

Database driven websites: Advantages and Disadvantages

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Most web sites consist of a set of individual web pages, connected to each other or to a table of contents page through the use of hyperlinks. Updating data must be done on the individual pages.

A different way of organizing and maintaining web sites is through the use of data bases of information. Such a database-driven web site would then access specific information from the database after the user has filled out a form or asked for specific information.

This is different than having static pages where that the user can access from an index or search. Instead, the page is dynamically created from information requested from the database.

This also has the advantage in that the owner of the data only needs to update the database and not worry about updating individual web pages.

The most popular platform for developing Web database applications is the open source trio of PHP, MySQL, and the Apache Web server.

In this presentation, advantages and disadvantages of building and maintaining a Database driven website will be presented.