How to update the database connection file

The database connection file contains the credentials for accessing your MySQL server. This How To shows you how to modify this file to suit your server needs.

These instructions do not require any advanced web development tools. However, steps for using Dreamweaver's built-in user interface are included at the end of this document.

What Do You Need to Start?

- The database connection file to be modified

- MySQL server already configured

- Username and password for accessing your server

For more information on where you can obtain the database connection settings for your live server view this quick tutorial.

Open the database connection file

The database connection file tells your pages where your database is stored, and the username and password for accessing it.

1. Within your site, navigate to the Connections folder.

2. Open the localhost.php file in any text editor, such as Notepad or TextEdit.

Specifying the host name

Most likely, you are developing with a testing server prior to uploading your website to your live web server and will want to configure the localhost.php file for your testing server first, and then modify the settings to suit your live web server when ready to go live.

However, you can bypass the testing server and configure this file for your live web server only. In this instance, you will be unable to test your pages until you have uploaded them all to your remote web server.

Note: The credentials for your remote web server should be obtained from your hosting provider.

1. Enter your MySQL server host name within the quotations of the following line.

```
$hostname_connection = " ";
```

2. Enter the name of your database within the quotations of the following line.

```
$database_localhost = " ";
```

3. Enter the username for accessing your MySQL server within the quotations shown here.

```
$username_localhost = " ";
```

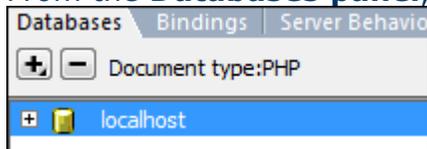4. Enter the password for accessing your MySQL server within the quotations shown here.

```
$password_localhost= " ";
```

5. Save the file by pressing **Ctrl (Cmd) + S**.
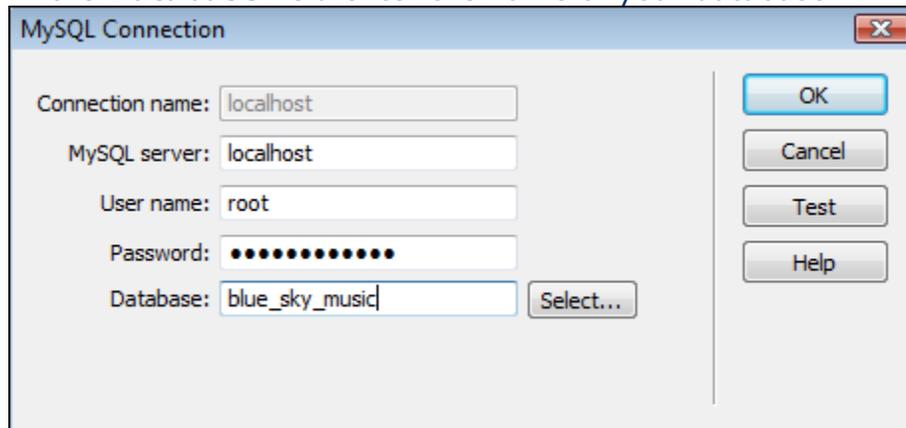
Are you a Dreamweaver user?

Dreamweaver provides an easy-to-use interface for creating and modifying database connections.

1. With your site defined in Dreamweaver open any page.

2. From the **Databases panel**, double-click the database connection.

3. In the **MySQL server** field, enter your MySQL server host name.

4. In the **User name** field, enter the username for accessing your MySQL server.

5. In the **Password** field, enter the password for accessing your MySQL server.

6. In the **Database** field enter the name of your database.

7. Click **Test** to confirm your settings are correct.

8. Press **OK** to save your changes.

Note: It is important not to change any other code within this file as it could cause various functions to fail.