Setting up the environment for URL rewrites

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To enable the actual URL rewrites, set up the environment as follows:

1. Install the Apache HTTP Server.
2. Activate the *mod_rewrite* module (rewrite requested URLs on the fly).
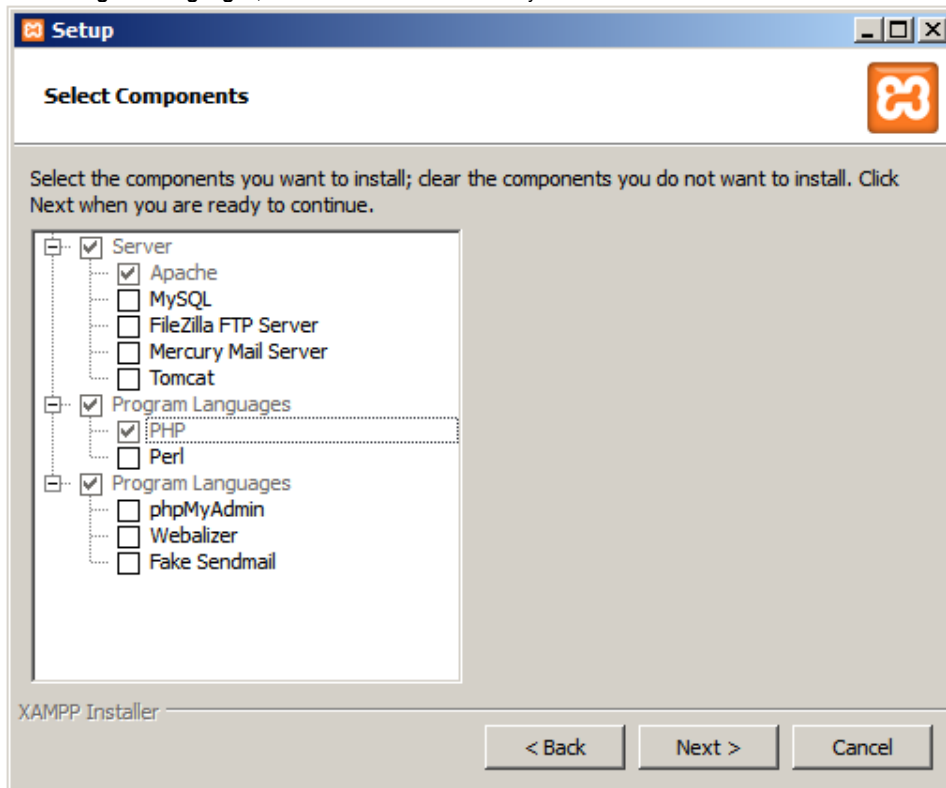3. Create and allow to use the *.htaccess* file.

Setting up the environment <u>on Windows</u>

To install the Apache HTTP Server

1. Go to https://www.apachefriends.org/download.html.
2. Download to your computer the installer of the latest XAMPP version for Windows. For this, click the **Download (32 bit)** button.
3. Start the installation. The XAMPP Setup Wizard opens.

> ⚠ Since the Apache HTTP Server runs by default on the 80 port, make sure Cameo Collaborator (Alfresco Community) is installed on another port, for example, 81.

4. In the **Select Components** step, specify the components you want to install together with XAMPP:
   - Under **Server**, select the **Apache** check box only.
   - Under **Program Languages**, select the **PHP** check box only.

