

Backing Up a XAMPP Project

A XAMPP project usually consists of two parts:

1. The website files stored in the `htdocs` folder.
2. The MySQL database storing the application's data.

To create a complete backup, both parts must be saved.

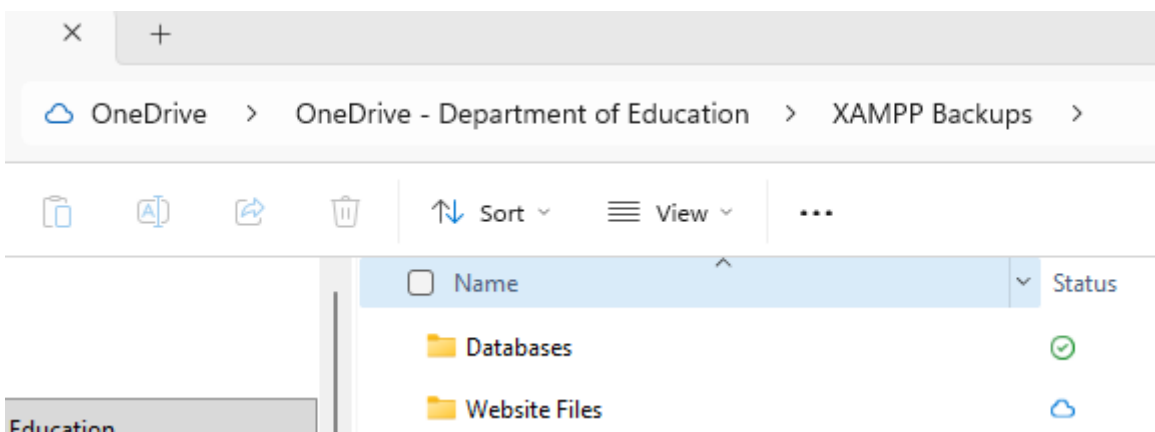
Create a Backup Folder

Create a folder somewhere safe, such as:

```
OneDrive - Department of Education
└─ XAMPP Backups
```

Inside it create:

```
XAMPP Backups
├─ Website Files
└─ Databases
```



Back Up the Website Files

Open the XAMPP installation folder.

Example:

```
C:\xampp\htdocs\
```

Locate your project folder.

Example:

```
C:\xampp\htdocs\security_dashboard
```

Copy the entire project folder into:

```
XAMPP Backups
└─ Website Files
```

Your backup should now contain:

```
Website Files
└─ security_dashboard
```

This backup includes:

- HTML files
- PHP files
- CSS files
- JavaScript files
- Images
- JSON files

Open phpMyAdmin

Open phpMyAdmin in your browser.

Example:

<http://localhost/phpmyadmin/>

Select the database used by your project.

Example:

project_db

Export the Database

Click:

Export

Choose:

Method: Quick

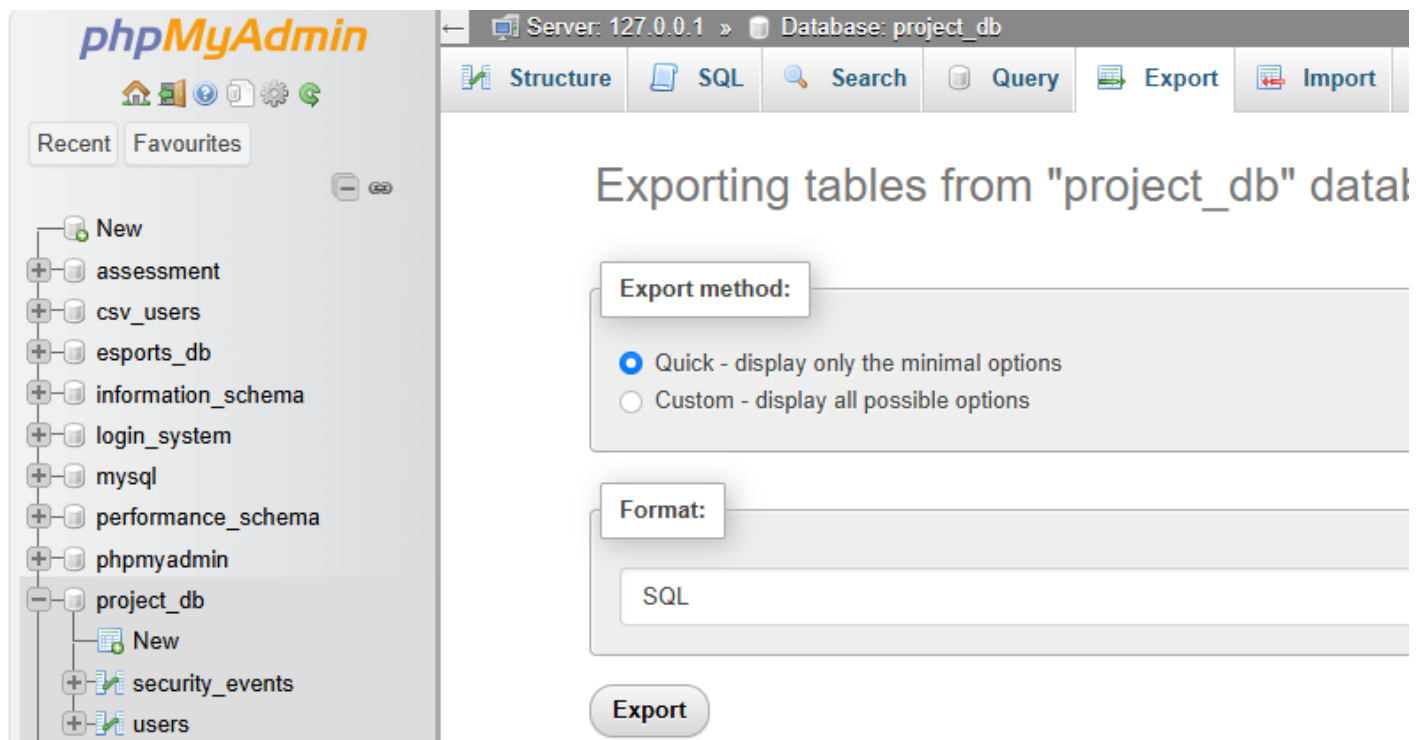
Format: SQL

Click:

Export

A file similar to the following will be downloaded:

project_db.sql



Save the Database Backup

Move the downloaded SQL file into:

```
XAMPP Backups
└─ Databases
```

Your backup folder should now contain:

```
XAMPP Backups
├─ Website Files
│   └─ security_dashboard
│
└─ Databases
    └─ project_db.sql
```

Test the Backup

Before making major changes to a project, check that:

- Website files have been copied successfully.
- The SQL file exists.
- The SQL file is not empty.

A backup is only useful if it can be restored.

Complete Backup Checklist

Website Files

- ✓ Project folder copied
- ✓ Images copied
- ✓ CSS copied
- ✓ JavaScript copied

✓ PHP files copied

Database

- ✓ Database selected
- ✓ Export completed
- ✓ SQL file saved

Backup Structure Example

```
XAMPP Backups
├─ Website Files
│   └─ security_dashboard
│       ├── index.php
│       ├── dashboard.php
│       ├── css
│       ├── js
│       └─ images
└─ Databases
    └─ project_db.sql
```

You now have a complete backup of your XAMPP project.

Next tutorial: **Restoring a XAMPP Project from Backup.**

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