

Lesson 11

Selecting and displaying Data

Now that we have entered in a few records in the database testDB in the table my_music it would be nice to be able to view that information on a web page. Of course we can go into phpMyAdmin and browse the table but that is limited to you as the administrator.

So first we want to build some sort of menu system that will go to different scripts on how the data will be viewed. The HTML menu system below gives the options of viewing the records in the My_Music table by ID, date acquired, title or artist.

My Menu

My Music

- [ordered by ID](#)
- [ordered by date acquired](#) (most recent first)
- [ordered by title](#)
- [ordered by artist](#)

If Ordered by ID is selected the records will be displayed as follows:

My Music: Ordered by ID

Fried Chicken by Zac Brown Band

I have this in itunes (*acquired:2010-10-04, format:D*)

One for the Road by The Kinks

This one is old! (*acquired:1980-10-05, format:LP*)

You can tune a piano but you can't tune a fish by REO Speedwagon

This is another old one.. (*acquired:1978-11-04, format:LP*)

Toes by Zac Brown Band

I have this in itunes. (*acquired:2010-10-04, format:D*)

[Return to Menu](#)

For this script the function `mysql_fetch_array()` will be used to take the results of the SQL query and places the rows in an array format.

First the SQL SELECT command is used to perform a select query where all fields are selected by using the "*" FROM table name and then ORDER by ID. The mysql_query() is used within a while loop to store the query in \$result and then on line 15 the function mysql_fetch_array puts the \$results into an array format.

```
11 $sql ="SELECT * FROM $table_name ORDER BY mid";
12
13 $result = @mysql_query($sql,$connection) or die(mysql_error());
14
15 while ($row = mysql_fetch_array($result)) {
16
17     $id = $row['mid'];
18     $format = $row['format'];
19     $title = stripslashes($row['title']);
20     $artist_fn = stripslashes($row['artist_fn']);
21     $artist_ln = stripslashes($row['artist_ln']);
22     $my_notes = stripslashes($row['my_notes']);
23     $date_acq = $row['date_acq'];
24
25     if ($artist_fn != "") {
26         $artist_fullname =trim("$artist_fn $artist_ln");
27     } else {
28         $artist_fullname =trim("$artist_ln");
29     }
30
31     if ($date_acq == "0000-00-00") {
32         $date_acq ="[unknown]";
33     }
34
35     $display_block .= "<P><strong>$title</strong> by $artist_fullname<br>
36     $my_notes <em>(acquired:$date_acq, format:$format)</em></P>";
37 }
38
39 ?>
```

The stripslashes() is used within the loop to ensure that there are not any slashes where they don't belong.

On lines 25 to 28 if there is an artist first name will add it to the last name and store it in the variable \$artist_fullname.

Lines 31 and 32 will set the date to the text to Unknown if there is no date in the record. The last lines 35 and 35 of the php adds everything to the display_block. The last piece you need is a bit of HTML to display the display_block.

Lab 11

This script can be improved on by passing in variables via POST on how you want the query ORDERED by. So instead of having 4 different scripts you will only need one.

1. Modify the script to take an input for how the results will be ORDERED by.
2. Modify results to be shown in an HTML Table.