

# **Technical Information** **Easy Database** **for Websites** **PHP Add-on**

**How Proxy Files Update Your Widgets**

Technical Information: Easy Database for Websites PHP Add-on

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# What is Easy Database for Websites? What's in this guide?

Easy Database for Websites lets you build tables of data through a simple Web-based interface, and then embed JavaScript-based widgets in your website. Depending on which widget you use, your website's visitors can use your data in different ways.

For your website's widgets to display properly, Easy Database for Websites uses a proxy file, known as the PHP Add-on. This guide explains why and how we use the proxy file, but understanding these concepts is not necessary to use Easy Database for Websites.

You **must** host the proxy file in a directory named **dbboon**, accessible from your root directory. For example:

```
http://cooexample.com/dbboon/proxy.php
```

(where *cooexample.com* is your domain name).

If your hosting account does not have a **dbboon** directory, you need to create one.

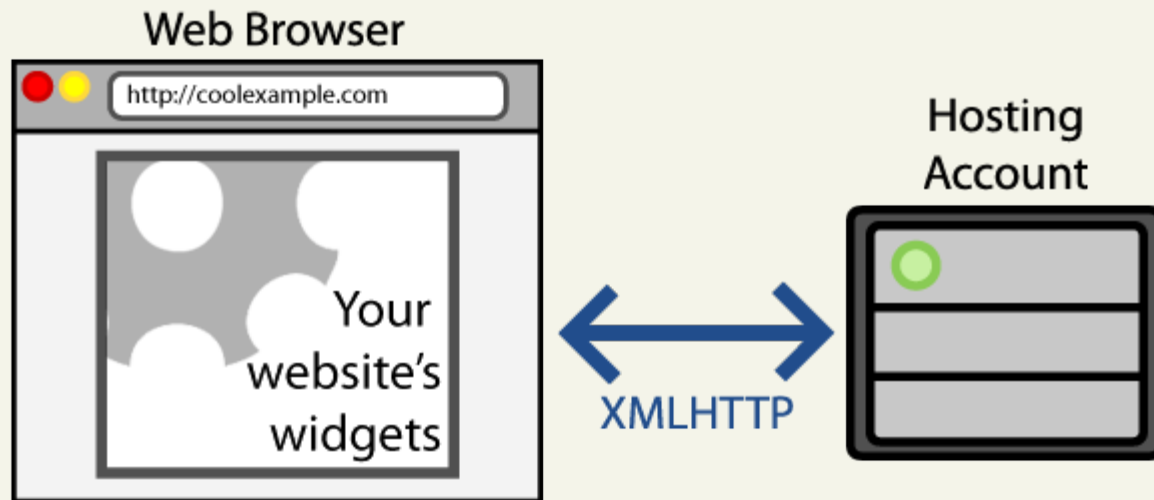
If you need the proxy file, you can download it at:

<http://datawidgets.secureserver.net/download/proxy.zip>.

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**For the proxy file to work, your hosting must support PHP.**  
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Easy Database for Websites uses XMLHttpRequests (also known as XMLHttpRequest) to process requests from the widgets embedded on your website. However, Web browsers impose security restrictions on network connections, including XMLHttpRequest requests. Under these restrictions, your website's widgets cannot connect to any server other than your hosting account. If your website was hosted by the same server as your Easy Database for Websites account, this wouldn't be an issue.

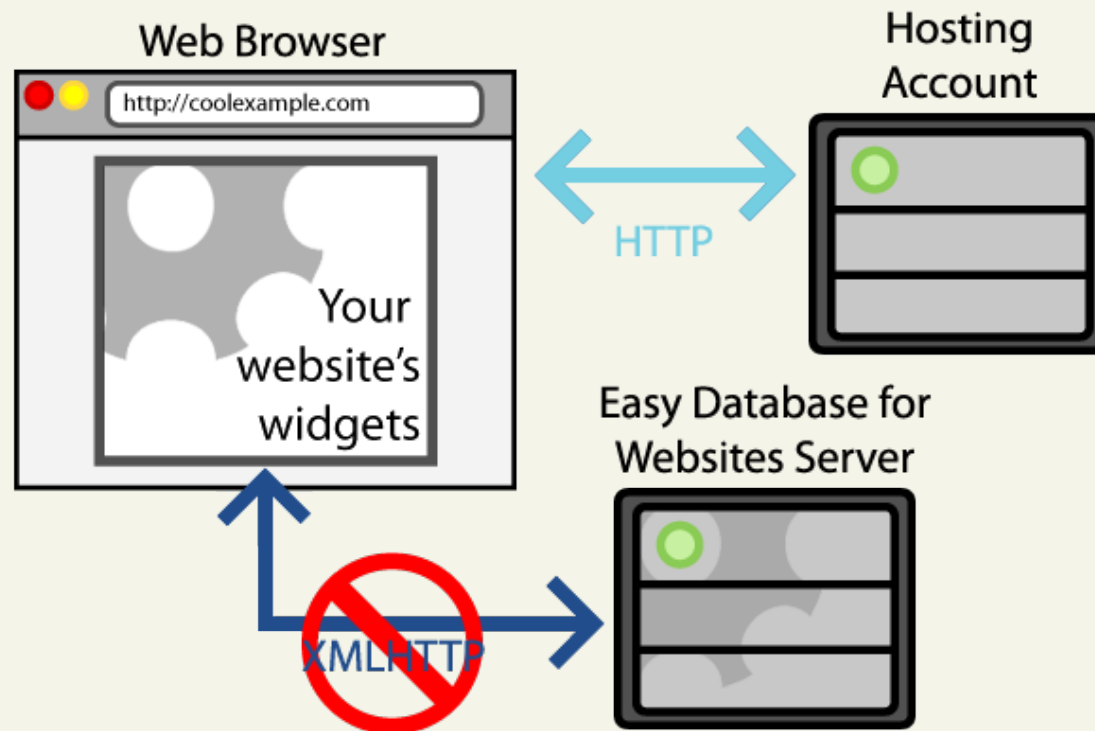
If Easy Database for Websites was hosted on your hosting account...



