

# PHP Cookie

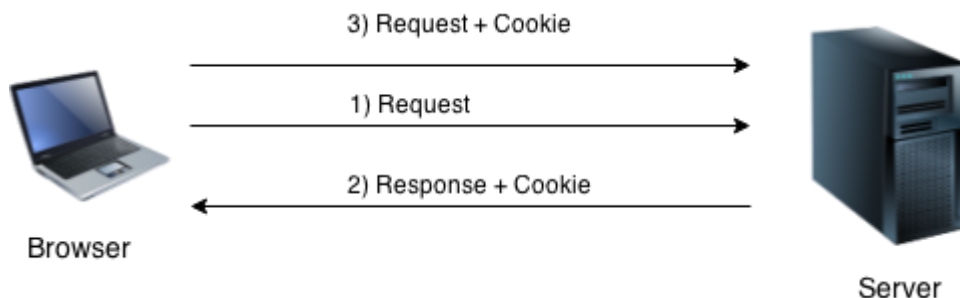
**Definition:** PHP cookie is a small piece of information which is stored at client browser.

- Cookie is created at server side and saved to client browser.
- Each time when client sends request to the server, cookie is embedded with request.
- For the **first request** of the page, the cookie is not set yet.

## Usage:

- It is used to recognize the user.
- Tacking user activities and collect information.

## How it works



## PHP Cookie Creation

PHP **setcookie()** function is used to set cookie with HTTP response.

### Syntax

`setcookie ( "cookie name" , "cookie-value" , expire date);`

- Cookie name: to set the name, it is **case sensitive**.
- Cookie value: to set the value of cookie
- Expire date: This specify a future time in **seconds**, after this time cookie will become inaccessible. It is an instruction to the browser to "**forget**" the cookie after the given time and date.

### Example:

```
<?php
    setcookie("name", "Sara", time()+3600);
    setcookie("age", "36", time()+3600);
?>
<html>

    <head>
        <title>Setting Cookies with PHP</title>
    </head>

    <body>
        <?php echo "Set Cookies"?>
    </body>

</html>
```

## Accessing Cookies with PHP

Once cookie is set, you can access it by **\$\_COOKIE** superglobal variable.

### Example:

```
<html>

    <head>
        <title>Accessing Cookies with PHP</title>
    </head>
    <body>

        <?php
            if( isset($_COOKIE["name"]))
                echo "Welcome " . $_COOKIE["name"] . "<br />";

            else
                echo "Sorry... Not recognized" . "<br />";
        ?>
    </body>
</html>
```

- For the first request of the page the output will be: **Sorry... Not recognized**
- For the second request of the page, the cookie is set, so the output will be: **Welcome Sara**

## Deleting Cookie with PHP

To delete a cookie you should call **setcookie()** with a date that has already **expired**.

Example:

```
<?php
    // set the expiration date to one hour ago
    setcookie( "name", "", time() - 3600);
    // set the expiration date to one minute ago
    setcookie( "age", "", time() - 60);
?>

<html>

    <head>
        <title>Deleting Cookies with PHP</title>
    </head>

    <body>
        <?php echo "Deleted Cookies" ?>
    </body>

</html>
```