

# Foundations to Get You Started

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Slides Link:

<http://www.TreelineDesign.com/slides>

# How this talk will work:

- You can ask questions at any time.
- Code will build from slide to slide, but due to space constraints, we can't show it all on one slide
- The code being shown is for teaching use only, it is not optimized in any way. It should not be used as is for a live system.

# Who am I?

- Beth Tucker Long (@e3beth)
- Editor-in-Chief - php[architect] magazine
- Freelancer under Treeline Design, LLC
- Stay-at-home-mom



- User group organizer – Madison PHP

# Get Involved

- User Groups
  - PHP.usergroups – <http://php.ug>
  - Meetup- <http://www.meetup.com>
  - Nomad PHP - <http://nomadphp.com>
  - php.net (right sidebar on homepage and <http://php.net/cal.php>)

# Get Involved

- Conferences and Summits
  - Day Camp 4 Developers - <http://daycamp4developers.com/>
  - php[architect] Summit Series - <http://summits.phparch.com/>
  - ProTalk - <http://protalk.me/>
  - Joind.in - <http://joind.in/>

# Get Involved and Find Help

- IRC – Freenode
  - ##php – help channel
  - #phpc – community channel
  - Web chat: <https://webchat.freenode.net/>

**Connect to freenode IRC**


Nickname:

Channels:

Auth to services:

[reCAPTCHA:](#)

Audio captcha:



# Get Involved and Find Help

- Twitter
  - <https://twitter.com/phpc>
- Facebook
  - PHP Community -  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4189052132/>
  - php[architect] -  
<https://www.facebook.com/phparch>
- PHPDeveloper -  
<http://phpdeveloper.org/>

# Online Training

- php[architect] -

<http://www.phparch.com/training/>

- Code Academy -

<http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/php>



# Find a Mentor

- PHP Mentoring

<http://phpmentoring.org/>

- PHPWomen

<http://phpwomen.org/>

# Getting Started

- Start with your standard HTML
- **Opening PHP tag**
- **PHP code**
- **Closing PHP tag**
- Close out your HTML page

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0  
  Transitional//EN"  
  "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-  
  transitional.dtd">  
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"  
  xml:lang="en" lang="en">  
<head><title>Order Some Pizza</title</head>  
<body>  
  
<h1>Welcome to Joe's Pizza!</h1>  
  
<?php  
  
    $name = "Beth";  
    echo "<p>$name's order:</p>";  
  
?>  
  
</body></html>
```

# Start with Standard HTML

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0  
  Transitional//EN"  
  "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-  
  transitional.dtd">  
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"  
  xml:lang="en" lang="en">  
<head><title>Order Some Pizza</title</head>  
<body>  
  
<h1>Welcome to Joe's Pizza!</h1>
```

# Opening PHP tag

```
<?php
```

# Short Opening PHP tag

```
<?
```

# PHP code

```
$name = "Beth";
```

## Variables:

- Preceded by a dollar sign - \$
- Names may contain letters, numbers, and underscores, but must start with a letter or underscore
- Loosely-typed
- Assigned a value using the equal sign

# PHP code

```
$name = "Beth";
```

```
echo "<p>$name's order:</p>";
```

Will send to the browser:

```
<p>Beth's order:</p>
```

# Quoting Strings

## Double-quoted, parsed and interpreted:

```
echo "<p>$name said, \"Let's Go!\"</p>";
```

```
echo "Enter it at the C:\ prompt";
```

```
echo "Enter it at C:\\$dirName";
```

## Single-quoted, string literal, not parsed:

```
echo '<p>$name said, "Let\'s Go!"</p>';
```

```
echo 'Enter it at the C:\ prompt';
```

```
echo Enter it at C:\$dirName';
```

# Quoting Strings

## **Heredoc, parsed and interpreted:**

```
echo <<<MYSTRING  
<p>$name said, "Let's Go!" </p>  
MYSTRING;
```

## **Nowdoc, string literal, not parsed, since PHP 5.3.0:**

```
echo <<<'MYSTRING'  
<p>$name said, "Let's Go!" </p>  
MYSTRING;
```



