

# How To Create and Set Up A Database

A Step-By-Step Tutorial

By Ann Liu

<http://www.marketingbyann.com>

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## About the Author:



A Graduate of The College of Management Mahidol University Thailand, Ann Liu holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Bradford Institute Technology UK.

She has worked in various management positions in marketing, business development, human resources, operations and other related business areas.

She is a certified Internet marketing consultant and coach, the owner and Managing Director of MarketingbyAnn Co., Ltd at

<http://www.marketingbyann.net>.

Since learned how relatively simple to make money online, she has been writing about affiliate and Internet marketing to encourage friends, colleagues and anyone that interested to use of the Internet medium to generate extra income and profits.

Ann's expertise is in helping ordinary people to start their own profitable Internet business by using a proprietary and easy to understand step-by-step system. She also provides consultancy service to the SMEs toward how to enhance their business to next level through using Internet technology.

Ann provides free information in the area of Internet marketing at MarketingbyAnn.com. You will find a lot of helpful tips and high quality information there. Her weekly Marketingbyann digest is a valuable resource that available at <http://www.marketingbyann.com>.

By her natural honesty and sincerity style, Ann is often called upon for her powerful and ingenious marketing and business advice, especially in the areas of online marketing.

# Introduction

Many people tell me that because they aren't very fond of scripts, thus install and set up a database really frightens them a lot.

It's true: creating a database, importing tables, the root path of your site etc - if you don't know what you're doing, it can be pretty complicated. However, once you get the hang of it, it is not that difficult at all.

That's why I've created this step-by-step tutorial on how to set up a database. I've included a screenshot toward every step to make it easy for you to understand.

*The red arrows on the screenshots indicate the required action.*

(I've used cPanel to create the database, as this is the most common way)

Included:

Chapter 1 - Creating Your Database & Database User

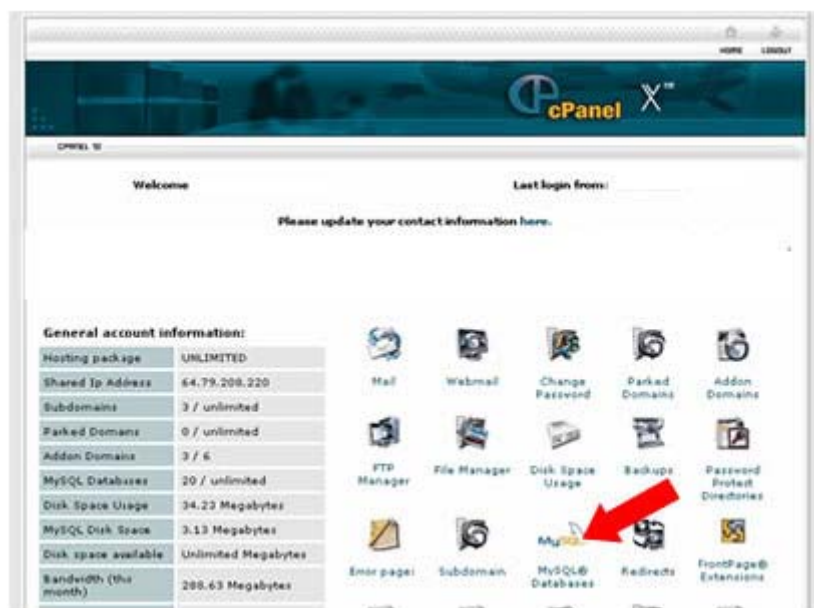
Chapter 2 - Importing Database Tables In phpMyAdmin

Chapter 3 - Configuring Your Script

# 1. Creating Your Database & Database User

First, you need to log in to your website's cPanel. You will find it when you load <http://www.yourdomain.com/cpanel>

Once you login to your cPanel, you see the screen below and then click on 'MySQL Databases' (see the red arrow)



A new screen will appear, showing you a list of all your existing databases and database users:



Scroll down until you see a field and a button that says 'Create Database'.



Give your database a name and click the 'Create Database' button. You will see a new window appears, confirming your action:



Click 'Go Back' to go back to the previous page.

On that page, scroll down until you see two fields and a button that says 'Create User'.



Choose a username and password, and click the button.

The confirmation screen will appear again. Click 'Go Back' to go back to the previous page.

On that page, scroll down until you see 'Add Users To Your Database'.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Add Users To Your Databases:". It features two dropdown menus: "User:" with "toolBox4\_admin" selected and "Database:" with "toolBox4\_blogmail" selected. Two red arrows point to these dropdowns. Below the dropdowns, there is a "Privileges:" section with a checked checkbox for "ALL" and an "or" separator. To the right of "or" are two columns of checkboxes for specific privileges: SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, INDEX, CREATE TEMPORARY TABLES, CREATE, ALTER, DROP, LOCK TABLES, and REFERENCES. At the bottom of the form is a button labeled "Add User To Database".

In the first drop down menu, select the user you just created. In the second drop down menu, select the database you just created.

Make sure the box next to 'ALL' is checked.

Click the button that says 'Add User To Database'.

