In this video we show you how to get started with DB2 using the “DB2 First Steps” tool and the SAMPLE database.

Let's get started.
Right after the installation of DB2, your browser should have automatically launched starting “DB2 First Steps”.

If it did not, you can manually launch it. Open a Windows command prompt from the start menu by typing “cmd”.
Once opened, open a DB2 command window by typing “db2cmd”

If working on Linux, this is equivalent to working from a Linux shell as long as you are logged on with a user that has his db2 profile set, such as the DB2 instance owner, which is db2inst1 by default.

Now type the command “db2fs”.

If you are using Firefox, you may be prompted to create a DB2_FIRSTSTEPS profile. We recommend you to create it so you can use DB2 First Steps to its fullest. If you don't want to, click on “Do not create profile” or simply close the window as in my case.

The First Step tool is self-explanatory. Most people use it to create the SAMPLE database for the first time.

The SAMPLE database is a database provided with DB2 so you can “play” with it.

The SAMPLE database may have been created automatically for you during installation. You can verify this from the DB2 Command window by typing:

```
db2 connect to sample
```

If you get an error, as in my case, you need to create it manually.

Go back to the DB2 First Steps tool, and click on the “Create SAMPLE database” button. A window will appear. Choose the second option “XML and SQL objects and data”. This will create the SAMPLE database and include XML data which can be used later to test how DB2 works with XML.

Click OK to start creating the SAMPLE database. This will take a few minutes.

After the SAMPLE database is created, you can verify you can connect to it and retrieve information.

From the DB2 Command Window, type:

```
db2 connect to sample
db2 "select * from employee"
```

If both statements are successful (the SELECT should return several rows), you have successfully created the SAMPLE database.

If you encounter an error creating the SAMPLE database, you can manually create it using the command “db2sampl” from the DB2 Command Window, or Linux shell. For example, let's recreate the SAMPLE database as follows:

Let's first drop it with this command:

```
db2 drop db sample
```

And now manually recreate it as follows:

```
db2sampl
```

After the creation is completed, test again to connect and select by issuing:

```
db2 connect to sample
db2 "select * from employee"
```

This concludes this presentation. Thank you for watching. To learn more, visit db2university.com