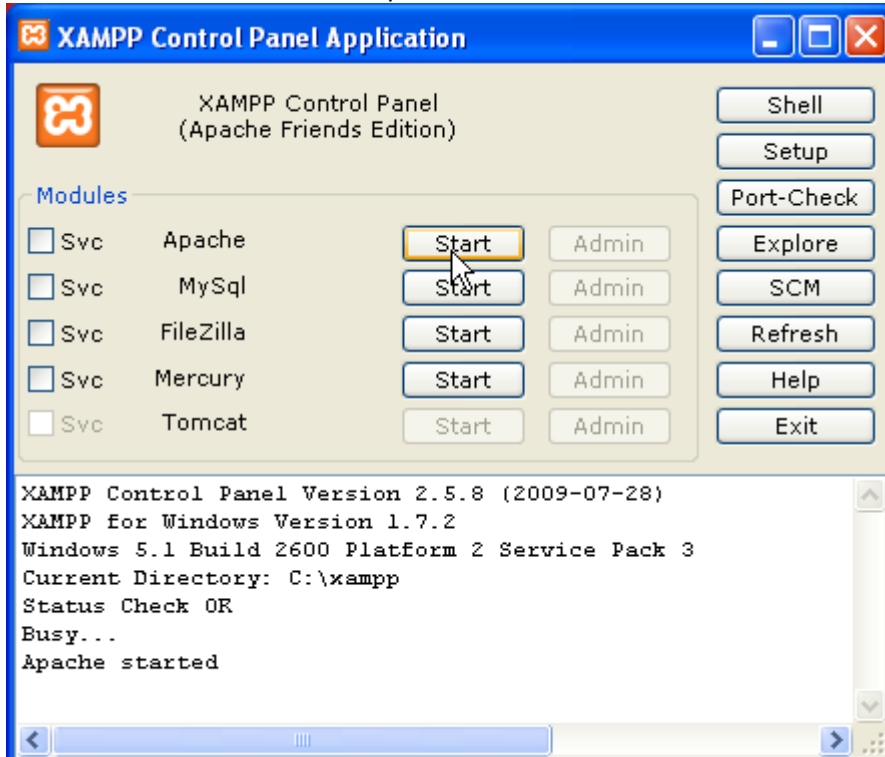


Figure 14 Start Apache Web Server

Select the Start button next to MySQL

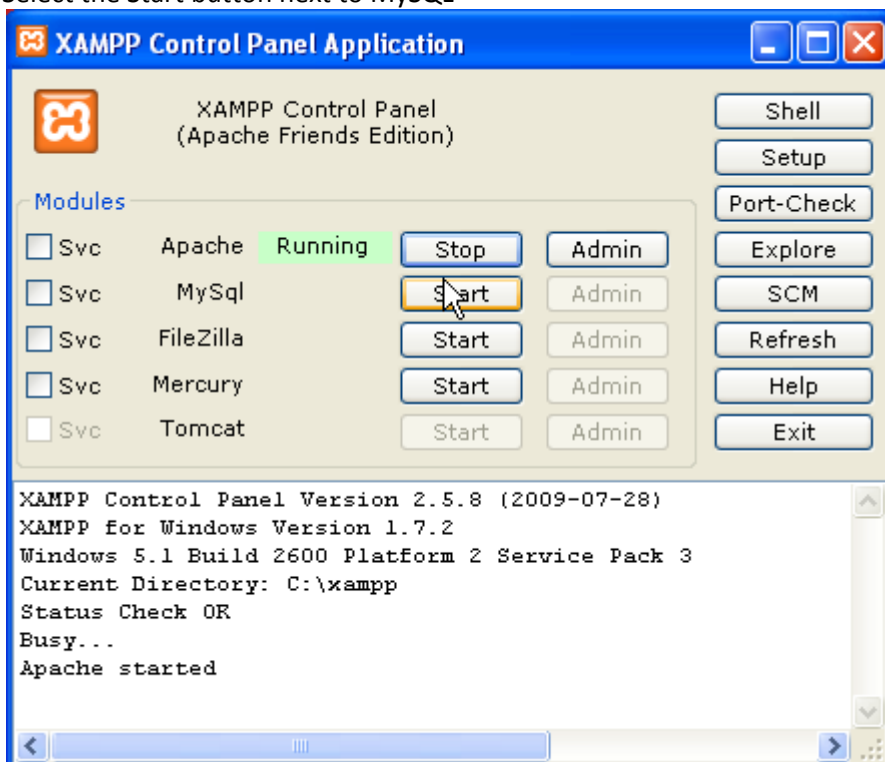


Figure 15 Start MySQL Database Server

Test installation

Now to check if XAMPP has installed successfully just select the Admin button on the same line as Apache.

Otherwise just open your favourite browser and type <http://localhost/> in the address bar.