# Closing PHP tag - Optional

?>

Close out your HTML page

```
</body></html>
```

# Echo'ing and HTML

```
echo "<p>Welcome, $name!<br />
<em>Thank you</em> for visiting $sitename
today.</p>" ;
```

# Echo'ing and HTML

```
<p>Welcome, <?php echo "$name"; ?>! Thank you  
for visiting <?php echo "$sitename"; ?>  
today.</p>
```

**If you have PHP 5.4.0+ or the short\_open\_tag  
configuration enabled:**

```
<p>Welcome, <?="$name"?>! Thank you for  
visiting <?="$sitename"?> today.</p>
```

# Making Comments

```
// This is a comment
```

```
# This is a comment
```

```
/* This is also a comment  
and one you are very likely  
to see in code  
*/
```

# Good Coding Practices

- Pear Coding Standard:  
<http://pear.php.net/manual/en/standards.php>
- Pear2 Coding Standard:  
<http://pear.php.net/manual/en/pear2cs.php>
- ZF2 Coding Standard:  
<http://framework.zend.com/wiki/display/ZFDEV2/Coding+Standards>
- phpDocumentor: <http://www.phpdoc.org/>

# Math

`$a = $a + 3;`

`$a += 3;`

`$a++;`

`$a = $a - 3;`

`$a -= 3;`

`$a--;`

`$a = $a * 2;`

`$a *= 2;`

`$a = $a / 2;`

`$a /= 2;`

# Let's Make Something

- Order form to order a pizza
  - Customer name
  - Size of pizza
  - Allow multiple topping choices
  - Printable receipt

# The Order Form

- We'll create a form that looks like this:

Name:

Choose a Size:

- Small
- Medium
- Large

Add Toppings:

- Mushrooms
- Extra Cheese
- Green Peppers
- Pepperoni
- Black Olives
- Sausage



# Opening Form Tag and Text Field

```
<form action=" ./orderPizza.php" method="POST" >
```

Name:

```
<p>Name: <input type="text" name="custName"  
maxlength="200" /></p>
```

# Radio Buttons

Choose a Size:

Small

Medium

Large

```
<p>Choose a Size:<br />
```

```
<input type="radio" name="pizzaSize"
  value="Small" /> Small<br />
```

```
<input type="radio" name="pizzaSize"
  value="Medium" /> Medium<br />
```

```
<input type="radio" name="pizzaSize"
  value="Large" /> Large</p>
```

# Checkboxes

Add Toppings:

- Mushrooms       Extra Cheese  
 Green Peppers     Pepperoni  
 Black Olives         Sausage

```
<input type="checkbox" name="Mushrooms"
  value="Yes" /> Mushrooms<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="GreenPeppers"
  value="Yes" /> Green Peppers<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="BlackOlives"
  value="Yes" /> Black Olives <br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="ExtraCheese"
  value="Yes" /> Extra Cheese<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="Pepperoni"
  value="Yes" /> Pepperoni<br />
```

# Input Field

Place Order

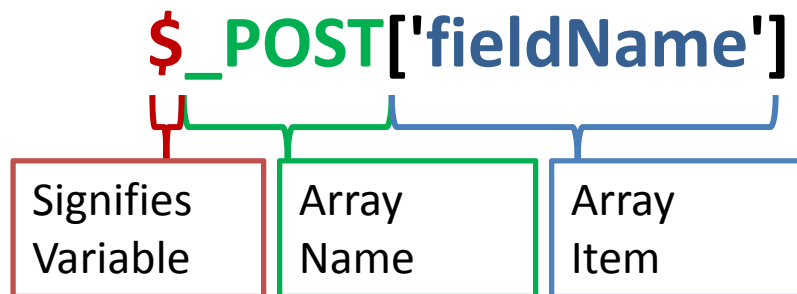
```
<input type="submit" name="pizzaStatus"  
  value="Place Order" />
```

