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# MySQL quick start guide

The MySQL logo, consisting of the word "MySQL" in a white, bold, sans-serif font with a trademark symbol (TM) to the right. Above the letter "Y" is a white silhouette of a fish, which is the MySQL logo icon. The entire logo is set against a dark blue background with a faint, larger-scale version of the fish icon behind it.

MySQL™

This guide will help you:

- Add a MySQL database to your account.
- Find your database.
- Add additional users.
- Use the MySQL command-line tools through SSH.
- Install phpMyAdmin.
- Connect to your database using PHP.

You'll also find links to further information that will help you make the most of your database.

If you have printed this guide you may find it useful to make a note of your database details here.

Database server IP address:

Database name:

Database username:

## Add a MySQL database to your account

You can add a MySQL database to your account directly through your Fasthosts control panel.

First you will need to decide the following:

- The name of your database.
- Your preferred database username.
- A password for your database.

**Step 1** If this is the only package in your account, skip to **step 4**.

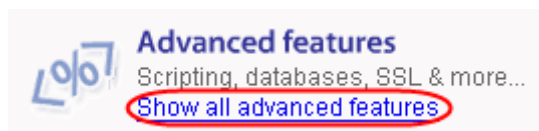
**Step 2** Click **Configure your packages** in the *Email & web hosting* section on your control panel home page.

**Step 3** Click on your domain name in your Domains & packages list.



Package	Domain name	Domain registration
<a href="#">Windows Home</a>	<a href="#">testdirectivemail.co.uk</a>	Expires 23-Mar-2008

**Step 4** Click the **Show all advanced features** option.




**Step 5** Click the **Add and configure databases** link on the *Advanced features* page.



**Step 6** Select the type and size of database you wish to use, and then click the **Continue** button.


**Step 7** Enter your chosen database name, database username and password, and then click **Continue**.

 **Note:** If the database name you have chosen already exists on our system you may see the following error message:

```
Unable to complete MSSQL configuration task:  
Database testdatabase already exists. Choose another name.
```

If your chosen database name is in use, please click **Back to the previous page** and enter a new name for your database.

**Step 8** If your web hosting package does not include a MySQL database as standard, you will need to choose whether you want to pay monthly or annually for your database.  
Click the **Step 4** button to continue.


 **Note:** If your web hosting package includes a MySQL database, and you have not already used it, you will not be charged extra.

**Step 9** A dialogue box will open asking you to confirm the additional payment, if applicable.  
Click **OK** to continue.

**Step 10** If requested, enter your credit/debit card's security (CV2) code.  
This is the last three numbers shown on your card's signature strip.  
Click **Next** when you are ready to continue.


**Step 11** You will now see the details for your new database. Make a note of your database's:

- Server IP address.
- Database name.
- Database username.

 **Quick tip:** If you have printed this guide, you can make a note of these details on the front page.

## Finding your MySQL database

Your MySQL database is hosted on a specialised server optimised for MySQL databases. To connect to your database, you must use the database server's IP address.

 **Important:** You cannot connect to your database using `localhost`

**Step 1** If this is the only package in your account, skip to step 4.

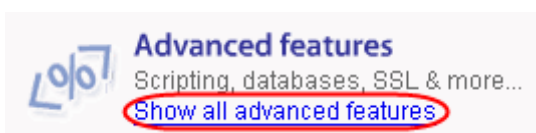
**Step 2** Click **Configure your packages** in the *Email & web hosting* section on your control panel home page.

**Step 3** Click on your domain name in your Domains & packages list.



Package	Domain name	Domain registration
<a href="#">Windows Home</a>	<a href="#">testdirectlivemail.co.uk</a>	Expires 23-Mar-2008

**Step 4** Click the **Show all advanced features** option.



**Advanced features**  
Scripting, databases, SSL & more...  
[Show all advanced features](#)

**Step 5** Click the **Add and configure databases** link on the *Advanced features* page.



**Databases**  
Set up MS SQL and MySQL databases on our dedicated database servers.  
• [Add and configure databases](#)

**Step 6** Fromn the **Databases** page, make a note of your database server's IP address.

## Adding users to your database

When you add a database to your account, you choose the username and password of the database administration user.

Database administrators can choose which level of access different people and applications have to your database. Each database user can have their own username, password and permission to carry out certain tasks.

You may prefer to set up new database users with limited permissions to access your database on a day to day basis.

**Step 1** If this is the only package in your account, skip to step 4.

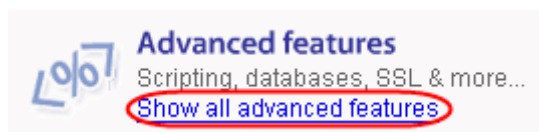
**Step 2** Click **Configure your packages** in the *Email & web hosting* section on your control panel home page.

