

# Installing and Testing MySQL

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## Obtaining MySQL

The files that you need to run the MySQL server on your Windows machine are available for download from the following address:

```
http://www.mysql.com/downloads
```

The files that you need to download are the current production release of MySQL (this book uses version 4.1) and the MySQLGUI. Although no longer under development, we use the MySQLGUI as it is a very simple client to use, and you can use it to display your queries with little complexity. The output from MySQLGUI is simple and clear and we use it for most of the figures in this book.

## Installing the MySQL Server

You should now have a zip file of the MySQL server on your hard drive. You need to unzip this file to a temporary directory and run the setup program. Depending on the version of MySQL you are installing, you will be presented with a standard setup program similar to that shown in Figure 2.1.

On the following screens, you can leave most of the options at their default. One of note is the installation directory, which is best to keep as:

```
C:\mysql
```

As changing the default directory requires other changes, it is recommended that you let the program install to the default directory to limit configuration errors in later use. This book has been written with the Typical installation selected.