**How to enable gzip compression with Php.**

**Enabling Gzip Compression**

In many forums and on many webpages it has been widely proclaimed that to enable gzip compression using php is as easy as adding a single line of code at the beginning of each page. This is not false, however it is not the best way of doing it. Before continuing, here's the code. It takes advantage of Php's buffered output and buffers all output of the script until the Php engine has completed, and then runs all the output through a special function that gzip compresses it before sending it on to the browser.

Here is the code. Just place this at the very top of all your Php pages and it will send gzip-compressed output to the browsers.

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| **Example Code** |
| <?php     ob\_start("ob\_gzhandler"); ?> |

This method is dependant on the Apache server and in addition, the mod\_gzip module must be installed and loaded.

**Other Methods to Enable Gzip Compression**

The method mentioned above is quick and easy, but the downfalls are that it only works on Apache with mod\_gzip. Not only that, but according to the Php manual, that is not the preferred method for gzipping.

note that using zlib.output\_compression is preferred over ob\_gzhandler().

Another method of gzipping is as follows:

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| **Example Code** |
| <?php   // Include this function on your pages function print\_gzipped\_page() {      global $HTTP\_ACCEPT\_ENCODING;     if( headers\_sent() ){         $encoding = false;     }elseif( strpos($HTTP\_ACCEPT\_ENCODING, 'x-gzip') !== false ){         $encoding = 'x-gzip';     }elseif( strpos($HTTP\_ACCEPT\_ENCODING,'gzip') !== false ){         $encoding = 'gzip';     }else{         $encoding = false;     }      if( $encoding ){         $contents = ob\_get\_contents();         ob\_end\_clean();         header('Content-Encoding: '.$encoding);         print("\x1f\x8b\x08\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00");         $size = strlen($contents);         $contents = gzcompress($contents, 9);         $contents = substr($contents, 0, $size);         print($contents);         exit();     }else{         ob\_end\_flush();         exit();     } }  // At the beginning of each page call these two functions ob\_start(); ob\_implicit\_flush(0);  // Then do everything you want to do on the page echo 'Hello World';  // Call this function to output everything as gzipped content. print\_gzipped\_page();   ?> |