

IT2082 – WEB TECHNOLOGIES

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT



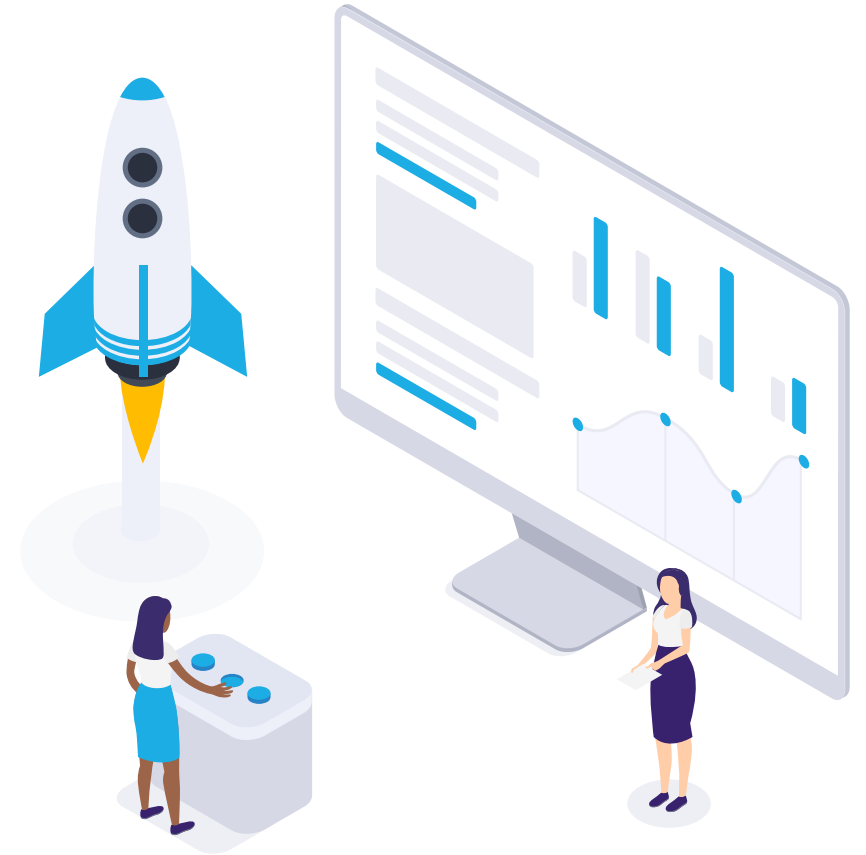
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Learning Objectives

