



Class 6

# PHP 7

**BY:**

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One of the biggest changes in PHP 7 is that the **mysql\_\*** are now removed. But it doesn't affect us because we should use PDO to manipulate a database.

For us, some features will be useful like the followings:

## NULL COALESCE OPERATOR

It's useful to check the existence of a variable, like we do it with values from `$_GET` and `$_POST` using **isset** function.

This line:

```
1. $email = $_POST['email'] ?? 'default value';
```

Represent this:

```
1. $email = isset($_POST['email']) ? $_POST['email'] : 'default value ';
```

## SCALAR TYPES

As of PHP 7, we can use other types as well: int, float, string and bool and we can define the return type.

With this:

```
1. function functionName() : type {
2. // code
3. }
4.
5. function sum($x, $y) : float
6. {
7.     return $x + $y + 1.5;
8. }
```

## SPACESHIP OPERATOR <=>

The spaceship operator, or Combined Comparison Operator, is a nice addition to the language, complementing the greater-than and less-than operators.

```
1. var_dump(2 <=> 3); // return -1
2. var_dump(2 <=> 2); // return 0
3. var_dump(2 <=> 1); // return 1
```

That is, the operator `<=>` return one of this three values:

- -1 when the first operand is less than the second
- 0 when both are equals
- 1 when the second operand is bigger than the first