

How to encrypt PHP code, software or project?

By Tanzil Al Gazmir

There is a great software to encrypt PHP source codes. I used this software 2 (two) years ago and still now it is the best one that I recommend to everyone. It is **SourceCop**. Actually this software is for Windows platform. I found it by searching in <http://www.google.com>. I found many others also. But after trying all of them, I found this software the best one. This software is small, reliable and easy to use. If you give a little time, you can easily learn how to use this software.

Before we start, you need to download and install the software. You can download the trial version from here:

<http://www.sourcecop.com/download/sourcecop.exe>

Now download the software in any location of your hard disk.

Installation:

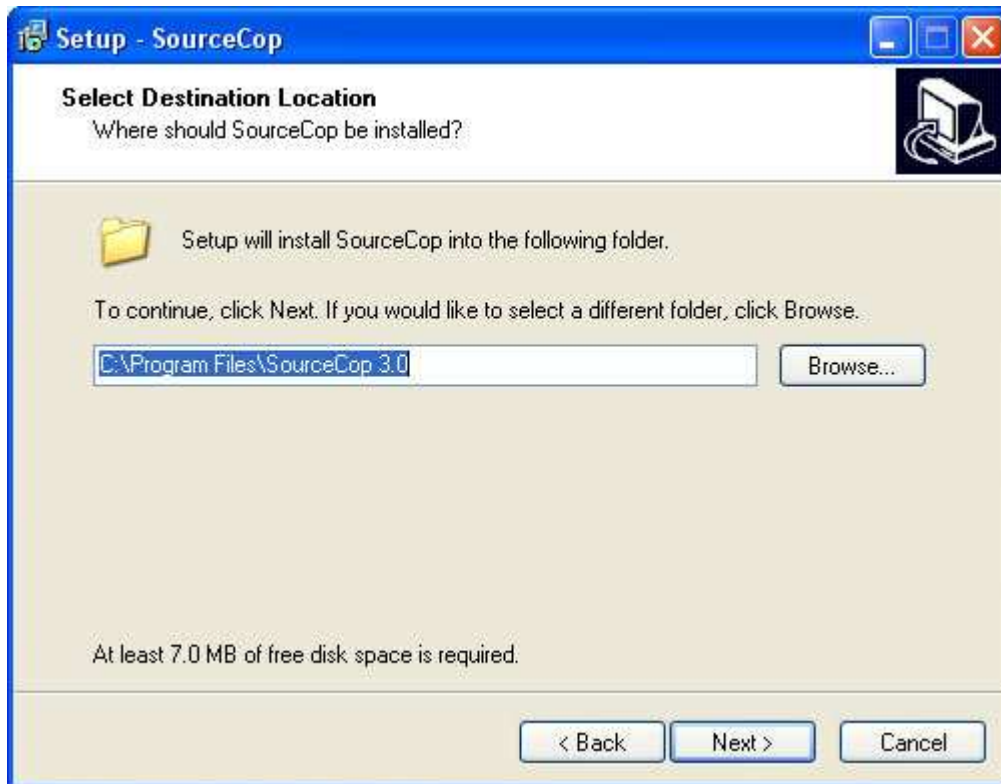
Step 1: Double click on the executable file (i.e. sourcecop.exe) to initialize installation or you can also right click on the executable file and then single left click on the **Open** option. Now the installation process starts and you see a window as below. Click on the **Next >** button.



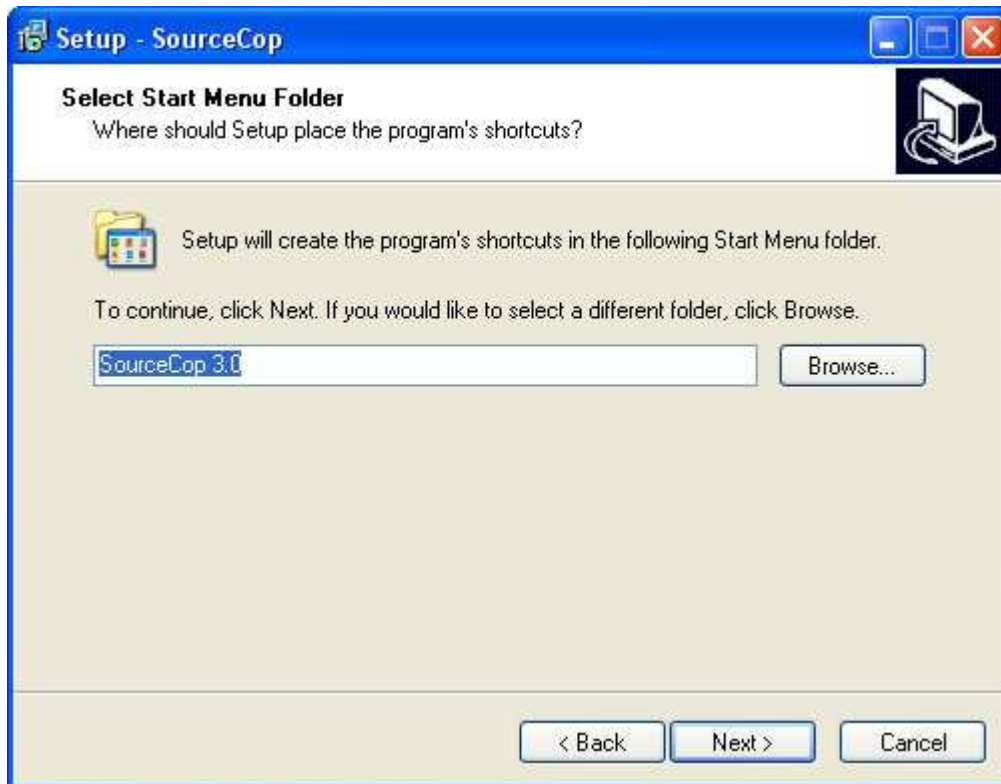
Step 2: Select **I agree the agreement** and click on the **Next >** button.



