



MANTIS

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About the Tutorial

Mantis is a Bug Reporting tool, widely used as an issue tracking tool for all types of testing. This is a brief tutorial that introduces the readers to the basic features and usage of Mantis. The various chapters of this tutorial will guide the readers on how to utilize the tool in reporting and maintain an issue.

Audience

This tutorial has been prepared for beginners to help them understand how to use Mantis for testing and issue tracking.

Prerequisites

As a reader of this tutorial, you should have a basic understanding of a bug and testing lifecycle as well as the contents to provide in a bug.

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Table of Contents

About the Tutorial.....	i
Audience	i
Prerequisites	i
Copyright &Disclaimer	i
Table of Contents	ii
1. MANTIS – INTRODUCTION.....	1
2. MANTIS – FEATURES	3
3. MANTIS – INSTALLATION	5
System Requirements	5
Installation of System Requirements.....	5
Install and Launch Mantis	11
4. MANTIS – TRIAL SETUP.....	16
Setup for Demo Trial	16
5. MANTIS – LOGIN	18
On Error	19
On Successful Login	20
6. MANTIS – MY VIEW	21
7. MANTIS – PROJECT MANAGEMENT.....	23
Create a Project.....	23
Select a Project.....	25
Archive a Project	25

8.	MANTIS – MANAGE CATEGORIES	27
	Create a Category.....	27
	Configure Categories	28
	Delete a Category.....	29
9.	MANTIS – VERSIONS.....	31
	Update or Add Version.....	31
10.	MANTIS – ISSUE LIFECYCLE.....	33
11.	MANTIS – REPORT AN ISSUE.....	34
12.	MANTIS – IMPORT ISSUES	37
	Rules for CSV File	37
	Import CSV.....	37
13.	MANTIS – VIEW ISSUES	42
	Filters	42
	Print Reports.....	45
	CSV/Excel Export.....	47
14.	MANTIS – EDIT ISSUES.....	49
15.	MANTIS – CLONE AN ISSUE	53
16.	MANTIS – ADVANCED FEATURES.....	56
	@Mention – Notification	56
	Send Reminder.....	57
	Text Formatting.....	59
	Attach Files	59
17.	MANTIS – CHANGE STATUS.....	61

18. MANTIS – ISSUES RELATIONSHIPS	63
Create a Link to Another Issue	63
Delete a Link	64
19. MANTIS – MOVE AN ISSUE	66
One Issue At a Time	66
Multiple Issues at a Time	67
20. MANTIS – ISSUE HISTORY	68
21. MANTIS – MISCELLANEOUS FUNCTIONALITIES.....	70
Monitor	70
Stick	71
Close an Issue	73
Delete an Issue	75
22. MANTIS – SEARCH ISSUES	77
Search	77
Recently Visited	78
23. MANTIS – CHANGE LOG	79
24. MANTIS – ROADMAP.....	81
25. MANTIS – SUMMARY.....	83
26. MANTIS – ADD CUSTOM FIELDS	84

1. Mantis – Introduction

Mantis Bug Tracker is an open source web-based application tool. It is used for Bug Tracking throughout Defect Lifecycle. Along with bug tracking, Mantis supports Release Features to manage various releases of a project or a software.

Mantis is also known as MantisBT, which stands for Mantis Bug Tracker. The name and logo of Mantis refers to Mantidae family of insects. In software, it is referred to as a bug.

Mantis provides Demo, Download (to set up your own Mantis) and Hosting version of the tool. It supports various features for Issue Tracking and life cycle along with Release Management.

The development of Mantis started in 2000 by Kenzaburo Ito. Later in 2002, other team members (Jeroen Latour, Victor Boctor and Julian Fitzell) joined. The basic version 1.0.0 of Mantis was released in February 2006.

In 2012, GitHub became the official repository for the Mantis project source code.