**Step 3** Click on your domain name in your Domains & packages list.



Package	Domain name	Domain registration
 Windows Home	testdirectivemail.co.uk	Expires 23-Mar-2008

**Step 4** Click the **Show all advanced features** option.



**Step 5** Click the **Add and configure databases** link on the *Advanced features* page.




**Step 6** On the *Databases* page, click **Edit** next to the database you wish to add more users to.

**Step 7** In the box marked **Create a new database user**, enter the username and password of your new user.

## Connecting to your database using the command line

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MySQL enables you to access your database through the command-line. This is useful if you want to check your database or perform setup tasks before you start using it.

 **Note:** With most web applications, such as blogging, forums and ecommerce, you don't need to use MySQL's command-line tools.

If you have a Linux web hosting package, you can use SSH to connect to our Linux servers and start using the MySQL command-line tools straight away.

If you have a Windows web hosting package, you can install MySQL on your own PC.

Using SSH to connect to our Linux servers

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=79](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=79)

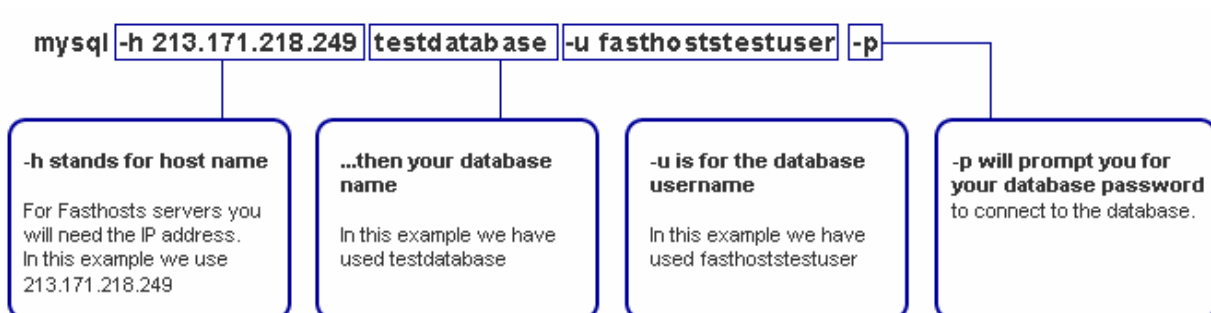
Installing MySQL on your own PC

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=585](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=585)

**Step 1** At the command line – either on your own PC or through SSH – log into to your database's server.

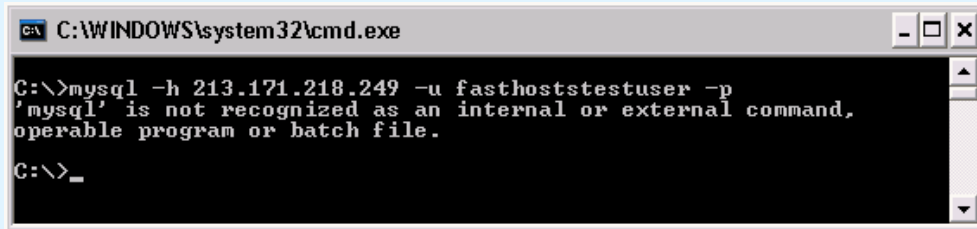
### Example:

```
mysql -h 213.171.218.249 testdatabase -u fasthoststestuser -p
```





**Note:** If you are running Windows and have not installed MySQL, you will see an error message.



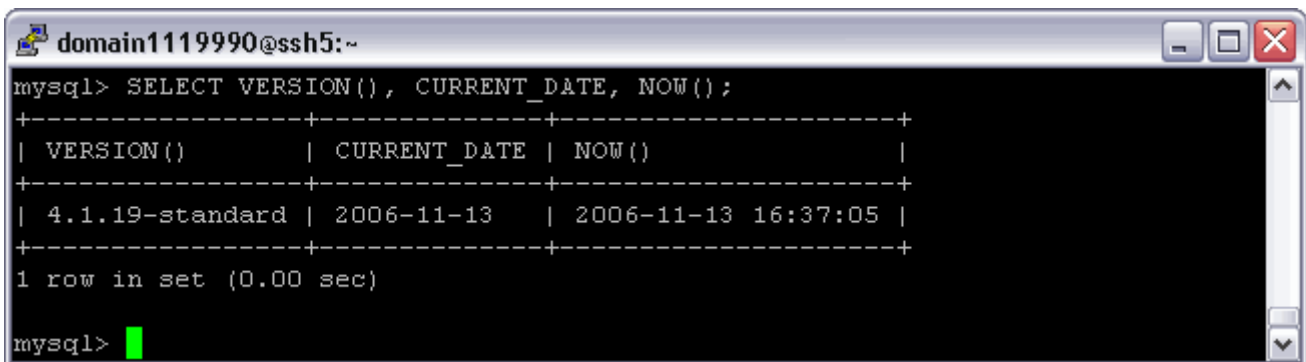
```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

C:\>mysql -h 213.171.218.249 -u fasthoststestuser -p
'mysql' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

C:\>_
```

### Step 2

You can check that you have successfully connected to the database by asking for its version and the current date. At the `mysql>` prompt type `SELECT VERSION(), CURRENT_DATE, NOW();`



```
domain1119990@ssh5:~
mysql> SELECT VERSION(), CURRENT_DATE, NOW();
+-----+-----+-----+
| VERSION() | CURRENT_DATE | NOW() |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 4.1.19-standard | 2006-11-13 | 2006-11-13 16:37:05 |
+-----+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> █
```

You can find out more about using command-line MySQL in the tutorial at:

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/4.1/en/tutorial.html>

# Installing phpMyAdmin

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phpMyAdmin is a web application that makes it easy to create and manage your MySQL database. You can download it free of charge and install it in your Fasthosts web space.