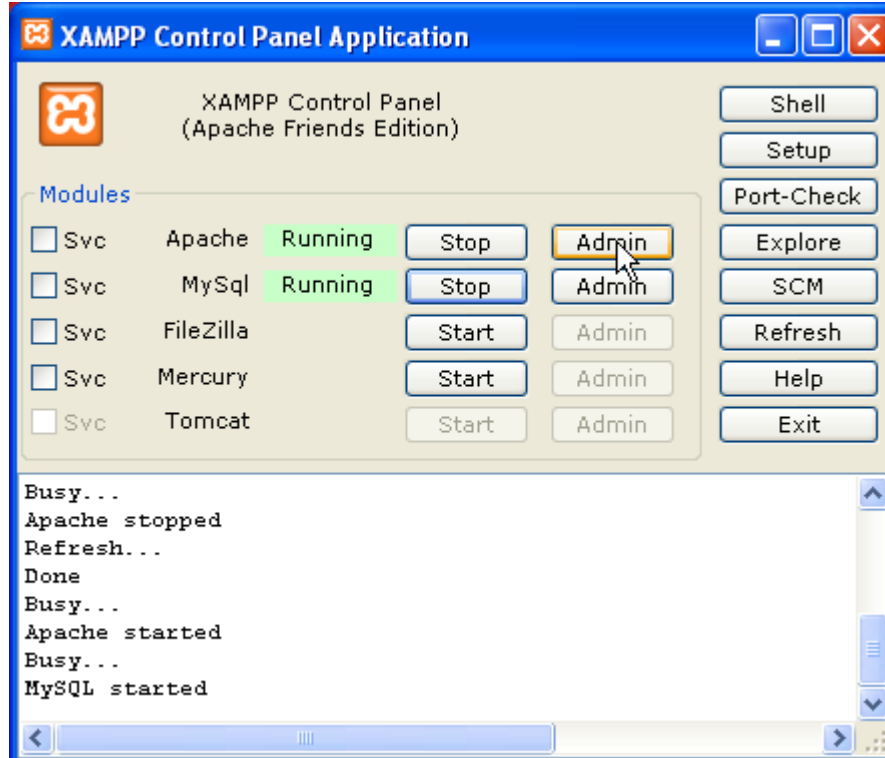


Figure 16 Open in browser by select the Admin button

Now select the language of your choice.

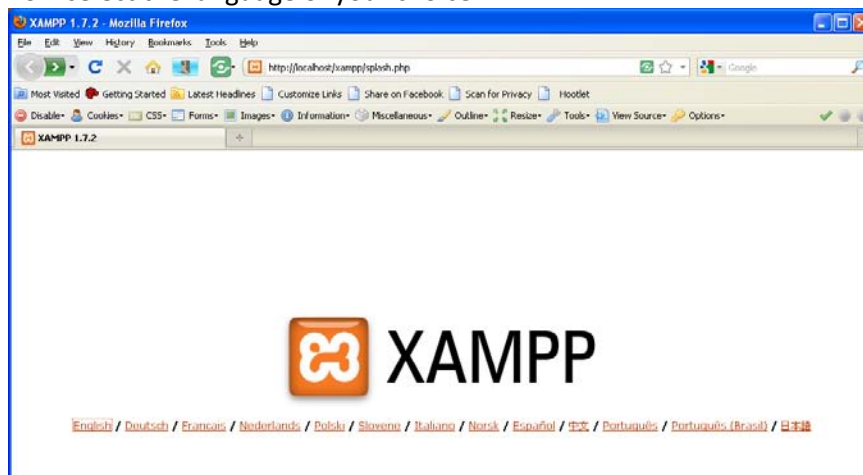


Figure 17 Select language

You will see the XAMPP welcome screen.

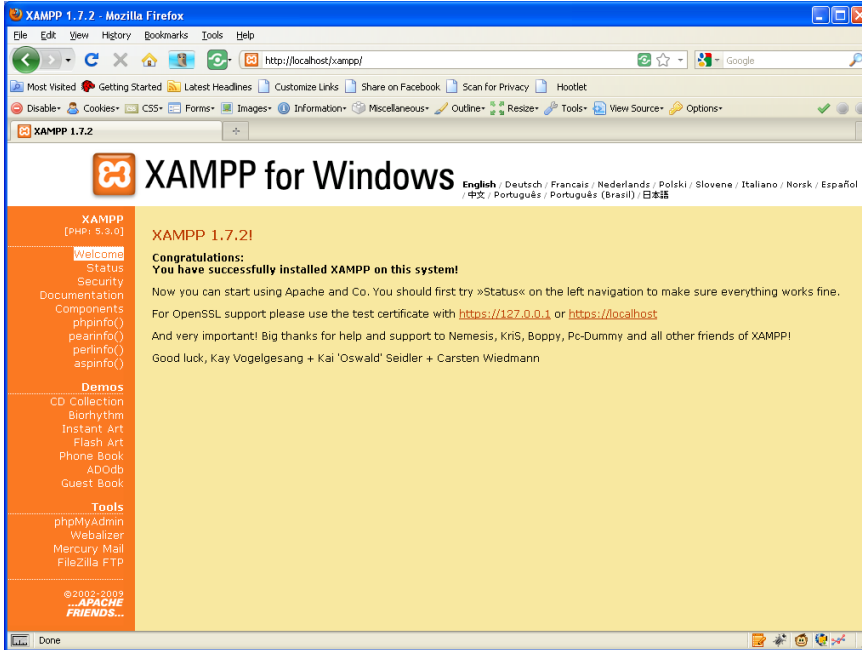


Figure 18 XAMPP Welcome Screen

In the left navigation bar click on the Status link to view what is running and working or not.

