

# GettingStarted

If you are just getting started with your first Apache httpd server, you should read these articles to familiarize yourself before asking questions. This will make it easier for you to understand the answers you get when you finally ask your question.

1. Read [Look up your log message](#)] to find where your distro puts its various files by default. The people who help you will usually refer to files as they come direct from Apache, not what your distro may have done to fit httpd into its package manager. 2. Find the error log. You will be asked for this a lot. It is the most useful tool when trying to figure out what is wrong with your server. 3. [\[Logs](#) 4. Scan the [Getting Answers](#)] to see if your question is answered. 5. If you are new to IRC, read [\[http://www.mikeash.com/getting\\_answers.html\]](http://www.mikeash.com/getting_answers.html) for some insight into IRC etiquette. 6. Read below for some common early questions and links to relevant articles:
  - [Apache Virtual Host documentation](#)
  - [Apache SSL/TLS Encryption documentation](#)