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## CentOS / Red Hat Linux Install PHP 5.x PECL Filter Extension

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**Q.** How do I install filter extension for safely dealing with input parameters supplied via a web form using filter\_var()?

**A.** This extension is part of PHP Core version 5.2.0 and above. Unfortunately, RHEL / CentOS comes with PHP version 5.1.6. So you need to install this extension by typing the following commands.



### Install php-devel

You need to install php-devel to compile php extensions:

```
# yum install php-devel
```

### Download php source code

php\_pcre.h header file is not included with php source code 5.1.6, so you need php source code as well. Visit [php.net](http://php.net) to grab latest version and store to /opt directory. Use lynx and elinks:

```
# cd /opt
# elinks http://www.php.net/get/php-5.2.6.tar.bz2/from/a/mirror
```

Save php source to code to disk. Next, extract source code:

```
# tar -jxvf php-5.2.6.tar.bz2
```

### Download filter extension

Visit [pecl extension](#) [3] to grab latest source code for filter:

```
# cd /opt
# wget http://pecl.php.net/get/filter-0.11.0.tgz
```

### Install filter extension

Unrar file:

```
# tar -jxvf filter-0.11.0.tgz
# cd filter-0.11.0
```

Open logical\_filters.c file:

```
# vi logical_filters.c
```

Find line that read as follows:

```
#include "ext/pcre/php_pcre.h"
```

Change to (the absolute path of php\_pcre.h is required):

```
#include "/opt/php-5.2.6/ext/pcre/php_pcre.h"
```

Save and close the file. Finally, type the following commands to compile extension:

```
# phpize
```

```
# ./configure  
# make install
```

## Configure Filter Extension

Type the following command:

```
# echo 'extension=filter.so' > /etc/php.d/filter.ini
```

Restart httpd:

```
# service httpd restart
```

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[3] pecl extension: <http://pecl.php.net/package/filter>