



PHP Interview

Questions and Answers E-Book

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Question 1: What is PHP?

PHP initially stood for Personal Homepage. But now it is called as Hypertext Preprocessor. The first version of php was launched roughly 26 years ago and as of now till today's date we have like 8.1.1 stable version. which we can easily download it from php.net website.

PHP is mostly used by web developers for developing dynamic and static websites. 80% of websites on an internet runs on PHP. A PHP file contains PHP tags and PHP functions and has got file extension as ".php".

It was among the first server-side languages that could be embedded into HTML and JavaScript, making it easier to add functionality to web pages without needing to call external files for data.

Question 2: Advantages of using PHP?

Most important advantage of PHP is that it's open-source scripting-language and free from cost and can be downloaded any time anywhere on any system. Due to this cost-free any small scale or low budget companies or individuals can develop dynamic & interactive website using PHP & MYSQL.

It is a platform independent, means it can work on any OS like Unix, Ubuntu, Linux, Windows, MAC.

It can be connected to popular RDBMS databases like MYSQL, Postgre, MS SQL, SQLite, Sybase, MongoDB and so on.

Easy and Simple to Learn and anyone who wants to start their programming career then PHP is a way to go.

Robust & Dynamic websites can be created using PHP, compared to other programming languages, PHP allows the website developer to have more control for example we can embed php tags inside JavaScript or HTML code.



On an Internet 80% of websites run on PHP, PHP has a very helpful, active, and widespread PHP community. Also, this scripting language offers a lot of resources, such as commands, functions, and codes, which can easily be rewritten and used without any cost. Thus, it makes ease of use and integration, cost efficiency, and easy access makes PHP one of the most popular server-side programming languages.

There are many more advantages like in case if we want our web application to be structured as per model-view-controller pattern then we can use PHP frameworks like laravel cakePHP, in-case we want to develop e-commerce then we can use WooCommerce, OpenCart, magento and in case we want to develop any CMS website we can take support of WordPress which has got n number of customizable themes.

Question 3: What are popular frameworks in PHP?

1. Laravel:

Laravel is primarily used for building custom web apps using PHP and it is entirely server-side, due to running on PHP. Laravel uses a design pattern called Model-View-Controller, or MVC.

Model which communicates with database and have all database objects.

Controller which acts like a bridge between view and model and if a user requests to see their posts page, the controller talks to the model and retrieves the info.

View is our display HTML page or UI.

2. Symfony

Symfony is an Open-Source PHP framework for web applications and a set of reusable PHP components.

3. CodeIgniter

CodeIgniter is a lightweight and straightforward PHP framework and considerably faster compared with other frameworks.



Key features include an MVC architecture, Easy to learn, top-notch error handling, inbuilt security tools, and simple and excellent documentation

4. CakePHP

CakePHP is an open-source PHP framework that follows the MVC architecture and helps build web applications quickly.

CakePHP has inbuilt ORM i.e. It provides a powerful and flexible way to work with relational databases.

5. Yii

Yii is an open source, object-oriented, component-based MVC PHP web application framework.

Yii is a simple to use, high-performance and component-based PHP framework for developing modern web applications.

Yii is a good choice for newcomers to PHP. Here they can easily learn more about working with database or MVC patterns.

So, these are top 5 trending frameworks.

We also do have some more best PHP frameworks...like Zend, FuelPHP, Phalcon, Slim and so on.

Question 4: What are popular Content Management Systems (CMS) in PHP?

CMS, is software that helps users create, manage, and modify content on a website without the need for specialized technical knowledge.

1.WordPress.

The no 1 in CMS my all-time favorite WordPress which is simple and easy to learn and has got n-number of themes and resources.

2.Joomla - again CMS, very similar like WordPress.

3.Drupal - Drupal is a free, open-source content management system (CMS) with a large, supportive community. It's used by millions of people and organizations around the globe to build and maintain their websites.

Question 5: What is the difference between "echo" and "print" in PHP?

Echo	Print
Definition: Echo is a statement to display output to browser. It can work with parentheses or without parentheses.	Definition: Print is a statement to display output to browser. It can work with parentheses or without parentheses.
Syntax: echo or echo()	Syntax: print or print()
Echo can display output multiple variables values separated as comma (,)	Print cannot display output of multiple variables. It can display output of single variable value only.
Echo is void. Does not have any return type.	Print return value as 1.
Echo is faster than print.	Print is slower as compared to echo.
Example: Shown in video	Example: Shown in video

Question 6: How a variable is declared in PHP?