License and Free Trial

- It is an open source software. License is not required to use its basic version.
- It provides Demo and Hosting Version for free trails.
- It supports Download feature to set up your own Mantis software. The user can sign up using email ID.
- Mantis has different price quotes based on added features that can be seen at <https://www.mantishub.com/pricing>

Usage

- To track all bugs/issue throughout Defect lifecycle.
- To manage at Release level as well.
- Supports Analytic and Reporting features.
- Supports plug-in with other softwares and IDE to make it more strong and effective.

Specifications

Sr. No.	Specification	Description
1	Application Copyright	The copyright is taken by MANTIS System Limited Company ("MANTIS SYSTEM") License is taken under GNU General Public License Version 2
2	Tool Scope	It can be used as a Bug Tracking System

3	Stable Release	2.1.0 Onwards. Latest release is 2.5.1
4	Developed Language	PHP as a coding language and SQL for database Tool supports 49 languages
5	Operating System	Cross Platforms (Platform Independent software)
6	System Requirements	Web Server – Mantis is mainly tested with Microsoft IIS and Apache PHP – Mandatory extensions are mysqli, pgsql, oci8, sqlsrv, mbstring Database – MySQL, PostgreSQL
7	Client Requirements	Firefox 45 and above IE 10 and above Chrome/Safari/Opera
8	User Interface Available	API Desktop GUI Mobile UI

2. Mantis – Features

Mantis supports a wide range of features to attract QAs and other stakeholders for bug tracking. Following are the core features of Mantis.

Core Features

Sr. No.	Core Features	Description
1	Collaboration and Hassle Free	<p>It makes collaboration with team members and client easy, fast, and professional.</p> <p>As many users can use the same domain and same set of data. It is available only for Licensed product.</p>
2	Email Notification	<p>All users or set of team members can get email notification whenever there are any changes, updates, or resolutions on an issue.</p> <p>Email will be triggered for any action taken by any one among a group of users.</p> <p>Voting and watching features to keep an eye on the progress for stakeholders.</p> <p>Use @mention to get the attention of a specific team member for Comments/Description.</p>
3	Access Control	<p>Admin can grant access to the users based on individual role. It can be applicable differently for each project. Thus, one person can have different level of access for two different projects.</p>
4	Customization	<p>Mantis supports customization at each level.</p> <p>Users can customize fields for issue creation/view.</p> <p>Users can customize fields for issue workflow and notification as well.</p>

5	Dashboard	<p>Dashboard displays assigned to me, unassigned, reported by me and many other standard filters to look at all the issues belonging to individual users.</p> <p>Timeline feature allow to keep an eye on what is happening across the project.</p> <p>It displays live stream on the latest actions taken by any team member.</p>
6	Release Management	<p>Mantis helps to manage different releases. It supports Project Versions to track releases.</p> <p>Users can create future releases and mark issues for respective release as well.</p> <p>Issues and release information can also be summarized in a Roadmap page for better understanding.</p>
7	Time Tracking	<p>Mantis supports its own in-built time tracking feature.</p> <p>Users can easily enter the time spent on a particular issue. It can help make a report on the spent hours for each issue as an individual or as a team.</p>
8	Integration/Plug-in	<p>Mantis supports more than 100 add-ins to connect with different softwares to make the work easy.</p> <p>Wide range of add-ins make it universal across the globe – TestLodge, TestRail, TestCollab, Teststuff, HipChat, Slack, etc.</p> <p>It also supports Eclipse IDE and JetBrains.</p>
9	Common Features	<p>Using Slack and HipChat integration, the team can communicate with each other.</p> <p>Mantis provides SSO (single sign on) access to log into MantisHub using GitHub or BitBucket credentials.</p>
10	Customer Support	<p>Mantis Helpdesk is a very popular feature. It allows integrating your support with your internal issue tracking.</p> <p>Using Grasshopper integration, users get direct voicemail line.</p>

3. Mantis – Installation

Mantis is a web application, provides a private website to individuals or set of requested users belonging to the same company/project.

Mantis can be run at the server side. It is a PHP-based application and supports all OS platforms such as Windows, Linux of different versions, MAC, etc. It supports mobile browsers as well in mobile views.