## Closing the form

```
</form>
```

# What We Get

- A superglobal
- POST or GET
- Everything is a string
- An array



# Two Types of Arrays

- Enumerated: `$arrayName[]`
  - `$arrayName[0]`
  - `$arrayName[1]`
- Associative: `$arrayName[stringName]`
  - `$custInfo['firstName']`
  - `$custInfo['lastName']`

# Using Built-in Functions

```
functionName($parameter1, $parameter2)
```

# Creating Arrays

- Enumerated:

```
$arrayName = array("firstValue",  
"secondValue");
```

```
$arrayName[] = "thirdValue";
```

```
echo $arrayName[1];  
// secondValue
```



# Creating Arrays

- Associative:

```
$custInfo= array ( "firstName" => "Beth" ,  
"lastName" => "Tucker Long" );
```

```
$custInfo["twitterHandle"] = "e3betht";
```

```
echo $custInfo["lastName"] ;  
// Tucker Long
```

# Quoting Arrays

```
echo "First item: $_POST[0]";
```

```
{$_POST['custName']}  
.$_POST['pizzaSize'].
```

```
echo "<p>This order is for  
{$_POST['custName']}</p>  
<p>Size: " . $_POST['pizzaSize'] . "</p>";
```

# Nested Arrays

A nested array:

```
$_POST = array(
    "custInfo" => array(
        "firstName" => "Beth",
        "lastName" => "Tucker Long"
    );

echo $_POST['custInfo']['lastName'];
// Tucker Long
```

# What We Are Currently Getting

- `$_POST['custName']`
- `$_POST['pizzaSize']`
- `$_POST['pizzaStatus']`
- `$_POST['Mushrooms']`
- `$_POST['ExtraCheese']`
- `$_POST['GreenPeppers']`
- `$_POST['Pepperoni']`
- `$_POST['Black Olives']`
- `$_POST['Sausage']`

# Revised: Adding an Input Array

```
<input type="checkbox" name="pizzaToppings[]" value="Mushrooms" /> Mushrooms<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="pizzaToppings[]" value="Green Peppers" /> Green Peppers<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="pizzaToppings[]" value="Black Olives" /> Black Olives<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="pizzaToppings[]" value="Extra Cheese" /> Extra Cheese<br />
```

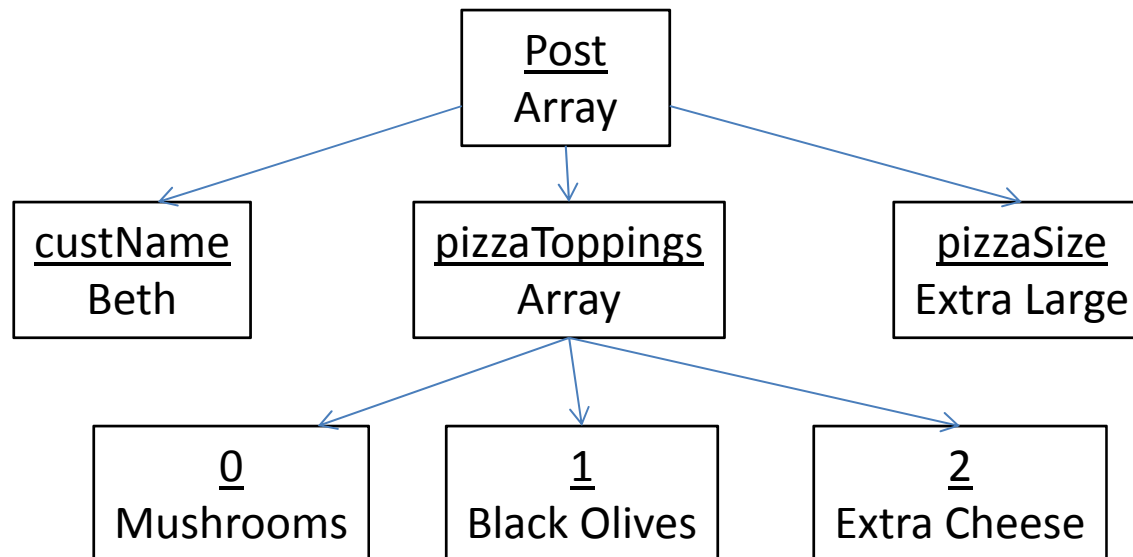
```
<input type="checkbox" name="pizzaToppings[]" value="Pepperoni" /> Pepperoni<br />
```

```
<input type="checkbox" name="pizzaToppings[]" value="Sausage" /> Sausage</p>
```