Again you will see a confirmation message. Click 'Go Back' to go to the previous page.

*NOTE: a prefix has been added to the database name and username you entered. Make sure to always include that prefix when you need to add your database info in a script!*

Scroll down until you see 'Access Hosts'. Make a note of what's written there (usually, this will be 'localhost').



Your database has been created and by now you have all the information you need to run your script's installer (or to manually edit the script's configuration file):

- your database name
- your database username
- your password
- your host

## 2. Importing Your Database Tables

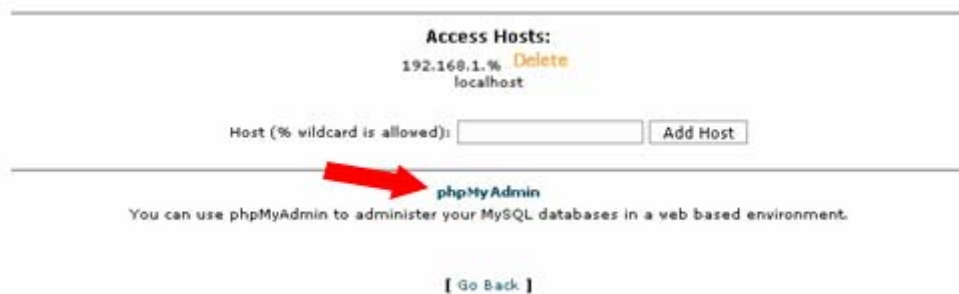
Most new scripts come with a built-in installer. All that is required to install it, load the 'install.php' page in your browser and then enter your database details in the form that is provided. When the information is submitted, the script creates all database tables automatically.

Unfortunately, often time there's no such installer included, and you'll have to create the database tables manually. If you face this kind of situation, you don't need to worry because there is other alternative way to get things done.

When this is the case, a separate database file will be included in the script's folder (extension: '.sql'). Usually it's named 'db.sql', but this can be anything. You can check your script's installation manual to find out.

This is the file you need to import into your empty database to create the database tables. To find out how to do this, read on.

Still on the same page in your cPanel, click 'phpMyAdmin'.



This will open phpMyAdmin in a new window:



In the left drop down menu, select the database you've just created.

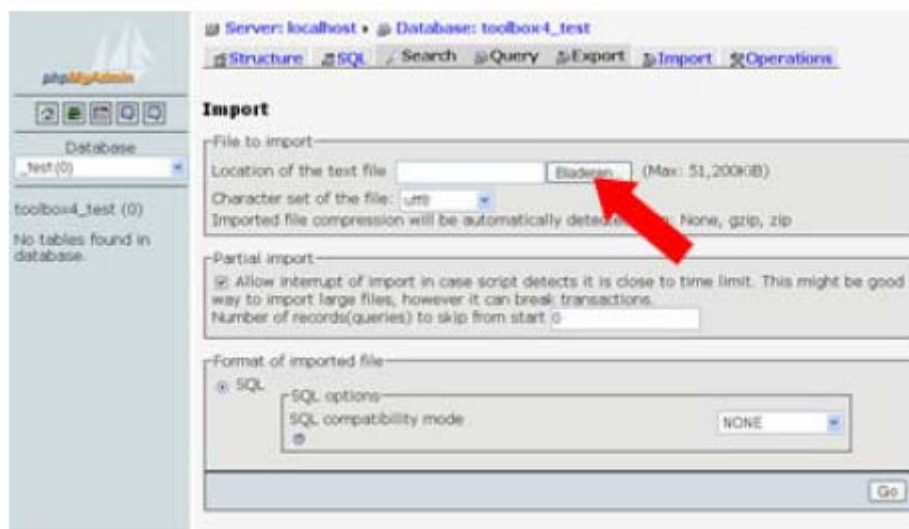
Since you haven't created any tables yet, the database name will be followed by '(0)',

In the left frame, you will see the following message: *'No tables found in database'*.

In the right frame, click the 'Import' tab.

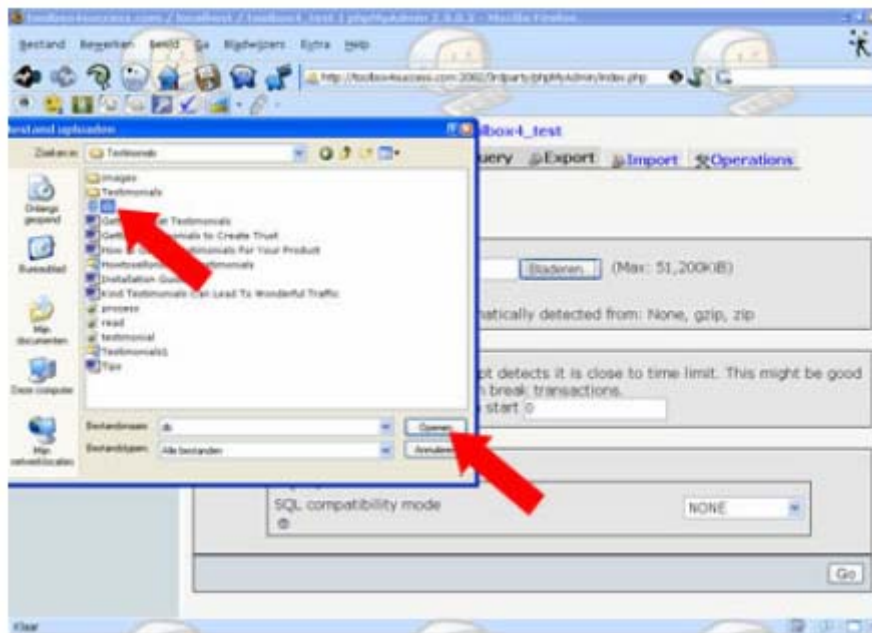


Click the 'Browse' button.