System Requirements

Since Mantis is a web-application, it follows the concept of client/server. This means, Mantis can be installed centrally on the server and users can interact with it through web-browsers using a website from any computer.

- **Web Server:** Mantis is tested with Microsoft IIS and Apache. However, it can work with any latest web server software. Mantis only uses **.php** file. Configure the web server with **.php** extension only.
- **PHP:** The web server should support PHP. It can be installed as CGI or any other integration technology.
- **Mandatory PHP Extensions:** Extensions for RDBMS are mysqli, pgsql, oci8, sqlsrv mbstring is required for Unicode – UTF-8 support.
- **Optional Extensions:** Curl, GD, Fileinfo.
- **Database:** Mantis requires a database to store its data. MySQL and PostgreSQL are supported RDBMS.
- **Client Requirements:** Firefox 45 and above, IE 10 and above, Chrome, Safari, and Opera.

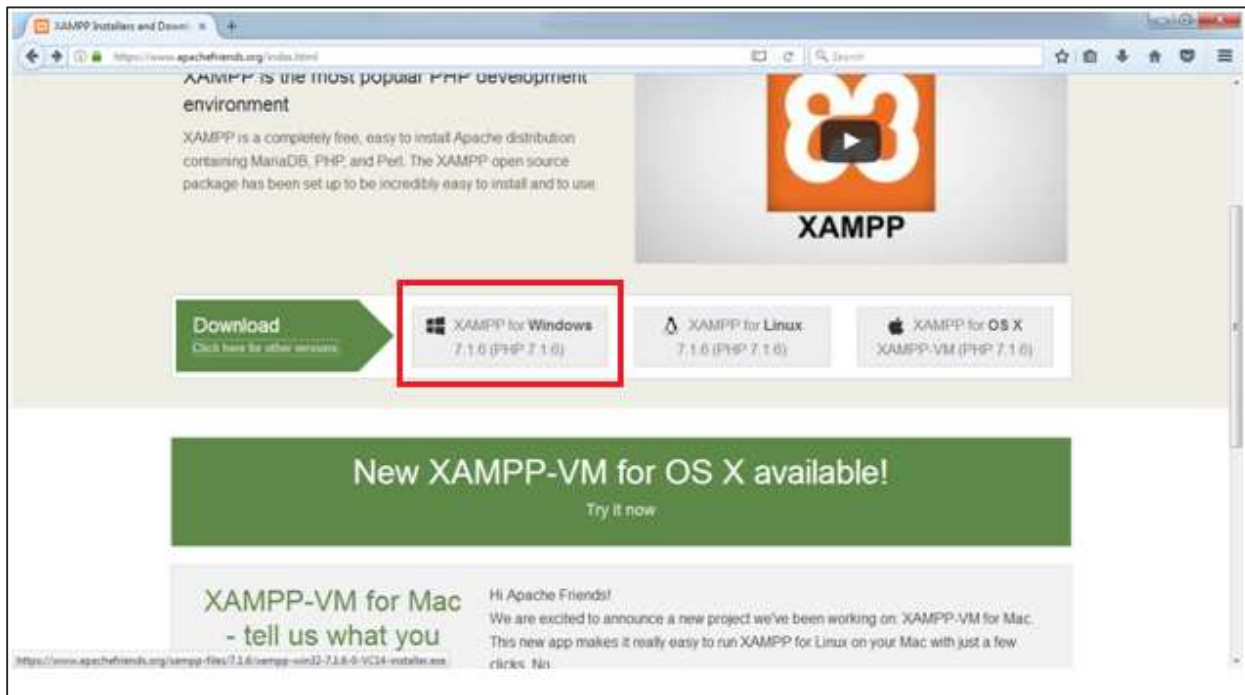
Users can separately install all the requirements either manually or automatically to use Mantis.

Installation of System Requirements

If a user has adequate knowledge about the installation process, all the requirements can be installed one by one separately before proceeding to Mantis.

Alternatively, there are many all-in-one packages available, having all the requirements and can be automatically installed in the system by exe file. Here, we will take the help of XAMPP to install pre-requisites easily.