# Revised: What we get

The variables from our form:

- `$_POST['custName']`
- `$_POST['pizzaSize']`
- `$_POST['pizzaToppings']`
- `$_POST['pizzaStatus']`



# Displaying Arrays

```
print_r($arrayName);  
Array  
(  
    [0] => firstValue  
    [1] => secondValue  
    [2] => thirdValue  
)
```

# Displaying Arrays

```
var_dump($custInfo);
```

```
array(3) {  
    ["firstName"]=> string(4) "Beth"  
    ["lastName"]=>  string(11) "Tucker Long"  
    ["twitterHandle"]=> string(7) "e3betht"  
}
```



# while Loop

```
// count($arrayToCount);
```

```
$n = 0;
```

```
while($n < count($_POST['pizzaToppings'])) {  
    echo  
    "<li>{$_POST['pizzaToppings'][$b]}</li>";  
    $n++;  
}
```

# for Loop

```
for($n = 0; $n < count($_POST['pizzaToppings']); $n++;) {  
    echo "<li>$_POST['pizzaToppings'][$n]</li>";  
}
```

# foreach Loop

```
foreach($_POST['pizzaToppings'] as $topping) {  
    echo "<li>$topping</li>";  
}
```

# Associative foreach Loop

```
foreach($_POST['custInfo'] as $label => $value) {  
    echo "$label: $value<br />";  
}
```

# Displaying the Pizza Choices

```
echo "<p>This order is for  
{$_POST['custName']}</p>  
<p>Size: " . $_POST['pizzaSize'] . "</p>  
<p>Toppings:</p><ul>" ;  
foreach($_POST['pizzaToppings'] as $topping)  
{  
    echo "<li>$topping</li>" ;  
}  
echo "</ul>" ;
```

# Reordering the Toppings

```
sort($_POST['pizzaToppings']);  
echo "<p>Toppings:</p><ul>";  
foreach($_POST['pizzaToppings'] as $stopping)  
{  
    echo "<li>$stopping</li>";  
}  
echo "</ul>";
```

# Notes on Sorting

```
$pictures = array("img1", "img20", "img5",  
"img10", "img3");
```

```
sort($pictures);  
print_r($pictures);
```

```
Array (  
    [0] => img1  
    [1] => img10  
    [2] => img20  
    [3] => img3  
    [4] => img5  
)
```

# Sorting Naturally

## With PHP 5.4.0+:

```
$pictures = array("img1", "img20", "img5",  
"img10", "img3");
```

```
sort($pictures, SORT_NATURAL);  
print_r($pictures);
```

```
Array (
```

```
    [0] => img1
```

```
    [1] => img3
```

```
    [2] => img5
```

```
    [3] => img10
```

```
    [4] => img20
```

```
)
```



# Sorting Naturally

**With PHP 5.4.0+:**

```
sort($place);  
print_r($place);
```

```
Array (  
    [0] => Greece  
    [1] => Malaysia  
    [2] => US  
    [3] => Uganda  
)
```

```
sort($place,  
    SORT_NATURAL);  
print_r($place);
```

```
Array (  
    [0] => Greece  
    [1] => Malaysia  
    [2] => Uganda  
    [3] => US  
)
```

# Sorting with Keys

```
$winners = array("first" => "blue", "second"  
=> "green", "third" => "purple");
```

```
sort($winners);  
print_r($winners);
```

```
Array (  
    [0] => blue  
    [1] => green  
    [2] => purple  
)
```

# Keeping Keys

```
$winners = array("first" => "blue", "second"  
=> "green", "third" => "purple");
```

```
asort($winners);  
print_r($winners);
```

```
Array (  
    [third] => blue  
    [first] => green  
    [second] => purple  
)
```

