

## 3. PHP Syntax

The PHP script is executed on the server, and the plain HTML result is sent back to the browser.

### 3.1. Basic PHP Syntax

A PHP script can be placed anywhere in the document.

A PHP script starts with `<?php` and ends with `?>`:

```
<?php
// PHP code goes here
?>
```

The default file extension for PHP files is `".php"`.

A PHP file normally contains HTML tags, and some PHP scripting code.

Below, we have an example of a simple PHP file, with a PHP script that sends the text *"Hello World!"* back to the browser:

### Example 1

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <body>

    <h1>My first PHP page</h1>

    <?php
      echo "Hello World!";
    ?>

  </body>
</html>
```

Each code line in PHP must end with a semicolon. The semicolon is a separator and is used to distinguish one set of instructions from another.

With PHP, there are two basic statements to output text in the browser: **echo** and **print**.

## 3.2. Comments in PHP

### Example 2

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>

    <?php
    //This is a PHP comment line

    /*
    This is
    a PHP comment
    block
    */
    ?>

</body>
</html>
```