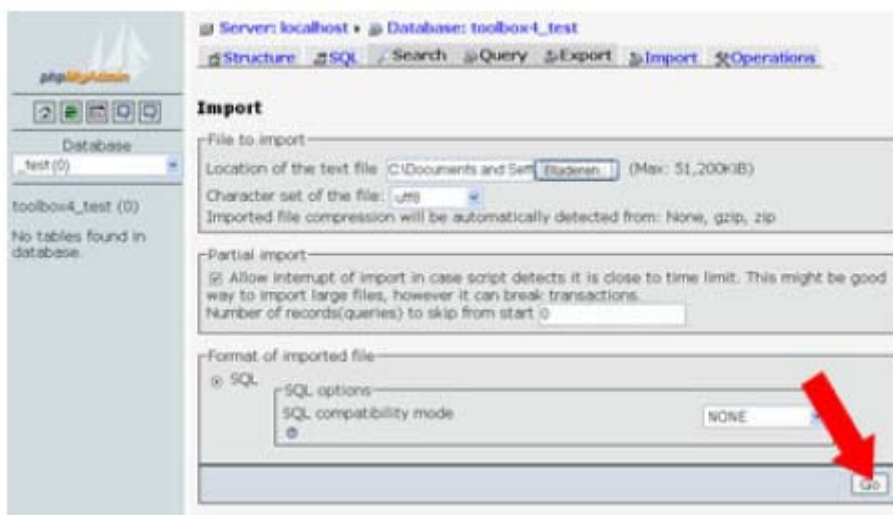


Browse to your script's folder, select the 'db.sql'\*-file and click 'Open'.

(\*check your script's installation manual to find out the name of the file that contains the database info)

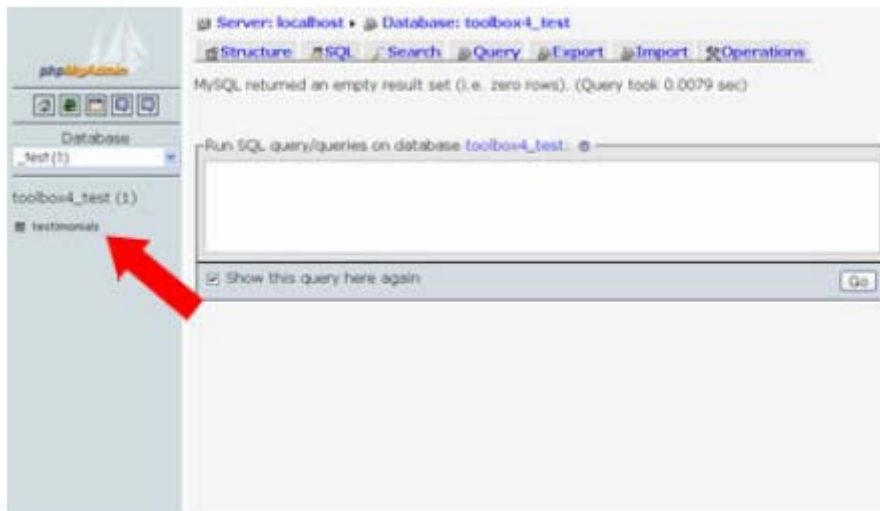


Click 'Go' to start the import.



When your import has been finished, your tables will be created.

Now you'll see in the left frame, there are number of tables that have been created, which appear behind your database name, and you'll see a list of all the tables below that.



You can close both phpMyAdmin and cPanel and go on installing your script.

### 3. Configuring Your Script

Instructions on where and how to add your database info to the script's configuration file should be described in your script installation guide since this is different for each and every script.

Basically, your configuration file will contain this piece of code (or a variation):

```
define("U_dbserver", "#DB_SERVER#");  
define("U_dbuser", "#DB_USER#");  
define("U_dbpass", "#DB_PASS#");  
define("U_dbname", "#DB_NAME#");
```

After adding your database info, this is how it will look like:

```
define("U_dbserver", "localhost");  
define("U_dbuser", "prefix_yourdatabaseusername");  
define("U_dbpass", "yourdatabasepassword");  
define("U_dbname", "prefix_yourdatabasename");
```

Upload the customized file to your server.

Your Done! 😊

I hope after you finish this tutorial, install and set up a database will not threaten you anymore.

To your database set up success 😊

Ann Liu

