

Screencast: The Installation of PHP 5.3, IIS 7 and MySQL 5.1 on Windows 7



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Davey Shafik: Hi, my name is Davey Shafik, and in this screencast, I'll be walking you through the installation of PHP 5.3, IIS 7 and MySQL 5.1 on Windows 7. Throughout this screencast, you'll notice that several portions have had their speed increased for the sake of including them in the screencast, because you're going to see them on screen, while not taking up too much of your time.

So, the first thing you're going to want to do is launch your browser and go to the Microsoft Web PI, that's the Web Platform Installer website. The link for that will be in the show notes. So, once it loads, you're going to click on "Download It Now" and then you can choose to either run or save the application, and then run it once it's done downloading. Now, the Web PI is a wonderful GUI for installing IIS 7, SQL Server 2008 and PHP. However, it includes PHP 5.2 and we would like to run 5.3. So, once it's done downloading and it starts to run, you're going to get the installer UAC notice, so choose to accept that, and then it's going to run the application and we're going to get a second UAC notice once we click on it in our cache file.

Now, while the Web PI is loading inside, you're going to go to the Microsoft servers and grab a list of all of the latest products that it can install, and we're going to end up on this Web Platform tab. So, the first thing you're going to do is choose to include the recommended web server products and then go to "Customize," and then choose the HTTP redirection and the mod_rewrite equivalent, the URL rewrite plug-in. And, then the next thing we're going to do is go into the "Frameworks And Runtime" section and again choose "Customize" and choose "PHP 5.2" and, as you can see, it can also install .NET and the ASP.NET runtimes. Now, as I had mentioned, we can also choose to install SQL Server 2008, which is the Express Edition, however I've chosen not to do so as I want to use MySQL. If you do choose to install it, it adds about 15 minutes to the install time and you get a few extra screens at the end to choose your default database password. We can also choose to install Silverlight 3 tools and the Visual Web Developer 2008 Express IDE.

So, once you've chosen everything you want to install, we'll go ahead and click the "Install" button and we will get the summary of installation, including licenses, and we'll go ahead and accept that. Now, as you can see, this process has been very much sped up, however it only took about five and a half minutes and it did not need any input from me, but it went ahead and downloaded and installed everything that we chose. Now, once that completes, you again get a summary and we can scroll down to the bottom and make sure that PHP is

actually installed. So, once you confirm that, click on “Finish” and then click on “Exit” to close the Web PI.

Now, the next thing we’re going to do is ensure that IIS 7 is installed and running by browsing to local hosts in our browser and we should be greeted by the IIS 7 splash screen, and you’ll notice there’s an Internet Security Settings warning, so go ahead and add the exception and the page will reload. Now, the next thing we want to do is make sure that PHP is installed and running so we’re going to check out a phpinfo. So, we’re going to browse to the document root, which can be found on the C drive in the iNET Hub directory and then in the ww root directory. So, this is our document root and we’re going to go ahead and create a PHP directory and, as you’ll notice the little UAC shield, we do not actually get a UAC warning on the default settings for UAC. However, it is a restricted directory. So, we’re going to call that PHP and then we’re going to create an index.php with our phpinfo code. So, we’re going to start up Notepad and type out a simple phpinfo, and because of those restrictions on the document root, we’re going to go ahead and save it to our desktop and, as I said, it will be called index.php. And, then we’re going to go ahead and copy that to the PHP directory in our document root. So, it’s going to go ahead and drag that over the Explorer icon in our task bar and drop it in place. Then, once your file is copied, you’re going to go ahead and browse to the PHP directory in your browser and confirm that you can see the phpinfo.

As you can see here, we have a working PHP 5.2.11, however we want to be running PHP 5.3. So, first of all, we need to uninstall the PHP 5.2.11 and we’re going to do that by going to the Control Panel, and then we’re going to go to the “Programs And Features” panel, choose PHP 5.2.11 and then uninstall. Now, once you’ve confirmed that, you’re going to get another UAC prompt, which you should go ahead and confirm. Now, the next thing that you’re going to see is a warning about needing to restart your computer. I chose not to. It doesn’t seem to make a difference, but feel free if you would like to. Now, once the un-installation is complete, we are going to the PHP For Windows website, which can be found at windows.php.net, and then we’re going to go to the “Download” section. You see it up there in the top part. And, we are looking for the VC9 x86 Non Thread Safe Installer. So, go ahead and save the download. This weighs in at about 25 MB. And, then once that’s done, go ahead and click “Run.” And, now we’re in the installer. So, go ahead and accept the license agreement, and my recommendation would be to install to C:\php. The space and Program Files can sometimes cause issues. Go ahead and click “Next” and then we’re going to choose the IIS FastCGI option for Web Server 7. And, then finally, we have the option to install, add or remove extensions. As you can see, there are lots of extensions available. They’re not all chosen by default. In addition, you can also choose to install the script executable and to register the PHP extensions so that when you double click PHP files they’ll automatically open up. So, go ahead and click the “Install” button and we’ll run through the Installer. You will need to confirm another UAC prompt, and then go ahead and click “Finish.” Then, the final thing that we need to do is to restart IIS and we’re going to do that by going back to the Control Panel, going to Administrative Tools and then choosing the Internet Information Services, the IIS, Manager. Go ahead and close those windows while the IIS Manager starts up, and then once it has...we have a “Restart” option over on the right-hand side. So, once it’s done restarting, we’re going to go ahead and reload our phpinfo.

