

PHP for Beginners - Session 10

Separate Logic From the Template

In this session, we learn how to separate the PHP logic from the HTML template for cleaner and maintainable code.

1. Problem with Mixed Logic and View:

- Having PHP data logic and HTML presentation in the same file makes it harder to manage.

2. Separation of Concerns:

- Move logic (data definition and filtering) into one file.
- Keep only presentation in another file.

3. Structure:

- index.php:

```
<?php
$books = [...]; // data array
$filteredBooks = array_filter($books, function($book) {
    return $book['releaseYear'] >= 1950 && $book['releaseYear'] <= 2020;
});
require 'index.view.php';
```

- index.view.php:

```
<ul>
<?php foreach ($filteredBooks as $book): ?>
<li>
    <a href="<?= $book['purchaseUrl'] ?>">
        <?= $book['name']; ?> (<?= $book['releaseYear'] ?>) - By <?= $book['author'] ?>
    </a>
</li>
<?php endforeach; ?>
```

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4. Benefits:

- index.php focuses only on preparing the data.
- index.view.php focuses only on displaying the data.

5. "Views should be dumb":

- Views should not contain logic, database queries, or control flow.
- This keeps them maintainable and readable.

6. Editor Tips:

- If your editor shows warnings about undefined variables, it's just an IDE setting.
- The PHP code works fine due to require/include mechanism.

7. Summary:

- Use one file for logic (controller) and one for display (view).
- Makes it easier to scale and manage as your application grows.