...it could process XMLHttpRequest requests without issue.

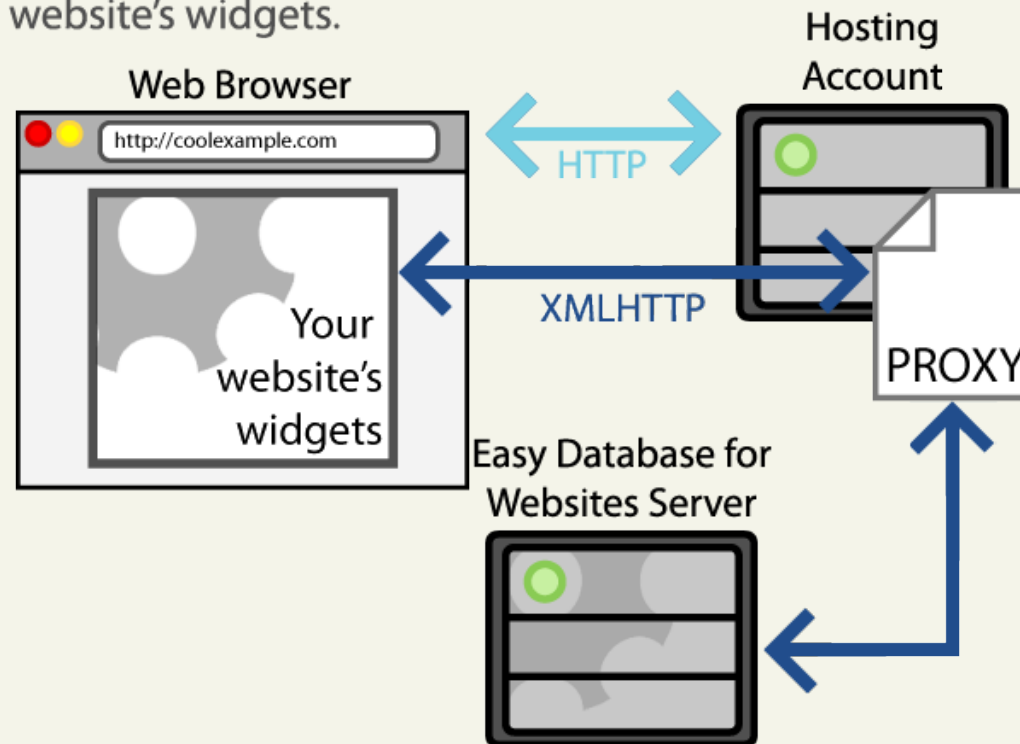
However, our Easy Database for Websites servers don't host websites, which means your website's widgets cannot connect to the Easy Database for Websites servers directly.

But Easy Databa for Websites is hosted on a separate server, so Web browsers prohibit XMLHTTP requests.



When Easy Database for Websites needs to update your widget on your website, it cannot process the request directly from your Web browser. We solve this problem using a proxy file, known as the PHP Add-on, hosted on your account. When your website's widgets need to be updated, the widget sends a request to your hosting account's proxy file. The proxy file then forwards the request to the Easy Database for Websites server, bypassing the Web browser's restrictions.

### Easy Database for Websites uses a proxy file to update your website's widgets.



If you don't have the proxy file, the Web browser still connects to your website using Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP). This means that visitors can see your website, even if you do not have the proxy file on your hosting account. However, your widgets don't display properly - they're just empty. Without the proxy file, none of your Easy Database for Websites's data displays! And that, my friends, defeats the purpose of using the widget.

If you have a hosting account through us, you already have the proxy file on your hosting account.

If you have a hosting account through another provider, you'll need to download the proxy file from <http://datawidgets.secureserver.net/download/proxy.zip>, unzip the file, and then upload the file to a directory named **dbboon**, accessible from your root directory. For example: **http://coolexample.com/dbboon/proxy.php** (where *coolexample.com* is your domain name). If your hosting account does not have a **dbboon** directory, you need to create one.

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For the proxy file to work, your hosting must support PHP.

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