Cookies:

A cookie is often used to identify a user. A cookie is a small file that the server embeds on the user's computer. Each time the same computer requests a page with a browser, it will send the cookie too. With PHP, you can both create and retrieve cookie values.

Create a cookie with PHP

A cookie is created with the setcookie() function.

PHP Create/Retrieve a Cookie

The following example creates a cookie named "user" with the value "John Doe". The cookie will expire after 30 days (86400 * 30). The "/" means that the cookie is available in entire website (otherwise, select the directory you prefer).

We then retrieve the value of the cookie "user" (using the global variable $_COOKIE). We also use the isset() function to find out if the cookie is set:

```php
<!DOCTYPE html>
<?php
    $cookie_name = "user";
    $cookie_value = "John Doe";
    setcookie($cookie_name, $cookie_value, time() + (86400 * 30), "/"); // 86400 = 1 day
?>
<html>
<body>

<?php
    if(!isset($_COOKIE[$cookie_name])) {
        echo "Cookie named '" . $cookie_name . "' is not set!";
    } else {
        echo "Cookie '" . $cookie_name . "' is set!<br>";
        echo "Value is: " . $_COOKIE[$cookie_name];
    }
?>

<p><strong>Note:</strong> You might have to reload the page to see the value of the cookie.</p>

</body>
</html>
```