

How to use **CodeIgniter** : The Basics

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Installing Codeigniter

1. Download the file from the Codeigniter website or clone it from the github repository
2. Save the file in the folder htdocs in your XAMP/WAMP/MAMP folder
3. Go to the directory and you should see a welcome page.

Configuration

This is where we configure the applications default settings. You are allowed to define constants, set database information, and load various other features such as helpers and classes.

Here are the basic configuration steps to get your app up.

In the config folder:

1. Input your database information into the database.php file in the config folder located in application.
2. Change your default controller to point to your own controller in routes.php (Assuming you already created a controller of course)
3. If you don't wish to call your libraries manually, set them to autoload in the autoload.php file.

Now, the 3 folders containing the guts of your application will be [Controllers](#), [Models](#), and [Views](#).

Controller: This contains your application logic such as input handling and form sanitization.

Input Class : http://codeigniter.com/user_guide/libraries/input.html

Model: This contains your business logic. Pretty much anything pertaining to CRUD(Create, Read, Update, Delete) operations. It will hold your database queries.

Active Record Manual: http://codeigniter.com/user_guide/database/active_record.html

View: This will contain your html files (headers, footers, content, etc) and internal CSS/JavaScript.

Form Helper: http://codeigniter.com/user_guide/helpers/form_helper.html

URL Helper: http://codeigniter.com/user_guide/helpers/url_helper.html

Optional:

Assets folder: You will have to create this yourself in the application(AKA root) folder, but it's generally good practice to have an assets folder devoted to external stylesheets and javascript. A warning: you cannot link to your external stylesheets by specifying the path because codeigniter does not allow direct access to any of its files. To get around this – open the .htaccess file in the root and clear it (it should read “*deny from all*”).

CodeIgniter is one of the most well documented PHP frameworks. To learn more, check out the [guide](#).