# Sorting Keys

```
$winners = array("first" => "green",  
"second" => "purple", "third" => "blue");
```

```
ksort($winners);  
print_r($winners);
```

```
Array (  
    [first] => green  
    [second] => purple  
    [third] => blue  
)
```

# Making Decisions

- Only display form when ordering pizza
- Afterwards, display only the receipt

# Comparison Operators

`==` Checks if the value of the two is the same

`===` Checks if the value and data type of the two is the same

`<` Less than

`<=` Less than or equal to

`>` Greater than

`>=` Greater than or equal to

# Logical Operators

&& both operands are true (AND)  
|| at least one operand is true (OR)  
XOR exactly one operand is true

# if

```
if ( $_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order" )  
  {  
    // Code to be executed  
  }
```



# if-else

```
if ( $_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order" )  
  {  
    // Code to be executed  
  } else {  
    // Code to be executed  
  }
```

# if-elseif-else

```
if ( $_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order" )
{
    // Code to be executed
} elseif ( $_POST['pizzaStatus'] ==
"Continue" ) {
    // Code to be executed
} else {
    // Code to be executed
}
```

# Ternary Operator

\$result =

```
($_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order") ? true : false;
```

# Decision Code

```
if ($_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order") {
    echo "<p>This order is for {$_POST['custName']}</p>";
    echo "<p>Size: " . $_POST['pizzaSize'] . "</p>";
    echo "<p>Toppings:</p><ul>";

    foreach($_POST['pizzaToppings'] as $topping) {
        echo "<li>$topping</li>";
    }

    echo "</ul>";
}
else {
    // Form code
}
```

# Loop Uh-oh

**Warning:** Invalid argument supplied for foreach() in  
**/your/dir/path/file.php** on line **6**

```
foreach($_POST['pizzaToppings'] as $stopping)
{
    echo "<li>$stopping</li>";
}
```

# Corrected Loop

```
if(is_array($_POST['pizzaToppings']) {  
    foreach($_POST['pizzaToppings'] as  
        $topping) {  
        echo "<li>$topping</li>";  
    }  
}  
  
if(count($_POST['pizzaToppings']) > 0) {
```

# Validation

```
if (strlen($_POST['custName']) < 1) {  
    $errorMessages[] = "Please enter your Name.";  
}
```

```
if(count($_POST['pizzaToppings'] < 1) {  
    $errorMessages[] = "Please choose at least  
    one topping.";  
}
```

# Validation

Besides incomplete submissions, we also always want to avoid malicious submissions.

```
$_POST['custName'] =  
    htmlentities($_POST['custName']);  
  
if(!ctype_alpha($_POST['pizzaSize'])) {  
    $errorMessages[] = "Please choose a Size."  
}
```



# Validation

```
if (is_array($_POST['pizzaToppings'])) {  
    $checkToppings = implode("a", $_POST['pizzaToppings']);  
  
    $checkToppings = str_replace(" ", "a", $checkToppings);  
  
    if(!ctype_alpha($checkToppings)) {  
        $errorMessages[] = "Please choose some  
Toppings.";  
    }  
}  
  
if(!ctype_alpha(str_replace(" ", "a",  
    implode("a", $_POST['pizzaToppings'])))) {
```

# Basic Security

Validate input; Escape output.

# Common Attacks

- Cross-site Scripting (XSS)
- Cross-site Request Forgery (CSRF)
- Injection

# Basic Security

OWASP Top Ten Project:

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Category:OWASP\\_Top\\_Ten\\_Project](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Category:OWASP_Top_Ten_Project)

# Failure Happens

When a validation test fails, make it easy for your user to fix it (Check for malicious submissions, but always treat your users as though it were an accident).

```
if ($_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order")
{
    //All our validation tests here
    if(is_array($errorMessages)) {
        echo "<ul>";
        foreach($errorMessages as $message)
        {
            echo "<li>$message</li>";
        }
        echo "</ul>";
        //Form Code Goes Here
    }
    else {
        //Confirmation Code Goes Here
    }
}
else {
    //Form Code Goes Here
}
```

