

XGAP User Guide

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Note

This document is a work in progress.

Chapter 1

Introduction

XGAP stands for *Xml — Generador de APlicaciones*.

XGAP was born in 2003 at the **UNICEN University** as a tool for creating web applications for the intranet.

At first, the platform was PHP and PostgreSQL database. Nowadays XGAP-generated applications work with **PostgreSQL** or **Oracle** databases, but all **ADOdb** databases can be supported.

The primary goal of XGAP is to assist the programmer in the repetitive and common coding tasks. That's why XGAP concentrates more in specifying an application than in programming it. You program a web application using XGAP by creating a set of XML files that describe the application. Those XML files are taken by the generator and the PHP files are created by means of XSLT sheets. The application is installed and redirected once the process is completed so as you can start using it.

XGAP solves these tasks:

- Creation of listings, add/remove/modify forms for the tables of the database, master-detail forms, charts
- Pop-up selection listings
- Automatic paging
- Basic/Advanced search filters
- Automatic report generators (ODT, PDF, RTF, CSV)
- Automatic data type detection from the database
- Automatic detection of required fields
- Client and/or server-side validation of user input
- HTML editor included
- Security (users, roles, permissions)
- Code extension points, useful to solve custom application needs and business rules
- And many more...

**Warning**

Right now XGAP is *not* internationalized or localized. All messages are written in Spanish and assume Argentinian locale.

Chapter 2

Requirements

- PHP 5.2 or 5.3. Compatibility with 5.4+ is not tested (see [Ticket #80](#), [Ticket #112](#), [Ticket #117](#)).
- PHP extensions
 - DOM
 - Fileinfo, si `FormFileUpload::tipo()` is used
 - Filter
 - GD, if class `Imagen` is used
 - Hash, if an application uses the default implementation of digital signatures, or class `XgapCsrif`
 - JSON
 - Mail, if the generated applications send emails
 - Mcrypt, if extension OpenSSL is not available
 - Multibyte String
 - OpenSSL, if an application uses the default implementation of digital signatures, or classes `XgapRand` or `XgapCsrif`
 - PCRE
 - Sessions
 - SPL
 - XML Parser
 - XMLWriter
- PHP extensions only for generation
 - XSL
- Oracle or PostgreSQL during the execution of the generated applications; a database is not necessary for application generation

Since version 2.16.0.643, XGAP provides a page that allows to check the compatibility of the environment with these requirements: `/test_reqs.php`. The footer of the generation page automatically includes links leading to this page, one for each detected engine version.