

## List of Keywords

These words have special meaning in PHP. Some of them represent things which look like functions, some look like constants, and so on - but they're not, really: they are language constructs. You cannot use any of the following words as constants, class names, function or method names. Using them as variable names is generally OK, but could lead to confusion.

As of PHP 7.0.0 these keywords are allowed as property, constant, and method names of classes, interfaces and traits, except that *class* may not be used as constant name.

| PHP Keywords                      |   |  |                            |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">__halt_compiler()</a> | <a href="#">abstract</a>                  | <a href="#">and</a>                        | <a href="#">array()</a>    | <a href="#">as</a>                    |
| <a href="#">break</a>             | <a href="#">callable</a> (as of PHP 5.4)  | <a href="#">case</a>                       | <a href="#">catch</a>      | <a href="#">class</a>                 |
| <a href="#">clone</a>             | <a href="#">const</a>                     | <a href="#">continue</a>                   | <a href="#">declare</a>    | <a href="#">default</a>               |
| <a href="#">die()</a>             | <a href="#">do</a>                        | <a href="#">echo</a>                       | <a href="#">else</a>       | <a href="#">elseif</a>                |
| <a href="#">empty()</a>           | <a href="#">enddeclare</a>                | <a href="#">endfor</a>                     | <a href="#">endforeach</a> | <a href="#">endif</a>                 |
| <a href="#">endswitch</a>         | <a href="#">endwhile</a>                  | <a href="#">eval()</a>                     | <a href="#">exit()</a>     | <a href="#">extends</a>               |
| <a href="#">final</a>             | <a href="#">finally</a> (as of PHP 5.5)   | <a href="#">for</a>                        | <a href="#">foreach</a>    | <a href="#">function</a>              |
| <a href="#">global</a>            | <a href="#">goto</a> (as of PHP 5.3)      | <a href="#">if</a>                         | <a href="#">implements</a> | <a href="#">include</a>               |
| <a href="#">include_once</a>      | <a href="#">instanceof</a>                | <a href="#">insteadof</a> (as of PHP 5.4)  | <a href="#">interface</a>  | <a href="#">isset()</a>               |
| <a href="#">list()</a>            | <a href="#">namespace</a> (as of PHP 5.3) | <a href="#">new</a>                        | <a href="#">or</a>         | <a href="#">print</a>                 |
| <a href="#">private</a>           | <a href="#">protected</a>                 | <a href="#">public</a>                     | <a href="#">require</a>    | <a href="#">require_once</a>          |
| <a href="#">return</a>            | <a href="#">static</a>                    | <a href="#">switch</a>                     | <a href="#">throw</a>      | <a href="#">trait</a> (as of PHP 5.4) |
| <a href="#">try</a>               | <a href="#">unset()</a>                   | <a href="#">use</a>                        | <a href="#">var</a>        | <a href="#">while</a>                 |
| <a href="#">xor</a>               | <a href="#">yield</a> (as of PHP 5.5)     | <a href="#">yield from</a> (as of PHP 7.0) |                            |                                       |

| Compile-time constants                        |   |                          |                              |                          |                            |
|---|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <a href="#">__CLASS__</a>                     | <a href="#">__DIR__</a> (as of PHP 5.3)   | <a href="#">__FILE__</a> | <a href="#">__FUNCTION__</a> | <a href="#">__LINE__</a> | <a href="#">__METHOD__</a> |
| <a href="#">__NAMESPACE__</a> (as of PHP 5.3) | <a href="#">__TRAIT__</a> (as of PHP 5.4) |                          |                              |                          |                            |

User Contributed Notes

4 notes

+ add a note

▲ 37 ▼ martindilling at gmail dot com

6 years ago

RegEx to find all the keywords:

```
\b(
(a(bstract|nd|rray|s)))|
(c(a(llable|se|tch)|l(ass|one)|on(st|tinue)))|
(d(e(clare|fault)|ie|o))|
(e(cho|lse(if)?|mpty|nd(declare|for(each)?|if|switch|while)|val|x(it|tends)))|
(f(inal|or(each)?|unction))|
(g(lobal|oto))|
(i(f|mplements|n(clude(_once)?|st(anceof|eadof)|terface)|sset))|
(n(amespace|ew))|
(p(r(i(nt|vate)|otected)|ublic))|
(re(quire(_once)?|turn))|
(s(tatic|witch))|
(t(hrow|r(ait|y))))|
(u(nset|se))|
(__halt_compiler|break|list|(x)?or|var|while)
)\b
```

▲ 16 ▼ Thomas Hansen

3 years ago

Please note that reserved words are still not allowed to be used as namespace or as part of it:

```
<?php
namespace MyNameSpace\List;

class Test
{
}
?>
```

This will fail with a Parse error: syntax error, unexpected 'List' (T\_LIST), expecting identifier (T\_STRING)

▲ 23 ▼ Chris

7 years ago

Here they are as arrays:

```
<?php
$keywords = array('__halt_compiler', 'abstract', 'and', 'array', 'as', 'break', 'callable',
'case', 'catch', 'class', 'clone', 'const', 'continue', 'declare', 'default', 'die', 'do',
'echo', 'else', 'elseif', 'empty', 'enddeclare', 'endfor', 'endforeach', 'endif', 'endswitch',
'endwhile', 'eval', 'exit', 'extends', 'final', 'for', 'foreach', 'function', 'global', 'goto',
'if', 'implements', 'include', 'include_once', 'instanceof', 'insteadof', 'interface', 'isset',
'list', 'namespace', 'new', 'or', 'print', 'private', 'protected', 'public', 'require',
'require_once', 'return', 'static', 'switch', 'throw', 'trait', 'try', 'unset', 'use', 'var',
'while', 'xor');

$predefined_constants = array('__CLASS__', '__DIR__', '__FILE__', '__FUNCTION__', '__LINE__',
'__METHOD__', '__NAMESPACE__', '__TRAIT__');
?>
```

Along with `get_defined_functions()` and `get_defined_constants()`, this can be useful for checking `eval()` statements.

▲ -14 ▼ bla at taxistop dot be

1 year ago

This list doesn't include 'self' and 'parent', which I take are indeed keywords.

+ add a note

## List of Reserved Words

- » List of Keywords
- Predefined Classes
- Predefined Constants
- List of other reserved words