

Ghalib University Computer Science Faculty

Web Engineering II

(PHP Forms & \$_GET & \$_POST)

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PHP Forms - \$_GET Super Global Array

- > The built-in \$_GET Super Global Array is used to collect values from a form sent with method="get".
- > Information sent from a form with the GET method is visible to everyone (it will be displayed in the browser's address bar) and has limits on the amount of information to send (max. 100 characters).

PHP Forms - \$_GET Super Global Array

```
<form action="welcome.php" method="get">  
Name: <input type="text" name="fname" />  
Age: <input type="text" name="age" />  
<input type="submit" />  
</form>
```

```
http://www.w3schools.com/welcome.php?fname=Peter&age=37
```

Notice how the URL carries the information after the file name.

```
Welcome <?php echo $_GET["fname"]; ?>.<br />  
You are <?php echo $_GET["age"]; ?> years old!
```

PHP Forms - \$_GET Super Global Array

The "welcome.php" file can now use the \$_GET function to collect form data (the names of the form fields will automatically be the keys in the \$_GET array)

```
Welcome <?php echo $_GET["fname"]; ?>.<br />
You are <?php echo $_GET["age"]; ?> years old!
```

PHP Forms - \$_GET Super Global Array

- > When using method="get" in HTML forms, all variable names and values are displayed in the URL.
- > This method should not be used when sending passwords or other sensitive information!
- > However, because the variables are displayed in the URL, it is possible to bookmark the page. This can be useful in some cases.
- > The get method is not suitable for large variable values; the value cannot exceed 100 chars.

PHP Forms - \$_POST Super Global Array

- > The built-in \$_POST Super Global Array is used to collect values from a form sent with method="post".
- > Information sent from a form with the POST method is invisible to others and has no limits on the amount of information to send.
- > Note: However, there is an 8 Mb max size for the POST method, by default (can be changed by setting the post_max_size in the php.ini file).

PHP Forms - \$_POST Super Global Array

```
<form action="action.php" method="post">
  <p>Your name: <input type="text" name="name" /></p>
  <p>Your age: <input type="text" name="age" /></p>
  <p><input type="submit" /></p>
</form>
```

And here is what the code of action.php might look like:

```
Hi <?php echo htmlspecialchars($_POST['name']); ?>.
You are <?php echo (int)$_POST['age']; ?> years old.
```

PHP Forms - \$_POST Super Global Array

Apart from **htmlspecialchars()** and **(int)**, it should be obvious what this does. **htmlspecialchars()** makes sure any characters that are special in html are properly encoded so people can't inject HTML tags or Javascript into your page.

For the age field, since we know it is a number, we can just convert it to an integer which will automatically get rid of any stray characters. The **\$_POST['name']** and **\$_POST['age']** variables are automatically set for you by PHP.

PHP Forms - \$_POST Super Global Array

When to use `method="post"`?

- > Information sent from a form with the **POST** method is invisible to others and has no limits on the amount of information to send.
- > However, because the variables are not displayed in the URL, it is not possible to bookmark the page.



Any Question??



Please write your questions and suggestions on the group!