

Selecting and Displaying Records

A useful output begins with a query and ends with accessible, escaped HTML.

Select only required fields

```
$stmt = $pdo->query(
    "SELECT activity_id, activity_name, location, capacity
    FROM activities
    ORDER BY activity_name"
);
$activities = $stmt->fetchAll();
```

Avoid `SELECT *` when the page needs only particular fields.

Display the result

```
<?php if (!$activities): ?>
    <p>No activities are available.</p>
<?php else: ?>
    <table>
        <thead>
            <tr>
                <th scope="col">Activity</th>
                <th scope="col">Location</th>
                <th scope="col">Capacity</th>
            </tr>
        </thead>
        <tbody>
            <?php foreach ($activities as $activity): ?>
                <tr>
```

```
<td><?= htmlspecialchars($activity["activity_name"]) ?></td>
<td><?= htmlspecialchars($activity["location"]) ?></td>
<td><?= (int) $activity["capacity"] ?></td>
</tr>
<?php endforeach; ?>
</tbody>
</table>
<?php endif; ?>
```

The condition handles an empty dataset. The loop creates one row per record. Table headers support interpretation and accessibility.

Check

- ☐ The query returns only needed fields.
- ☐ Ordering supports the user's task.
- ☐ Empty results have a clear message.
- ☐ Text is escaped and numbers are cast.
- ☐ Headers describe each column.

Revision #1

Created 2026-08-18 23:33:40 UTC by Mr Napper

Updated 2026-08-18 23:33:43 UTC by Mr Napper