

5.6 Cookies

Cookies are small tidbits of information that you save on the **client's computer** so that you can access them next time they visit the website.

1. Cookies Usage

- To store username/password information so that the user doesn't have to log in every time they visit the website ("remember me" sign ins).
- To simply remember the user's name.
- To keep track of a user's progress during a specified process.
- To remember a user's theme etc.

2. Playing around with Cookies (Examples)

2.a. Setting new cookie

```
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<?php

$valid_duration = 86400; // 1 day

setcookie("first_name", "Ram Prasad", time()+$valid_duration);

/*name is your cookie's name

value is cookie's value

$int is time of cookie expires*/

?>
```

2.b. Getting Cookie

```
=====

<?php

echo $_COOKIE["first_name"];

?>
```

2.c. Updating Cookie

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```
<?php
setcookie("color","red");
echo $_COOKIE["color"];
/*color is red*/
/* your codes and functions*/
setcookie("color","blue");
echo $_COOKIE["color"];
/*new color is blue*/
?>
```

2.d. Deleting Cookie

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```
<?php
unset($_COOKIE["yourcookie"]);
/*Or*/
setcookie("yourcookie","yourvalue",time()-1);
/*it expired so it's deleted*/
?>
```

References:

<http://php.net/manual/en/features.cookies.php>

http://www.w3schools.com/php/php_cookies.asp