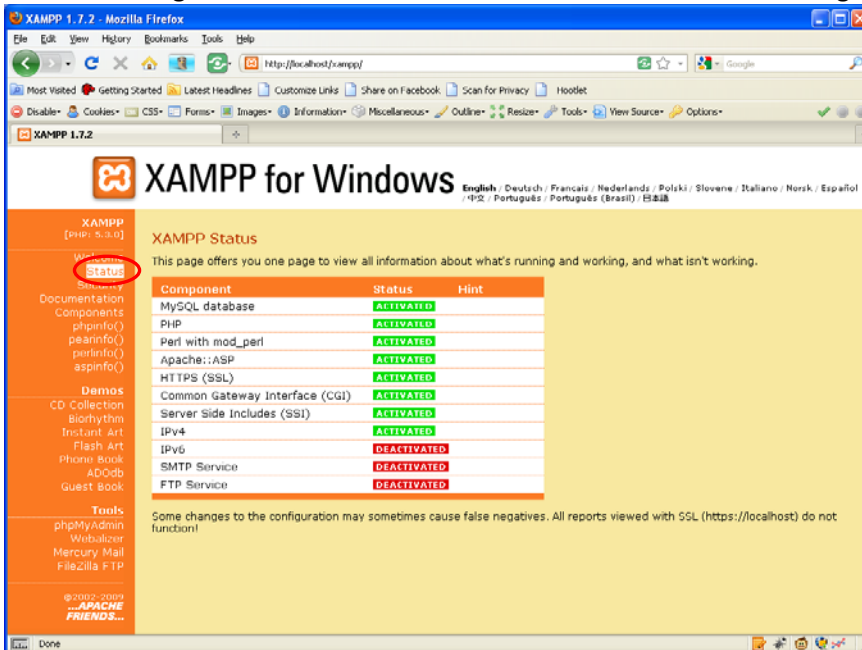


Figure 19 XAMPP Status Screen

Install XAMPP on Windows

Click on the Security link in the navigation pane to get an overview of the security status of your XAMPP installation.



Figure 20 XAMPP Security overview

Scroll down and click on the link <http://localhost/security/xamppsecurity.php>

In this screen you can secure the XAMPP installation by providing a password for the MYSQL root user and choose a username and password for the XAMPP directory. Remember that you will have to enter this username and password every time you access <http://localhost/>

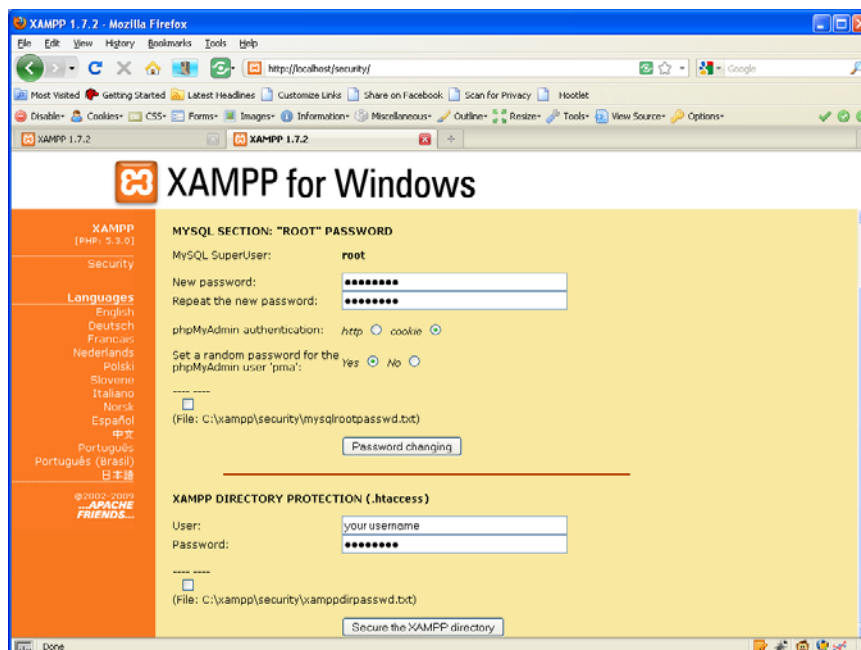


Figure 21 Secure XAMPP installation

Now your developer environment is all set up and ready waiting for you.

Conclusion:

Remember XAMPP is for a developer environment. You can read and learn more about at [Apache Friends - XAMPP for Windows](#).

You can also watch this video: [How to install XAMPP on Windows](#).

Feel free to submit any feedback to ermsitgirl@zellism.com.

Happy coding and have fun!