# Returning the Form with Data

```
<p>Name: <input type=\"text\" name=\"custName\"  
  maxlength=\"200\" value=\"$custName\" /></p>
```

# Returning the Form with Data

```
<p>Choose a Size:<br />
```

```
<input type=\"radio\" name=\"pizzaSize\"  
  value=\"Small\"  \";
```

```
if($pizzaSize == "Small") { echo "checked "; }
```

```
echo "/> Small<br />";
```

# Returning the Form with Data

```
<p>Add Additional Toppings:<br />
```

```
<input type=\"checkbox\"  
  name=\"pizzaToppings[]\" value=\"Mushrooms\"  
  \";
```

```
if(in_array("Mushrooms", $pizzaToppings)) { echo  
  "checked "; }
```

```
echo "/> Mushrooms<br />";
```



# Aside

```
echo "<textarea>$data</textarea>" ;
```

```
echo "<select name="choice">  
<option value=\"Yes\" \" ;  
if($_POST['choice'] == "Yes") {  
    echo " selected";  
}  
echo "> Yes</option>" ;
```

# Highlight Fields

```
if (strlen($_POST['custName']) < 1) {
    $errorFields[] = "custName";
    $errorMessages['custName'] = "Please enter your
    Name." ;
}
if(in_array("custName", $errorFields) {
    echo "<p
    class=\"error\">{$errorMessages['custName']}<br
    />" ;
} else {
    echo "<p>" ;
}
echo "Name: <input type=\"text\" name=\"custName\"
    maxlength=\"200\" value=\"\$custName\" /></p>" ;
```

# Highlight Fields

```
if (strlen($_POST['custName']) < 1) {
    $errorMessages['custName'] = "Please enter your
    Name. ";
}
if(array_key_exists("custName", $errorMessages) {
    echo "<p
    class=\"error\">{$errorMessages['custName']}<br
    />";
} else {
    echo "<p>";
}
echo "Name: <input type=\"text\" name=\"custName\"
    maxlength=\"200\" value=\"\$custName\" /></p>";
```

# Lots of Redundancy

```
if ($_POST['pizzaStatus'] == "Place Order") {  
    //Validation test  
    //Validation test  
    //Validation test  
    if(is_array($errorMessagees)) {  
        ...  
        //Form Code  
    }  
    else {  
        //Confirmation Code Goes Here  
    }  
}  
else {  
    //Form Code  
}
```

# Reducing Redundancy

```
function checkIfBad($fieldName) {  
    if (strpos($_POST[$fieldName], "=") === false) {  
        if (strpos($_POST[$fieldName], "<") === false) {  
            if (strlen($_POST[$fieldName]) > 0) {  
                return true;  
            }  
            else {  
                return false;  
            }  
        }  
        else {  
            return false;  
        }  
    }  
    else {  
        return false;  
    }  
}
```

# Reducing Redundancy

```
if (checkIfBad("custName")) {  
    $errorMessage[] = "custName message";  
}
```

```
if (checkIfBad("pizzaSize")) {  
    $errorMessage[] = "pizzaSize message";  
}
```

# Reducing Redundancy

Create the function:

```
function displayForm($custName, $pizzaSize,  
    $pizzaToppings) {  
    //echo Form code Here  
}
```

And then use it whenever you need it:

```
else {  
    displayForm($_POST['custName'], $_POST['pizzaSize'],  
        $_POST['pizzaToppings']);  
}
```

# Quick Note on Scope

Variables are passed in "by value" by default:

```
function changeNumber($myNumber) {  
    $myNumber = 5;  
}
```

```
$myNumber = 11;
```

```
changeNumber($myNumber);
```

```
echo $myNumber;
```

```
// 11
```



# Passing by Reference

```
function changeNumber(&$myNumber) {  
    $myNumber = 5;  
}
```

```
$myNumber = 11;
```

```
changeNumber($myNumber);
```

```
echo $myNumber;
```

```
// 5
```

