PHP Functions: empty, isset, unset

By Dawn Grow

PHP : empty() function

Description: The empty() function is used to check whether a variable is empty or not.

Syntax: empty(var_name)

Return Value: FALSE if var_name has a non-empty and non-zero value.

Value Type : Boolean

List of empty things :
- "0" (0 as a string)
- 0 (0 as an integer)
- "" (an empty string) NULL
- FALSE
- "" (an empty string)
- array() (an empty array)
- $var_name; (a variable declared but without a value in a class)

PHP : empty examples

```php
<?php
$var1=0;
$strng1='Learning empty';
if (empty($var1))
{
echo '$var1'." is empty or 0. <br />";
}
else
{
echo '$var1'." is not empty or 0. <br />";
}
if (empty($strng1))
{
echo '$strng1'." is empty or 0. <br />";
}
else
{
echo '$strng1' ." string is not empty or 0. <br />";
}
?>
```

PHP : isset () function

Description: The isset () function is used to check whether a variable is set or not. If a variable is already unset with unset() function, it will no longer be set. The isset() function return false if testing variable contains a NULL value.

Syntax: isset(variable1, variable2......)

Return value: TRUE if variable (variable1,variable2..) exists and has value not equal to NULL, FALSE otherwise.

Value Type : Boolean.

PHP : isset examples

Example :
```php
<?php
$var1 = 'test';
var_dump(isset($var1));
?>
```

Output :
bool(true)

PHP : unset () function

Description
The unset() function destroys a given variable or a variable in an array.

Syntax
unset (var1, var2....)

Return value
No value is returned.

PHP : unset examples

Example 1 :
```php
<?php
$xyz="winner';
echo 'Before using unset() the value of $xys is : '. $xyz.'<br>';
unset($xyz);
echo 'After using unset() the value of $xys is : '. $xyz;
?>
```

Output :
Before using unset() the value of $xys is : winner
After using unset() the value of $xys is :

Example 2 :
```php
<?php
function destroy_variable()
{
unset($GLOBALS['winner']);
}
$winner='Php Tutorial';
destroy_variable();
echo $winner;
?>
```

Resources

- http://www.w3resource.com/php/function-reference/

- Murach's PHP and MySQL