However, since PHP 5.3, you need to set a default time zone, and now you’ll notice that because we haven’t done that we get an error. So, go ahead and go to your C:\php directory and open up the php.ini. We’re going to do a quick search for “Time Zone” and then we’re

going to “Uncomment” the date.timezone ini setting, and in my case set it to the “America/New York” time zone. Make sure we go ahead and save that. Go back to our IIS Manager and again restart. Once we’ve done that, simply refresh the phpinfo and we have a working PHP 5.3.

So, the last thing I want to show you is the Windows Cache Extension for PHP, which is a bicode (ph) cache from Microsoft, optimized for the Windows platform. So, go ahead and grab the 1.0 RC for PHP 5.3, over on the right-hand side. Again, we’ll go ahead and save that. And, once it’s complete, we’re going to go ahead and run it. It’s a very simple, self-executing ZIP file. So, go ahead and accept the license and then we’re going to extract it, and in my case I chose to put it on my desktop in a wincache folder. Go ahead and choose to accept creation of the folder and then we get a notice telling us to read the README. So, to install this extension it’s very simple. We’re going to go ahead and grab the php_wincache.dll and place it into our EXT directory, which can be found in the C: php directory, where are our PHP installations. Go ahead and confirm that it did in fact copy. And, then we’re going to go ahead and modify our php.ini. So, once that opens, we’re going to scroll to the bottom, which for the Windows php.ini’s location of the extensions, and we’re going to add a php_wincache group header, and then extension= php_wincache.dll, and don’t forget your underscore. Go ahead and make sure we save that. And, once again, we’re going to restart IIS over in the IIS Manager. And, then finally, we’re going to go ahead and refresh or reload our phpinfo. And, then we’re going to scroll down almost but not quite to the bottom, where we should see our wincache extension and, as you can see, we have both the op-code and file cache enabled.

So, the final thing I want to show you is installation of MySQL 5.1. So, go to MySQL.org. Go to the “Download” section. Choose the MySQL 5.1 and then choose “Download.” And, of course, you want the Windows or, if you’re running x64, the x64 Edition, and we want the much larger MSI Installer. So, choose “Pick A Mirror” and, if you would like, either register or log in, or choose not to, and then go ahead and choose a mirror. So, we’re going to go ahead and save that and then we’re going to go ahead and run it, and this is going to bring up the MySQL Installer. So, now we’re going to walk through the Installer. I chose to do a custom install and, as you see, there are several options here. I choose to exclude the documentation, as I can already find that online and I didn’t want to use up disk space. And, you may also choose to exclude the MySQL Instance Manager. It really is up to you. So, go ahead and choose “Install” and then confirm the UAC dialogue. Once it’s done completing, I’m going to go ahead and click through these next couple of screens. And, then we’re going to make sure to choose the “Configure MySQL Server Now.” So, the next thing that’s going to happen is the Configuration Wizard is going to start, so confirm the UAC and choose “Next,” and we’re going to do a detailed configuration, which is the default. And, for me, this is a developer machine, however obviously choose the option that’s best for you, and the same thing here. Choose your InnoDB tablespace settings, and then choose the best option for the number of concurrent connections that you wish to support. Enable TCP/ICP networking and choose to enable “Strict” mode. This is recommended. I went ahead and then changed my character set to UTF-8. Again, this is something I would recommend. And, install the Windows service. In addition, I included the mysql/bin directory in the Windows path. This allows you to use the MySQL Command Line Client far more easily. Go ahead and choose your password and execute the installation of your configuration. Once it’s completed, click “Finish.”

Next, we're going to bring up the command line. We're going to Start, Run, type in command, and then type in `mysql-uroot-p`, and then we're going to do `show databases`, and this makes sure that our MySQL server is in fact running. Then, we're going to create a very simple PHP script to go ahead and connect to MySQL. So, I'm going to go ahead and open that in Notepad. Do a very simple `$connection=mysql_connect`. Now, obviously you can use PDO or `mysqli`. Personally, I prefer PDO. And, we're going to connect to a local host with a user name of "Root" and in this case a password of "Debug," then we're going to simply `var_dump` the connection to make sure that we do have a valid connection. So, let's go ahead and bring up our PHP directory again and, as you can see here, we have a resource which is our valid connection. So, let's go once again back to our PHP file and now we're going to write a very simple sequel to go and grab one of the "Help" topics from the MySQL Help Database. So, we need to `mysql_select_db`, the MySQL database, and then we're going to select "Star"(ph) from "Help" topic, "Limit One," and then we're going to do a MySQL query or die, and show the MySQL error, and we're going to assign that to the "Result" variable. And, then finally, just to make sure that we are in fact getting results, we are going to `var_dump` the `mysql_fetch_assoc`, associated, and then we simply refresh in our browser and, as you can see, we have a working PHP and MySQL script.

I hope you have enjoyed this brief introduction to installing PHP, MySQL and IIS 7 on Windows. As you can see, both Microsoft and the PHP group have put in a lot of effort to ensure that PHP is a first-class citizen on Windows. Go ahead and try it out for yourself. You might just be surprised.