# Required Parameters

```
function changeNumber(&$myNumber, $changeTo) {  
    $myNumber = $changeTo;  
}  
$myNumber = 11;
```

```
changeNumber($myNumber);
```

**Warning:** Missing argument 2 for changeNumber(), called in /your/file/path/file.php on line 9 and defined in /your/file/path/file.php on line 3

# Optional Parameters

```
function changeNumber(&$myNumber, $changeTo = 5) {  
    $myNumber = $changeTo;  
}  
$myNumber = 11;
```

```
changeNumber($myNumber);  
echo $myNumber;  
// 5
```

```
changeNumber($myNumber, 7);  
echo $myNumber;  
// 7
```

# A Few More Functions

- **strtoupper(\$string)**  
echo strtoupper("this is my phrase");  
// THIS IS MY PHRASE
- **strtolower(\$string)**  
echo strtolower("HELLO");  
// hello
- **substr(\$string, \$start, \$length)**  
echo substr("the quick fox", 4, 5);  
// quick  
echo substr("the quick fox", -3);  
// fox

# A Few More Functions

- **trim(\$string)**

```
echo trim("    phrase");  
// phrase
```

- **str\_word\_count(\$string, \$format, \$charlist)**

```
echo str_word_count("the quick fox",0);  
// 3  
var_dump(str_word_count("quick fox", 1));  
// array(2) { [0]=> string(5) "quick" [1]=> string(3) "fox" }  
echo str_word_count("ab lsab lsab 12 45",0);  
// 3  
echo str_word_count("ab lsab lsab 12 45",0,"45");  
// 4
```

# Printable receipt

- Nice format for printing
- No header/footer graphics

# Accessing the Data

## Sessions:

- Server-side
- Less picky on header timing

## Cookies:

- Client-side
- Must occur before headers are sent

## Both:

- Allow data to be stored by one script and accessed by another
- Accessible via superglobal array

# Using Sessions

Place this at the very top of your page:

```
session_start();
```

This must occur before headers are sent. Things that will send the headers:

- the HTML declarations
- Whitespace
- echo'ing anything



# Using Sessions

In our script, add this below the confirmation code:

```
$_SESSION['custName'] = $_POST['custName'];  
$_SESSION['pizzaSize'] = $_POST['pizzaSize'];  
$_SESSION['pizzaToppings'] = $_POST['pizzaToppings'];
```

**Faster, but could cause security concerns:**

```
$_SESSION['data'] = $_POST;  
//$_SESSION['data']['pizzaToppings']
```

# Using Sessions

Place this where you want the print link to display:

```
echo "<a href=\"printReceipt.php\">Printable  
Receipt</a>";
```

# Script for Printing

```
<?php
    session_start();

    echo "<p>This order is for {$_SESSION['custName']}
```

# Got cookies?

Order form code needs to be reorganized so that the validation occurs before any HTML is outputted to the browser. Then add:

```
setcookie("custName", $_POST['custName']);  
setcookie("pizzaSize", $_POST['pizzaSize']);  
setcookie("pizzaToppings",  
    serialize( $_POST['pizzaToppings'] );
```

# Got cookies?

Your print script is updated to:

```
<?php
    echo "<p>This order is for {$_COOKIE['custName']}</p>
    <p>Size: " . $_COOKIE['pizzaSize'] . "</p>
    <p>Toppings:</p><ul>" ;
    $pizzaToppings =
    unserialize(stripslashes($_COOKIE['pizzaToppings'])) ;
    if(is_array($pizzaToppings)) {
        foreach($pizzaToppings as $stopping) {
            echo "<li>$stopping</li>" ;
        }
    }
    echo "</ul>" ;
?>
```

# php.net

The screenshot shows the php.net website with a search bar containing 'str'. The search results are displayed in a sidebar on the right, showing a list of functions and classes. The main content area on the left contains introductory text about PHP and a news item about PHP 5.4.25.

Downloads Documentation Get Involved Help

PHP is a popular general-purpose scripting language that is especially suited to web development.

Fast, flexible and pragmatic, PHP powers everything from your blog to the most popular websites in the world.