You can find out how to install phpMyAdmin by following the guide below. Unfortunately we are unable to provide email or telephone support for phpMyAdmin, but you can read more about phpMyAdmin and how to use it in the project's documentation at:

[http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home\\_page/docs.php](http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home_page/docs.php)

- Step 1** Download the most recent stable version of phpMyAdmin from:  
[http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home\\_page/downloads.php](http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home_page/downloads.php)  
phpMyAdmin is available in several languages and archive formats.  
If you are using a Windows PC, choose **english.zip**.
- Step 2** Once you have downloaded the installation file, extract it using a suitable tool such as **WinZip** on Windows or the **unzip** command on Linux and MacOS X.
- Step 3** The installation files will be extracted to a folder named **phpMyAdmin-2.9.1-english**, or similar. Rename this folder to **phpmyadmin**, then use FTP to upload the entire folder to your web space's htdocs directory.
- Step 4** To maintain your database's security, you should use Password Protection (URL Security) to protect your phpMyAdmin directory. You can find out how to do this in our knowledge base articles:  
  
Password protection for Linux - [http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=83](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=83)  
Password protection for Windows - [http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=39](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=39)

**Step 5** Using a text editor, create a new file and enter the following text:

```
<?php
$i=0;
$i++;
$cfg['Servers'][$i]['host']='213.171.218.246'; // your database server's IP address
$cfg['Servers'][$i]['auth_type']='config'; // Authentication method - config, http or cookie
$cfg['Servers'][$i]['user']='demousername'; // your database username
$cfg['Servers'][$i]['password']='trainingpassword'; // your database user's password
?>
```

Save this file as **config.inc.php** and upload it into the **phpMyAdmin** directory you have just created.



**Quick tip:** By default Windows Notepad will save your files with a .txt extension.  
To save as a .php file, select **All files** from the file type drop-down list while saving.

**Step 6** Visit your phpMyAdmin folder through your web browser.  
For example [www.yourdomain.co.uk/phpmyadmin](http://www.yourdomain.co.uk/phpmyadmin)

# Connecting to your database using PHP

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### Using third party applications

Many third party applications such as forum, blogging and ecommerce software require a connection to a MySQL database. When you configure your software's connection to the database you will need your:

- Database server's IP address.
- Database name.
- Database username and password.

### Connecting from your own scripts

To connect to the database from your own PHP scripts use the `mysql_connect ()` function.

To connect you will need to specify the IP address, name and user details of your database.

For example if we were connecting to a database called **demodatabase**, on `213.171.218.246` with the username `demousername` and the password `password` we would use the following script:

```
<?php
$dbhost = '213.171.218.246'; // your database server's IP address
$dbuser = 'demousername'; // the database username
$dbpass = 'password'; // the database password
$conn = mysql_connect ($dbhost, $dbuser, $dbpass) or die ('error connecting to
your database'); // opens a connection to the server or gives an error
$dbname = 'demodatabase'; // the database name
mysql_select_db($dbname); // connects to your database
?>
```

### Connecting using ASP

You can also connect to a MySQL database with ASP, described in our knowledge base article **DSN-less MySQL connections with ASP** at:

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=1078](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=1078)

### Troubleshooting your connection

#### Step 1

Typing errors are a common cause of database connection problems.

Please check your:

- Database server IP address
- Database username and password
- Database name.

You can find the server's IP address on the **Databases** page in your Fasthosts control panel.

#### Step 2

If these details are correct and you are still unable to connect try using testing your database using the MySQL command line tool, as described earlier in this guide.

#### Step 3

Try connecting to your database using the test script provided in our knowledge base article **Troubleshooting MySQL connections** at:

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=528](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=528)

### Further reading

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Using SSH to connect to our Linux servers

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=79](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=79).

Installing MySQL on your own PC

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=585](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=585)

Command-line MySQL tutorial

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/4.1/en/tutorial.html>

DSN-less MySQL connections with ASP

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=1078](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=1078)

Convert an Access database to MySQL

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=1089](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=1089)

Troubleshooting MySQL connections

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=528](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=528)

How to install a MySQL or MS SQL database

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=129](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=129)

MySQL permissions

[http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article\\_id=1081](http://www.fasthosts.co.uk/knowledge-base/?article_id=1081)

phpMyAdmin downloads

[http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home\\_page/downloads.php](http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home_page/downloads.php)

phpMyAdmin project documentation

[http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home\\_page/docs.php](http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home_page/docs.php)

MySQL functions in PHP

<http://uk.php.net/mysql>