5. In the **Installation folder** step, specify where to store the installation files, for example, *C:\xampp*.
6. In the **BitNami for XAMPP** step, click to clear the **Learn more about BitNami for XAMPP** check box.
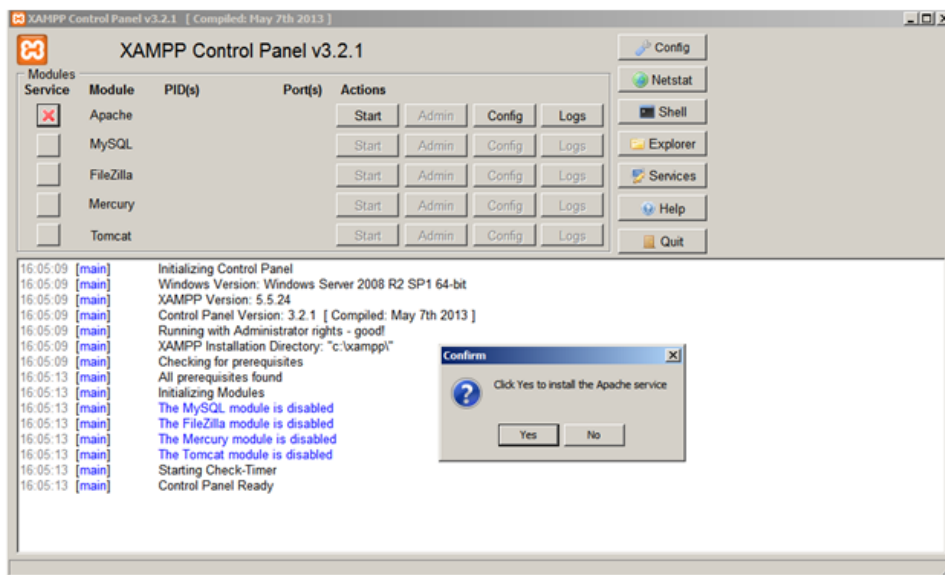
7. Wait while the XAMPP installation is completed, make sure the **Do you want to start the Control Panel now?** check box is selected, and click **Finish** to open the XAMPP Control Panel instantly.
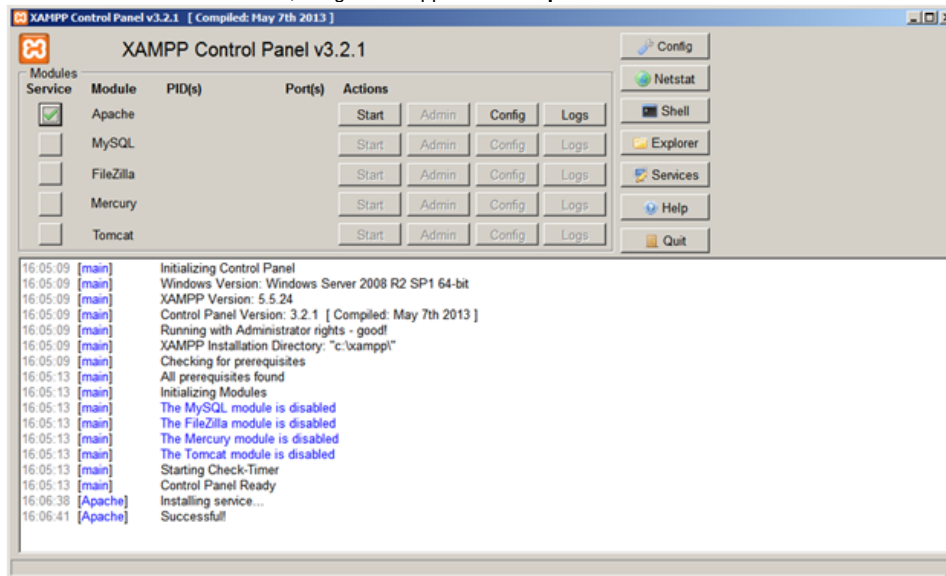

To open the XAMPP Control Panel later, double-click the XAMPP Control Panel icon on your desktop, or select **Start** > **All Programs** > **XAMPP** > **XAMPP Control Panel**.

8. By default, the Apache Server is not installed as a Windows service. Thus, you have to do this manually via the XAMPP Control Panel. For this, click the red **X** button near **Apache** and then click **Yes** in the message prompting for your confirmation.

Be sure you run the XAMPP Control Panel as administrator.

9. In case of successful installation, the green **V** appears near **Apache**.

10. To start the server, do either:
    - Restart your computer.
    - In the XAMPP Control Panel, click the **Start** button near **Apache**.

To activate the *mod_rewrite* module

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1. Open *<XAMPP installation folder>\apache\conf*, for example, *C:\xampp\apache\conf.*
2. Open the *httpd.conf* file for edit.
3. Find the following line:

   ```
   #LoadModule rewrite_module modules/mod_rewrite.so
   ```

4. Remove the pound (#) sign from that line to uncomment it.
5. Find all occurrences of

   ```
   AllowOverride None
   ```

6. Replace them with

   ```
   AllowOverride All
   ```

7. Save and close the *httpd.conf* file.
8. Restart your computer.

To create and allow to use the *.htaccess* file

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1. Open Notepad.
2. Append the new document with the following line - this command allows rewriting URLs:

   ```
   RewriteEngine On
   ```

3. Save the document as *.htaccess* to *<XAMPP installation folder>\htdocs* (the default Apache website root directory), for example, *C:\xampp\htdocs*.

   The *.htaccess* file cannot be created by right-clicking an empty place in the specified folder and selecting **New** > **Text Document**.
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4. Close the document.

Setting up the environment <u>on Linux</u>

To setup the environment for URL rewrites

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1. Connect to the remote server using SSH or open the terminal directly.
2. Install the Apache HTTP Server.

> ⓘ Since the Apache HTTP Server runs by default on the 80 port, make sure Cameo Collaborator (Alfresco Community) is installed on another port, for example, 81.

3. Activate the *mod_rewrite* module with the following command:

```
a2enmod rewrite
```

4. Go to the default Apache website root directory.
5. Create the *.htaccess* file.
6. Set the file access permission for all non-root users so that they could edit the file.

> ⚠ The non-root users must be in the same users group as the Apache HTTP Server process.

> ✅ If the Apache server process runs as the *www-data* user, the non-root users must be in the *www-data* users group.

> The following command makes the *.htaccess* file editable by the *www-data* users group:

7. Open the *.htaccess* file for edit.
8. Append the file contents with the following line - this command allows rewriting URLs:

```
 chown www-data:www-data .htaccess
RewriteEngine On
```

9. Save and close the file.

Related pages

- Administrator Guide
- Producing an easy-to-remember URL