

## **How do I connect to my MySQL database from my Perl script?**

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You can include Perl's DBI module in your script to add an interface to your database. The DBI module provides a number of methods to connect to your database, and you can find more information by logging into your account via SSH and running `perldoc DBI`. This is a fully commented example of the type of code needed for DBI module: `#!/usr/bin/perl use DBI; # Connect To Database`

```
# * The DBI interface to MySQL uses the method "connect" to make a
# * connection to the database. It takes as it's first argument
# * the string "DBI:mysql:database:hostname", where database is equal
# * to the name of your database, and hostname to the server that
# * it's located on. The second and third arguments, respectively,
# * should be your account username and password. The connection is
# * assigned to a variable that is used by most other methods in the
# * module. $database = "your database name";
$username = "your database username";
$password = "your database password";
$hostname = "your database hostname";
$db = DBI->connect("DBI:mysql:$database:$hostname", $username, $password); # Execute a Query
# * executing a query is done in two steps. First,
# * the query is setup using the "prepare" method.
# * this requires the use of the variable used to
# * initiate the connection. Second, the "execute"
# * method is called, as shown below. $query = $db->prepare("SELECT * FROM test");
$query->execute; # How many rows in result?
# * the "rows" method using the variable name the
# * query was executed under returns the number
# * of rows in the result. $numrows = $query->rows; # Display Results
# * the fetchrow_array method executed on the
# * query returns the first row as an array.
# * subsequent calls return the other rows in
# * sequence. It returns zero when all rows have
# * been retrieved. while (@array = $query->fetchrow_array) { ($field1, $field2, $field3) = @array; print "field1
= $field1, field2 = $field2, field3 = $field3 \n"; } # Cleaning Up
# * with the DBI module, it is a good idea to clean up by
# * explicitly ending all queries with the "finish" method,
# * and all connections with the "disconnect" method. $query->finish;
$db->disconnect; exit(0);
```

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