

Introduction to ASP

Web pages that have a static content are becoming a thing of the past. Current web page design includes features that are becoming increasingly interactive, performing more complex tasks, some of which are listed below:

- remembering who you are and when you last visited
- online shopping
- online banking
- online auctions
- parcel tracking

Dynamic web pages can change every time they are viewed – giving something new and different to the user. They can show special offers in sales, direct users to pages that interest them, or even allow them to view their video or book loans online.

It is this interactivity that makes the use of web pages a feasible choice for A level Projects – not only that, ASP is exciting, cutting edge technology that gives the students a good knowledge of web site development.

Active Server Pages (ASP) is one method of creating dynamic web pages.

Active Server Pages allow the standard HTML elements to be combined with scripting language elements to create a page that can change every time it is loaded by the end user.

ASP works with a ‘back end’ database, such as Access, and this allows you to meet many of the criteria required for the A-level Project. ASP working with a database allows a wide variety of projects that will interest and excite the students.

The set of code samples that make up this resource is not intended to teach how to use ASP – there are many excellent books and web sites available that do that. It is intended to give the students small code snippets that they can adapt for use in their own projects. One piece of code will not make a project – they will need to assemble different components from many of the pages and make them work.