PHP 5.4.25 Released! » 2014-02-06

The PHP development team announces the immediate availability of PHP 5.4.25. 5  
Everyone find in this release. All PHP 5.4 users are encouraged to upgrade to this

str\_getcsv  
FUNCTIONS 119  
str\_getcsv  
Parse a CSV string into an array  
str\_ireplace  
Case-insensitive version of  
str\_pad  
Pad a string to a certain length  
str\_repeat  
Repeat a string

CLASSES 1  
streamWrapper  
The streamWrapper class

» Search php.net for str

Or, go directly to: <http://www.php.net/strlen>

# Function Pages

« [stristr](#)

[PHP Manual](#) › [Function Reference](#) › [Text Processing](#) › [Strings](#)  
› [String Functions](#)

[strnatcasecmp](#) »

## String Functions

[addslashes](#)

[addslashes](#)

[bin2hex](#)

[chop](#)

[chr](#)

[chunk\\_split](#)

[convert\\_cyr\\_string](#)

[convert\\_uuencode](#)

[convert\\_uuencode](#)

[count\\_chars](#)

[crc32](#)

[crypt](#)

[echo](#)

[explode](#)

[fprintf](#)

[get\\_html\\_translation\\_table](#)

[hebrew](#)

[hebrevc](#)

[hex2bin](#)

[html\\_entity\\_decode](#)

## strlen

Change language:

(PHP 4, PHP 5)

[Edit](#) [Report a Bug](#)

strlen — Get string length

### Description

```
int strlen ( string $string )
```

Returns the length of the given **string**.

### Parameters

#### **string**

The string being measured for length.

### Return Values

The length of the **string** on success, and `0` if the **string** is empty.

htmlentities

htmlspecialchars\_decode

htmlspecialchars

implode

join

lcfirst

levenshtein

localeconv

ltrim

md5\_file

md5

metaphone

money\_format

nl\_langinfo

nl2br

number\_format

ord

parse\_str

print

printf

quoted\_printable\_decode

quoted\_printable\_encode

quotemeta

rtrim

setlocale

## Changelog

Version	Description
---------	-------------

5.3.0	Prior versions treated arrays as the string <i>Array</i> , thus returning a string length of 5 and emitting an E_NOTICE level error.
-------	--

## Examples

### Example #1 A strlen() example

```
<?php
$str = 'abcdef';
echo strlen($str); // 6

$str = ' ab cd ';
echo strlen($str); // 7
?>
```

## Notes

**Note:**

**strlen()** returns the number of bytes rather than the number of characters in a string.



sscanf

str\_getcsv

str\_ireplace

str\_pad

str\_repeat

str\_replace

str\_rot13

str\_shuffle

str\_split

str\_word\_count

strcasecmp

strchr

strcmp

## See Also

- [count\(\)](#) - Count all elements in an array, or something in an object
- [mb\\_strlen\(\)](#) - Get string length

## User Contributed Notes

10 notes

[+ add a note](#)

▲ 22 ▼ tux at tax dot tox

1 year ago

Attention with utf8:

```
$foo = "bär";
```

```
strlen($foo) will return 4 and not 3 as expected..
```

# Common Problems

**Parse error: syntax error, unexpected '{' in  
/your/path/file.php on line 7**

```
if(empty($myVar) {  
    echo "This is empty!";  
}
```

# Common Problems

**Parse error: syntax error, unexpected T\_STRING, expecting ',' or ';' in /your/path/file.php on line 18**

```
echo "Hello;  
echo "Hi Again";  
if ($this === $that) {  
    echo "Hi a third time";  
}
```

# Common Problems

```
$myVar = 5;
```

```
if ($myVar = "10") {  
    echo "They match!";  
} else {  
    echo "Try Again.";  
}
```

```
//Always outputs "They match!"
```

# Yoda Syntax

```
$myVar = 5;
```

```
if ("10" = $myVar) {  
    echo "They match!";  
} else {  
    echo "Try Again.";  
}
```

**Parse error: syntax error, unexpected '=' in /your/path/file.php on line 5**

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