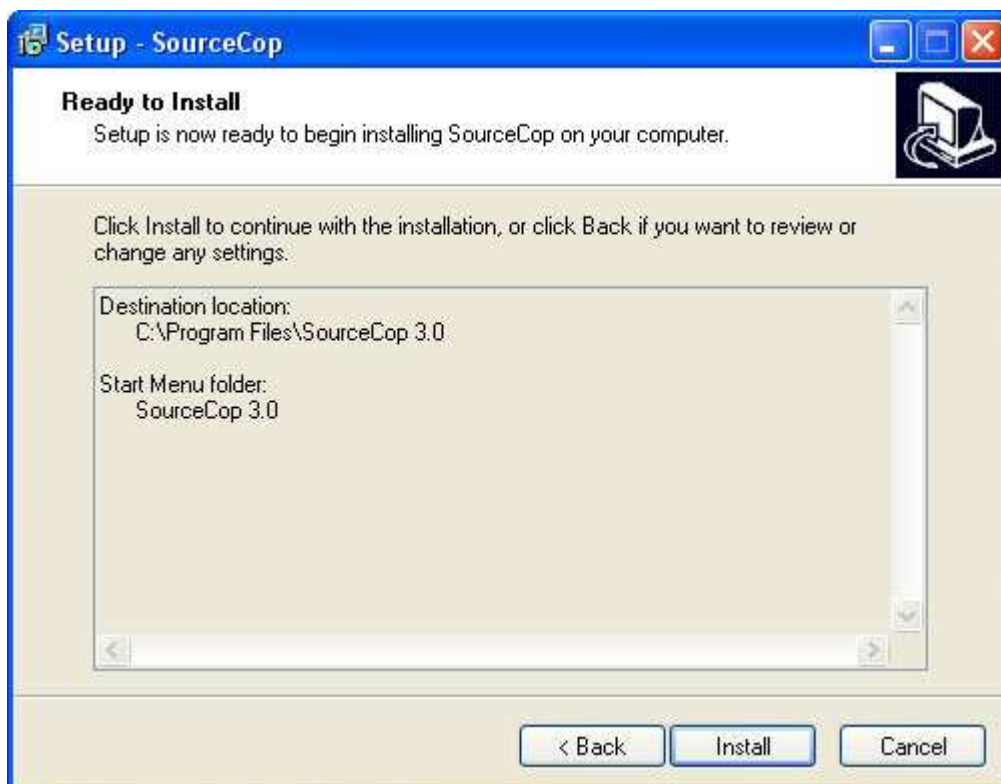
Step 3: At this point, browse your installation destination by clicking on the **Browse** button. By default, the destination is in the Program Files. If you want to change any settings, click o the **Back >** button. If you want to install in the Program Files folder, leave it as it is. Click on the **Next >** button.



