

Passing Arguments in Functions

This lesson discusses parameters and how you can pass arguments to functions.

We'll cover the following ^

- What are Parameters?
- What are Arguments?
- Example
 - Explanation

What are Parameters?

Parameters are passed in the **parentheses** of the *functions*. They are used to hold values during *runtime* of a *function*. A user can pass **multiple parameters** into a *function*, each one separated by a **comma**.

The diagram illustrates the syntax of a function definition. It shows the code `function myFunction (p1, p2) { statement; }` with labels and arrows pointing to specific parts:
- **keyword**: points to `function`
- **function name**: points to `myFunction`
- **parameters**: points to `(p1, p2)`
- **opening brace**: points to the opening curly brace `{`
- **one or more executable statements**: points to the code block `statement;`
- **closing brace**: points to the closing curly brace `}`

What are Arguments?

The *parameters* of a function accept values passed to them when that *function* is called. The values *passed* are referred to as **arguments** of a *function*.

The diagram illustrates the syntax of a function call. It shows the code `myFunction (q1, q2);` with labels and arrows pointing to specific parts:
- **function name**: points to `myFunction`
- **arguments**: points to `(q1, q2)`

Note: You need to pass an **argument** corresponding to every **parameter**.

Example

Now let's look at an example below:

```
<?php
//function with two parameters
function myFunction($num1, $num2)
{
    echo "The value assigned to num1 is $num1\n";
    echo "The value assigned to num2 is $num2";
}
//calling function and passing arguments to it
myFunction(3, 4);
?>
```



Explanation

As you can see above, the value of the *first argument*, **3**, is assigned to **num1** and the value of *second argument*, **4**, is assigned to **num2**. The function **myFunction** then displays both of these values on the console.

In the next lesson, we will discuss the different methods of passing a parameter to a function.