Any variables declared in PHP must begin with a dollar sign (\$), followed by the variable name.

A variable can have long descriptive names or short names (like \$n or \$f or \$x).

A variable name can only contain alphanumeric characters and underscores (i.e., 'a-z', 'A-Z', '0-9' and '_') in their name. Even it cannot start with a number.



Assignment of variables is done with the assignment operator, "equal to (=)".

Example

```
$var = "guru";
```

```
$m = 12;
```

```
$M = array ("Shrithik", "Rani");
```

Question 7: What is the difference between \$message and \$\$message?

\$message is a simple variable whereas \$\$message is a reference variable. They are both variables. But \$message is a variable with a fixed name. \$\$message is a variable whose name is stored in \$message.

For example, if \$message contains "guru", \$\$message is the same as \$guru.

```
<?php  
$message = "guru";  
$guru= "shrithik";  
echo $message," ",$$message;  
?>
```

Question 8: How to write JavaScript in PHP?

Look for video for actual practical demo. Below is a code snippet to embed JavaScript in PHP.

```
if(isset($_POST['btnpost'])){  
    echo "  
        <script type=\"text/javascript\">  
        alert('Hello PHP');  
        </script>  
    ";  
} else { echo "form not posted"; }
```

Question 9: How show JavaScript alert with PHP variable?

```
<?php  
$alertmessage = "Form submitted with PHP variable";  
if(isset($_POST['btnpost'])){  
    echo "  
        <script type=\"text/javascript\">  
        alert('".$alertmessage."');  
        </script>  
    ";  
}  
?>
```

Question 10: What is the difference between JavaScript and PHP?

Javascript	PHP
Definition: JavaScript is a client-side scripting language mainly used to add interactive behavior to web pages. JavaScript handles things on the browser side.	Definition: PHP is a server-side scripting language mainly used to process server-side functions like authentication, authorization, fetch, connect databases and many more. PHP handles things at the server side.
Syntax: Written inside <script> tag using in html pages or can have separate JavaScript pages with an extension .js	Syntax: Written inside <?php...?> tags using in .php extension pages.
Offers interactive behavior to web pages like fade-in, fadeout, onclick, autocomplete, zoom in, zoom out, animations etc.	Offers server-side functionality like connecting to database, get server time, fetch records from database, writing mysql queries, security, writing files, reading files etc.
Many companies use Node.js, a JavaScript runtime environment built on Google Chrome's JavaScript V8 engine. A few famous examples include PayPal, LinkedIn, Netflix, and Uber.	Many companies use PHP frameworks and Core PHP few famous examples like Wikipedia, Facebook, Tumblr and so on.
JavaScript Frameworks Nodejs, Angular, Reactjs	PHP frameworks like CakePHP, Yii, Laravel, CodeIgniter
Example: Shown in video	Example: Shown in video

Question 11: How to show PHP errors on the same page?

```
<?php

ini_set("display_errors",1);
error_reporting(E_ALL);

if($_POST && isset($_POST['fname'], $_POST['lname'])) {

    $fname = $_POST['fname'];
    $lname = $_POST['lname'];

    if(empty($fname)) {
        $errorMsg = "Please enter your First Name";
    }

    if(empty($lname)) {
        $errorMsg = "Please enter your Last Name";
    }

}

?>
```

Question 12: What is the most used method for hashing passwords in PHP?

BCRYPT is the most used method for hashing passwords in PHP, below is code snippet to hash password in PHP

```
<?php

$password = "guru";
$hash = password_hash($password,PASSWORD_BCRYPT,array("cost"=>11));
echo $hash;
echo "\n";

if(password_verify($password,$hash)){

    echo "Password is valid";
}else{

    echo "Password is Invalid";
}

?>
```

Question 13: What are the different types of Arrays in PHP?

In PHP we have three types of arrays Indexed arrays, Associative arrays and multi-dimensional arrays.

Indexed array example

```
<?php

$names = array("Shrithik","Karthik","Shree");
$names[3] = "Sana";

foreach($names as $s){

    echo $s,"\n";
}

?>
```

Associative array example

```
<?php

$names = array("Shrithik"=> 2,"Karthik" => 12,"Shree" => 26);

echo $names["Shrithik"];

echo "\n";
foreach($names as $s => $s_value){

    //echo $s," ",$s_value,"\n";
}

?>
```

Multi-Dimensional Array Example

```
<?php
$names = array (
    array("Shrithik",22,18),
    array("Karthik",15,13),
    array("Sana",5,2),
    array("Rudhra",17,15)
);

for($i=0;$i<=count($names)-1;$i++){

    foreach($names[$i] as $s){

        echo $s," ";
    }
    echo "\n";
}
?>
```

Question 14: What is the purpose of @ in PHP?

