



[PHP.earth](#)

Search PHP.earth

[Docs](#) [Conduct](#) [Contributors](#) [FB Group](#)

[Home](#) [Docs](#) [Security](#)

How to protect and hide PHP source code?

How to protect and hide PHP source code?

1 min read · Last change June 15, 2017

In the time of open-source there are multiple benefits of making your code available to all. However when deploying or selling your PHP code to a client you might want to protect and hide it because of different business reasons or security.

There are multiple approaches to check based on the use cases:

- [Obfuscation](#) - makes code difficult to read by a human in order to hide its logic or purpose. In most cases the reverse-engineering of such code is still possible so obfuscation doesn't provide proper code protection if you need it.
- [SaaS - Software as a service](#) is code licensing approach where the code is accessed from a server based on licenses and subscriptions to enabled users. Consider this kind of way if you want to make sure that the code is not available to end-users or that it is used only on request.
- License agreements and contracts are the usual approach to make agreements between coders with clients.

See also

- [PHP Encoder by ionCube](#) - Proprietary PHP encoder.
- [Zend Guard](#) - Proprietary protector of applications with PHP encoding

[Star](#)

[223](#)

[Edit](#)

[Report a bug](#)

Security

[How to secure PHP web applications and prevent attacks?](#) [How to work with users' passwords and how to securely hash passwords in PHP?](#) [What is SQL injection and how to prevent it?](#) [How to securely upload files with PHP?](#) [Configuration in PHP applications](#) [How to protect and hide PHP source code?](#) [How to install an SSL certificate and enable HTTPS?](#) [Encryption, hashing, encoding and obfuscation](#)

Found a typo? Something wrong with this content?

Just [fork and edit it](#).

Content of this work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-SA 4.0) license. Code snippets in examples are published under the CC0 1.0 Universal (CC0 1.0). Thanks to all [contributors](#).

About PHP.earth

[Sitemap](#) [Team](#) [Get Involved](#) [Status](#)

PHP.earth documentation

[Index](#) [PHP installation wizard](#) [FAQ](#) [<?php tips](#)

Community

[Facebook Group](#) [GitHub](#) [Slack](#) [Twitter](#)