1. Link two php pages
2. Setting up sessions and cookies



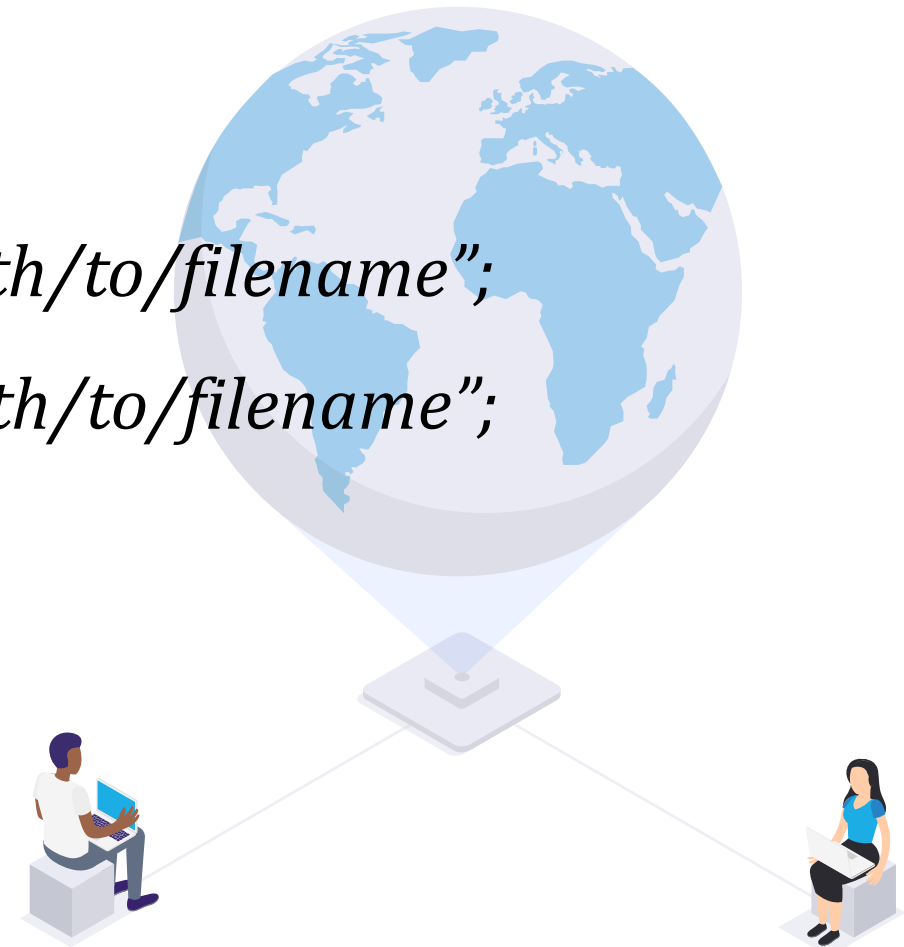
FILE INCLUSION



File Inclusion

- ▶ Can include the content of a PHP file into another PHP file before the server executes it.
- ▶ Syntax

include ("path/to/filename"); --or-- include "path/to/filename";
require ("path/to/filename"); --or-- require "path/to/filename";



include() vs require()

- ▶ The `include()` will generate a warning if the included file can't be found.
- ▶ But `require()` will generate a fatal error and stop the script execution if the file cannot be found.

Example

```
<html>
```

```
<head></head>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<?php include "header.php"; ?>
```

```
<?php include "menu.php"; ?>
```

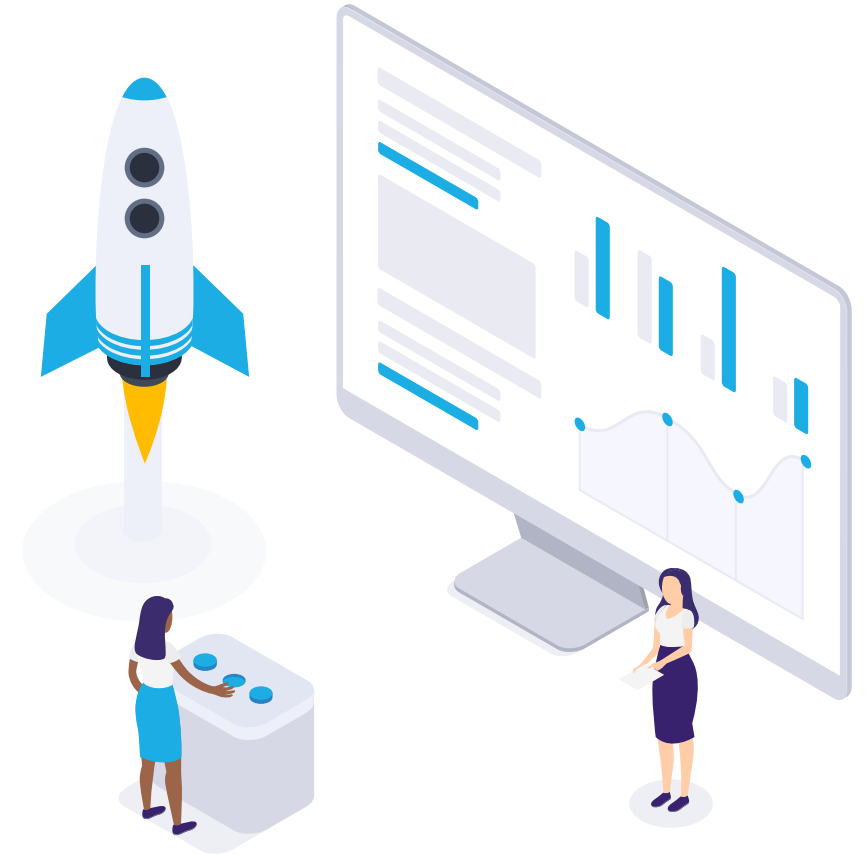
```
<h1> Welcome</h1>
```

```
<?php include "footer.php"; ?>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

COOKIES



Cookies

- ▶ Text files stored on the client computer.
- ▶ Usually set in an HTTP header.
- ▶ Steps in identifying returning users;
 - ▶ Sends a set of cookies to the browser.
 - ▶ Browser stores this information on local machine for future use.
 - ▶ Next time browser sends any request to web server then it sends those cookies information to the server and server uses that information to identify the user.

Setting a Cookie in PHP

► Syntax:

`setcookie (name, value, expire, path, domain, secure);`

Parameter	Description
name	Name of the cookie
value	Value of the cookie
expires	Expiry date in UNIX timestamp format. Default value is 0
path	Path on the server for which the cookie will be available.
domain	Domain for which the cookie is available
secure	Indicates that the cookie should be sent only if HTTPS connection exists.

Example

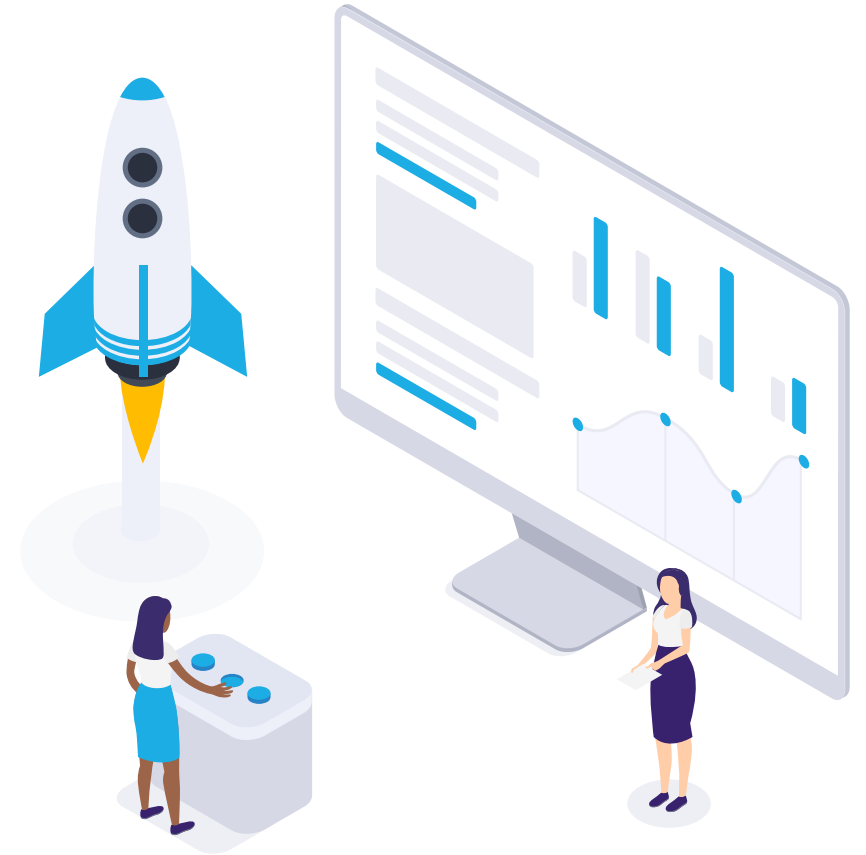
```
<?php
```