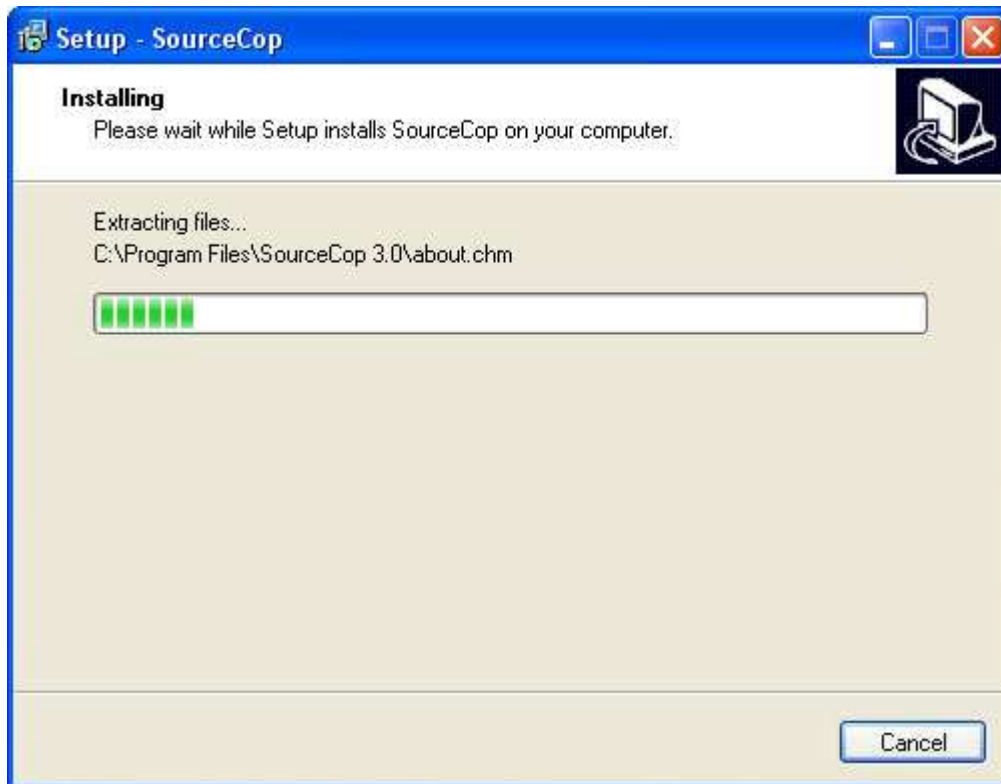
Step 4: Select your Start Menu folder by clicking on the **Browse** button. If you want to change any settings, click on the **Back >** button. If you do not want to change this, leave it as it is and click on the **Next >** button.



Step 5: If you want to change any settings, click on the < **Back** button. Otherwise, click on the **Install** button to go ahead.



Step 6: The installation file starts copying necessary files. Please wait as long as it finishes copying files.



Step 7: Click on the **Finish** button and the installation process is complete.



Step 8: After the installation is complete, a desktop icon of the software becomes visible. It looks like as below:



How to use:

Go to your Desktop and open the software by double clicking or by right click and then click on the **Open** option. You can also start the software from the **Start** menu: Start -> All Programs -> SourceCop 3.0 -> SourceCop (in case of default installation). Now you will see the window shown below.



PHP Project

File Types to Encrypt:

.php .php3 .php4
 .phtml .shtml .inc

Any other extension: for example: .ihhtml

Run script only on this IP address:

Set an expiry date for script:

Do not encrypt following files. Use comma to specify more than one files.

Now I will describe the features inside the **PHP Project** section.

- **Select Source Folder** button: Click on this button to link with the folder where you have kept your source codes. Actually these source codes will be encrypted. So, after the completion of the encryption process, file contents will be in new look but with the same functionality. Remember that the source codes inside this folder will be changed/converted/encrypted forever.
- **Select Backup Destination** button: Use this button to specify where to keep a backup copy of your source codes.
- **File Types to Encrypt** options: Select one or more of the file types that you want to encrypt.
- **Any other extension**: If you have written your code in any file whose file type is not like any of the previous types (i.e. .php, .php3, .php4, .phtml, .shtml, .inc), write the extension of that file such as **.ihhtml**. Do not forget to give a **.(dot)** before the extension.
- **Run script only on this IP address**: Type the IP address only where you would allow executing your source codes. Actually this is specified when you want to give permission to someone for a single Server test run. You can do this also in case of showing your demo copy.

- **Set an expiry date for script:** Select a date to specify the time when your source codes will no more execute. This is a nice feature to stop the use of unlimited use of your codes. By default, the date is a past date. Change it as per your requirements.
- **Do not encrypt following files. Use comma to separate more than one files:** Type one or more of the files that you do not want to be encrypted. You need to type the filename with the extension such as config.php
- **Encrypt button:** Now encryption process is ready to encrypt your files linked through the **Select Source Folder** button. Click on the Encrypt button and wait some time. The encryption process ends and gives you a message that the encryption was successful.

Recommendations and/or Suggestions:

1. It is very important to remember that the **Select Source Folder** button encrypts the source codes of the folder you link to it. So, you will not find the original code in this folder any more.
2. Do not get confused with the **Select Source Folder** and **Select Backup Destination** buttons. If you get confused and encrypt your only copy without a backup, you will lose your code forever.
3. Always use the **Select Backup Destination** button and thus keep a backup copy of your source code.

Important Notes:

Please remember that the software can take somewhat long time to encrypt a “big” project (i.e. a project with hundreds to thousands of files). So, give enough time to this software to encrypt your entire project. In other cases where the project is small to medium sized, the software encrypts the project’s PHP source codes almost immediately.

In some sites, you can find the full functional crack of this software. But I recommend you use a licensed version.

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