Step 1: Go to <https://www.apachefriends.org/index.html> and click XAMPP for Windows as shown in the following screenshot.

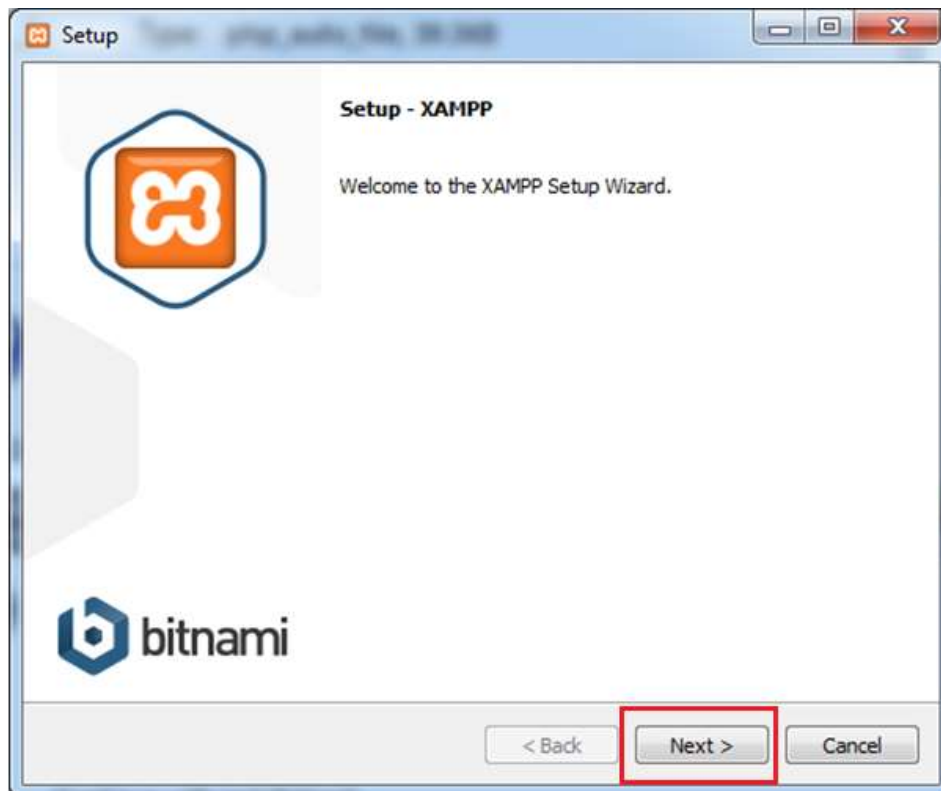


Step 2: A pop-up will display to save the file. Click Save File. It will start downloading the file.