The at sign (@) is used as error control operator in PHP. When an expression is prepended with the @ sign, error messages that might be generated by that expression will be ignored.

```
<?php
$val = @$names["Shrithik"];
?>
```

Question 15: What are the different types of variables present in PHP?

In PHP we have 8 types of variables i.e., Integer, Boolean, String, Null, Object, Float/Double, Array, ResourceType. Below is sample snippet for all variable types.

```
?php

$intvar = 1;
$floatvar = 12.32;
$stringvar = "Guru";
$arrayvar = array();
$booleanvar = true;

//class SayHello{}

class SayHello
{
    function Hello(){
        echo "Hello PHP World";
    }
}

$objectvar = new SayHello();
>nullvar = NULL;
$resourcetypevar=mysqli_connect($host,$user,$pass,$dbname);
$resourcetypevar2 = fopen("index.php",'r');

?>
```

Question 16: How does the 'foreach' loop work in PHP?

The foreach loop works only on arrays, and is used to loop through each key/value pair in an array.

```
<?php  
  
$names = array("Shrithik"=> 2,"Karthik" => 12,"Shree" => 26);  
  
echo $names["Shrithik"];  
  
echo "\n";  
foreach($names as $s => $s_value){  
    echo $s," ",$s_value,"\n";  
}  
?>
```

Question 17: What is the use of `session_start()` and `session_destroy()` functions in PHP?

`session_start()` function is used to start a new session or, resume an existing one in that current browser. so, when this session starts then only PHP session system lets you store securely data in the `$_SESSION` global array. So, by using this global session arrays we can store and access information across all web pages.

`session_destroy()` function is help us to destroy all session data present in the current session present in current browser.

So, what these global session arrays stored data will get destroyed.

```
<?php  
  
session_start();  
  
$_SESSION["loginID"] = 121;  
$_SESSION["userID"] = 45678;  
  
session_destroy();  
  
?>
```



Question 18: What are the different ways of handling the result set of MySQLi in PHP?

When we fire the mysqli_query in php. we have like 5 ways of handling result set

```
<?php

$query_st="select * from `state` where `state_id`='".$stateid.'";
$result_st=mysqli_query($mysqlicon,$query_st);

//mysqli_fetch_row()
while($row=mysqli_fetch_row($result)) {

    echo $row[0]." ".$row[1];
}

//mysqli_fetch_array
while($row=mysqli_fetch_array($result,MYSQLI_BOTH)) {

    echo $row[0]." ".$row["statename"];
}

//mysqli_fetch_assoc
while($row=mysqli_fetch_assoc($result)) {

    echo $row["state_id"]." ".$row["statename"];
}

//mysqli_fetch_column
while($row=mysqli_fetch_column($result,1)) {

    echo $row;
}

//mysqli_fetch_object
while($obj=mysqli_fetch_object($result)) {

    echo $obj->state_id." ".$obj->statename;
}

?>
```

of mysqli in php

Question 19: What are magic constants in PHP?

Magic constants are the predefined constants in PHP which get changed on the basis of their use. They start with double underscore (__) and ends with double underscore.

```
<?php
```

```
echo "The Magic Constant For Directory: ".__DIR__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For Line number : ".__LINE__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For File: ".__FILE__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For Class Name : ".__CLASS__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For TRAIT: ".__TRAIT__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For Method name: ".__METHOD__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For function name: ".__FUNCTION__;  
echo "The Magic Constant For namespace: ".__NAMESPACE__;  
?>
```

Question 20: What are the different loops in PHP?

We have four types of loops available in PHP

For Loop, Foreach Loop, While Loop and Do While Loop

```
<?php

//For Loop
for ($i = 1; $i <= 12; $i += 2) {
    echo "$i \n";
}

//While Loop

$i = 2;

while ($i < 6) {
    $i += 2;
    echo $i, "\n";
}

//do while loop

$i = 2;
do {
    $i += 2;
    echo $i, "\n";
} while ($i < 6);

//For each loop

$names = array("Shrithik","Karthik","Shree");
$names[3] = "Sana";

foreach($names as $s){

    echo $s, "\n";
}
```

Happy Learning...!!!