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Lesson Proper for Week 16

PHP Conditional Statements

The whole point of PHP is to make a web page dynamic. Dynamic means that you don't *necessarily* get the same result when you view the same page from time to time. Sometimes the web page will display one group of text, and other times it will display another group. Control structures allow you to control the conditions that specify the rules that define when and how this happens.

You can use conditional statements in your code to make your decisions. PHP supports following three decision making statements:

- * if statement use this statement if you want to executes some code if one condition is true
- * **if...else statement** use this statement if you want to execute a set of code when a condition is true and another if the condition is not true
- * **elseif statement** is used with the if...else statement to execute a set of code if **one** of the several condition is true
- * **switch statement** is used if you want to select one of many blocks of code to be executed, use the Switch statement. The switch statement is used to avoid long blocks of if..elseif..else code.

The if Statement

The **if** statement is one of the most important features of many languages, PHP included. It allows for conditional execution of code fragments. PHP if statement allows conditional execution of code. It is executed if condition is true. In PHP, the simple form of the **if** statement is as follows:



```
if (condition) {
  code to be executed if condition is true;
}
```

The expression is evaluated to its boolean value. If expression evaluates to TRUE, PHP will execute statement, and if it evaluates to FALSE – PHP will ignore it.

A Boolean value is one that can be reduced to one of two values: TRUE or FALSE

The if...else Statement

If-else statement is slightly different from if statement. PHP if-else statement is executed whether condition is true or false. This control structure allows you to execute one or more statements when a condition is TRUE and execute one or more other statements when the condition is FALSE:

```
if (condition) {
  code to be executed if condition is true;
} else {
  code to be executed if condition is false;
}
```

The if...elseif...else Statement

Similar to the **if-else** conditional is **if-elseif** (or **if-elseif-else**). The if...else statement executes different codes for more than two conditions. This conditional acts like a running **if** statement and can be expanded to whatever complexity you require. If you want to execute some code if one of the several conditions are true use the elseif statement. The PHP if-else-if is a special statement used to combine multiple if..else statements. So, we can check multiple conditions using this statement.



```
if (condition) {
  code to be executed if this condition is true;
} elseif (condition) {
  code to be executed if first condition is false and this condition is true;
} else {
  code to be executed if all conditions are false;
}
```

The switch Statement

Once you get to the point where you have longer **if-elseif-else** conditionals, you may find that you can save programming time and clarify your code by using a **switch** conditional instead. The **switch** statement is used to perform different actions based on different conditions. Use the switch statement to **select one of many blocks of code to be executed**.

```
switch (n) {
  case label1:
    code to be executed if n=label1;
    break;
  case label2:
    code to be executed if n=label2;
    break;
  case label3:
    code to be executed if n=label3;
    break;
  ...
  default:
    code to be executed if n is different from all labels;
}
```

This is how it works: First we have a single expression n (most often a variable), that is evaluated once. The value of the expression is then compared with the values for each case in the structure. If there is a match, the block of code associated with that case is executed. Use break to prevent the code from running into the next case automatically. The default statement is used if no match is found.

The Loops

Often when you write code, you want the same block of code to run over and over again a certain number of times. So, instead of adding several almost equal code-lines in a script, we can use loops. Loops are used to execute the same block of code again and again, as long as a certain condition is true. In PHP, we have the following

loop types:

- * while loops through a block of code as long as the specified condition is true
- * **do...while** loops through a block of code once, and then repeats the loop as long as the specified condition is true
- * **for** loops through a block of code a specified number of times
- * **foreach** loops through a block of code for each element in an array

The while Loop

The while loop - Loops through a block of code as long as the specified condition is true. The while loop executes a block of code as long as the specified condition is true. This loop performs a task repeatedly while a specific condition remains valid.

```
while (condition is true) {
  code to be executed;
}
```

It should be used if the number of iterations is not known. The while loop is also called an **Entry control loop** because the condition is checked before entering the loop body. This means that first the condition is checked.

If the condition is true, the block of code will be executed.

The do-while loop

PHP do-while loop can be used to traverse set of code like php while loop. The PHP do-while loop is guaranteed to run at least once. The PHP do-while loop is used to execute a set of code of the program several times. If you have to execute the loop at least once and the number of iterations is not even fixed, it is recommended to use the **do-while** loop.



```
do {
   code to be executed;
} while (condition is true);
```

It executes the code at least one time always because the condition is checked after executing the code. The dowhile loop is very much similar to the while loop except the condition check. The main difference between both loops is that while loop checks the condition at the beginning, whereas do-while loop checks the condition at the end of the loop.

The do...while loop will always execute the block of code once, it will then check the condition, and repeat the loop while the specified condition is true.

The for Loop

PHP for loop can be used to traverse set of code for the specified number of times. It should be used if the number of iterations is known otherwise use while loop. This means for loop is used when you already know how many times you want to execute a block of code. It allows users to put all the loop related statements in one place.

```
for (init counter; test counter; increment counter) {
  code to be executed for each iteration;
}
```

The for loop - Loops through a block of code a specified number of times.

Parameters:

- * *init counter*. Initialize the loop counter value
- * test counter. Evaluated for each loop iteration. If it evaluates to TRUE, the loop continues. If it evaluates to FALSE, the loop ends.
- * increment counter. Increases the loop counter value



The foreach loop is used to traverse the array elements. It works only on array and object. It will issue an error if you try to use it with the variables of different datatype. The foreach loop works on elements basis rather than index. It provides an easiest way to iterate the elements of an array. In foreach loop, we don't need to increment the value.

```
foreach ($array as $value) {
  code to be executed;
}
```

The foreach loop works only on arrays, and is used to loop through each key/value pair in an array. For every loop iteration, the value of the current array element is assigned to \$value and the array pointer is moved by one, until it reaches the last array element.

The PHP Functions

The real power of PHP comes from its functions. PHP has more than 1000 built-in functions, and in addition you can create your own custom functions.

The PHP reference contains different categories of all PHP functions, keywords and constants.

| Array | Calendar | Date | Directory | Error |
|-----------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Exception | Filesystem | Filter | FTP | JSON |
| Keywords | Libxml | Mail | Math | Misc |
| MySQLi | Network | Output | RegEx | SimpleXML |
| Stream | String | Var Handling | XML Parser | Zip |
| Timezones | | | | |

PHP User Defined Functions

Besides the built-in PHP functions, it is possible to create your own functions.

- * A function is a block of statements that can be used repeatedly in a program.
- * A function will not execute automatically when a page loads.
- * A function will be executed by a call to the function.

A user-defined function declaration starts with the word function:



```
function functionName() {
  code to be executed;
```

Note: A function name must start with a letter or an underscore. Function names are NOT case-sensitive.

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