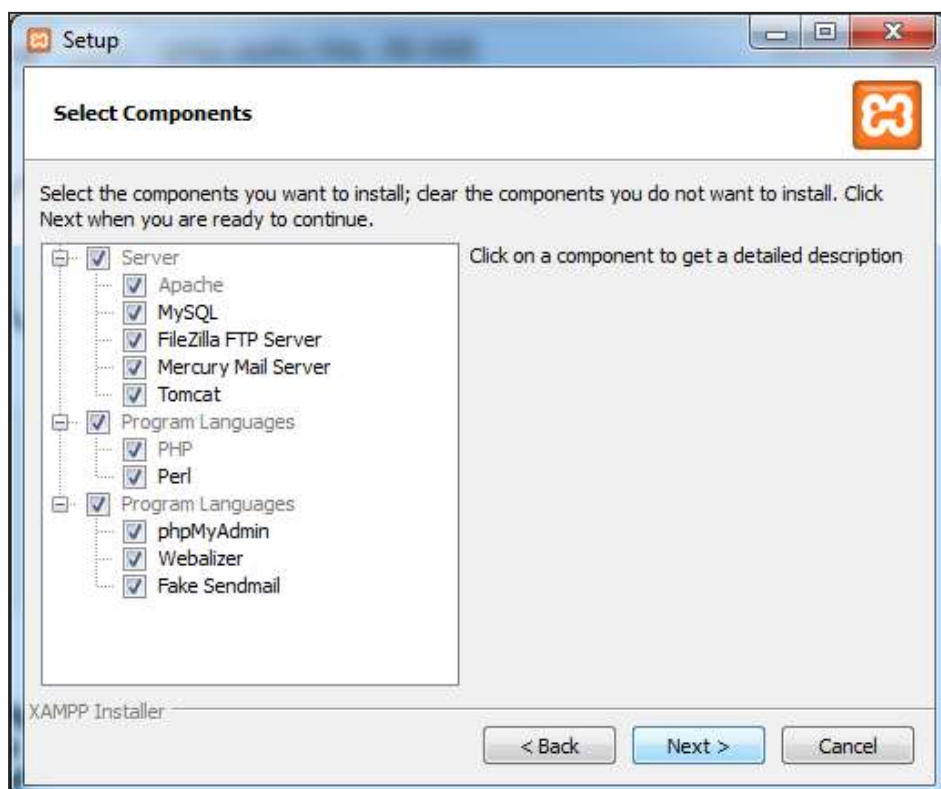


Step 3: Run the **.exe** file to run the installation wizard. After clicking the **.exe** file, XAMPP Setup wizard displays. Click Next.

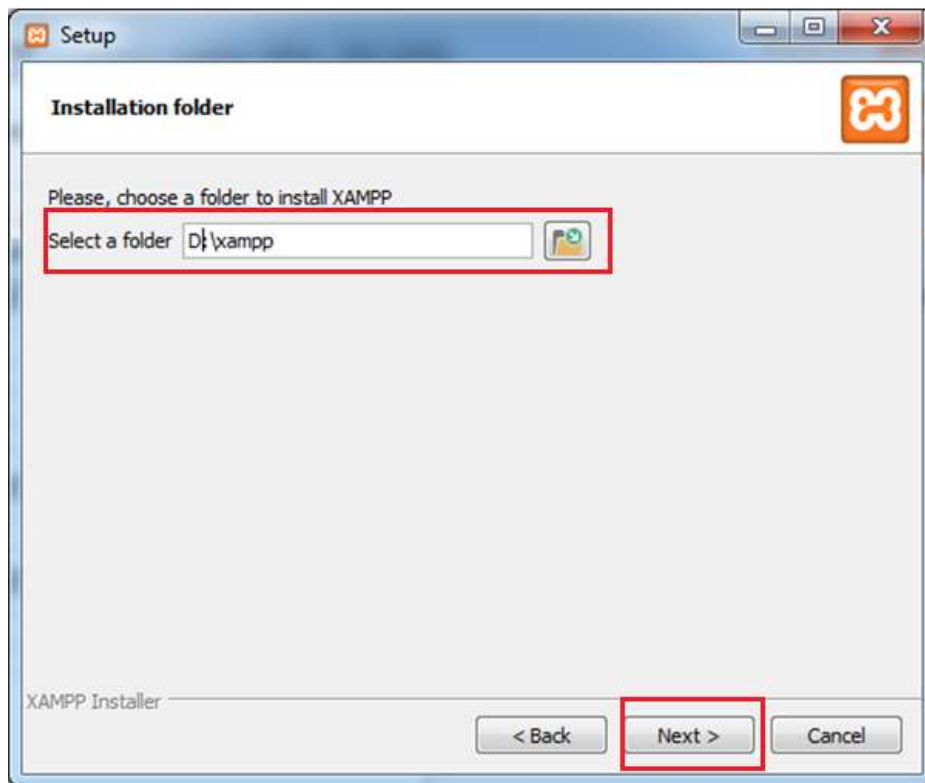
The following screenshot shows the XAMPP setup wizard.



Step 4: The next wizard displays all the component files that will install as shown in the following screenshot. Click Next after making a selection of components.



Step 5: Provide a folder name where XAMPP will be installed and click Next.



Ready to Install wizard is displayed.

Step 6: Click Next to start the installation.

End of ebook preview
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