```
// Setting a cookie
```

```
setcookie("username", "John Carter", time()+30*24*60*60);
```

```
?>
```

SESSIONS



Sessions

- ▶ Stores data on the server rather than user's computer.
- ▶ Every user is identified through a unique number called session identifier (SID).
- ▶ When a session is stated;
 - ▶ php creates a SID for that particular session.
 - ▶ A cookie called **PHPSESSID** is automatically sent to the user's computer to store unique session identification string.
 - ▶ A file is automatically created on the server in the designated temporary directory and bears the name of the unique identifier.

Starting a Session

```
<?php
```

```
// Starting session
```

```
session_start();
```

```
?>
```

Storing and Accessing Session Data

```
<?php
```

```
// Starting session
```

```
session_start();
```

```
// Storing session data
```

```
$_SESSION["firstname"] = "Peter";
```

```
$_SESSION["lastname"] = "Parker";
```

```
?>
```

Destroying a Session

```
<?php
// Starting session
session_start();

// Removing session data
if(isset($_SESSION["lastname"])){
unset($_SESSION["lastname"]);
}
?>
```

```
<?php
// Starting session
session_start();

// Destroying session
session_destroy();
?>
```

Cookies vs Sessions

Cookies	Sessions
Stored in browser as text file format.	Stored in server side
Store limited amount of data	Store unlimited amount of data
Only allowing 4KB	Holding multiple variable in sessions
Accessing the cookies values is easy.	Cannot access the session values easily
Less secure	More secure
Can set expire time to destroy	Using session_destroy(), can destroy a session
	session_start() function must be the very first thing on the document.

Thank you!

Any Questions?

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