

15. PHP \$_GET Variable

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15.1. The \$_GET Variable

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Information sent from a form with the GET method is visible to everyone (it will be displayed in the browser's address bar) and has limits on the amount of information to send.

Example 1

```
<form action="welcome.php" method="get">
Name: <input type="text" name="fname">
Age: <input type="text" name="age">
<input type="submit">
</form>
```

When the user clicks the "Submit" button, the URL sent to the server could look something like this:

http://www.mydomain.com/welcome.php?fname=Peter&age=37

The "welcome.php" file can now use the \$_GET variable to collect form data (the names of the form fields will automatically be the keys in the \$_GET array):

```
Welcome <?php echo $_GET["fname"]; ?>.<br>
You are <?php echo $_GET["age"]; ?> years old!
```

15.2. When to use method="get"?

When using method="get" in HTML forms, all variable names and values are displayed in the URL.

Note: This method should not be used when sending passwords or other sensitive information!

However, because the variables are displayed in the URL, it is possible to bookmark the page. This can be useful in some cases.

Note: The get method is not suitable for very large variable values. It should not be used with values exceeding 2000 characters.