

Useful tools pt. 1

Length of a string

- Check how many characters is in a string

```
<?php
$string = "Hello, world!";
$length = strlen($string);

echo "The length of the string is: " . $length;
// Output: The length of the string is: 13
?>
```

Accessing individual characters in a string

- Like Python, you can treat a string in a variable as an array and access specific characters.

```
<?php
$string = "Hello";

echo $string[0]; // Outputs: H
echo $string[1]; // Outputs: e
echo $string[4]; // Outputs: o
?>
```

Check for Uppercase

- Use preg_match
- Returns True if A – Z in cap is featured in the string
false if not.

```
function hasUppercase($string) {  
    if (preg_match('/[A-Z]/', $string)) {  
        return true;  
    } else {  
        return false;  
    }  
}
```

Check for lowercase

- Use preg_match
- Returns True if a - z in cap is featured in the string if not.

```
function hasLowercase($string) {  
    if (preg_match('/[a-z]/', $string)) {  
        return true;  
    } else {  
        return false;  
    }  
}
```

Check for a digit

- Use preg_match
- Returns True if 0 – 9 in cap is featured in the string false if not.

```
function hasNumber($string) {  
    // The regular expression '/[0-9]/' or '/\d/' checks for any digit  
    if (preg_match('/[0-9]/', $string)) {  
        return true;  
    } else {  
        return false;  
    }  
}
```

If a string exists in another string

- use `str_contains` to look for a substring inside another string.

```
if(str_contains($_SESSION['msg'], needle: "ERROR")){  
    $msg = "<div id='error'> USER MESSAGE: ". $_SESSION['msg']. "</div>";  
}  
else {  
    $msg = "<div id='umsg'> USER MESSAGE: ". $_SESSION['msg']. "</div>";  
}
```

Looking for a special character

- Again use preg_match
- It whitelists and looks for anything not in the list g (green text)

```
function hasSpecialCharacter($string) {  
    if (preg_match('/[^a-zA-Z0-9_]/', $string)) {  
        return true; // Found a character that is not a letter, num  
    } else {  
        return false;  
    }  
}
```