PHP Study Guide

# 1. Introduction to PHP

## What is PHP?

Definition: PHP is a server-side scripting language designed for web development.

Use: Used to create dynamic web pages and interact with databases.

Features:

* • Open-source and free to use
* • Supports a wide range of databases
* • Embedded within HTML
* • Cross-platform support

Example:

<?php echo "Hello, World!"; ?>

## What Can PHP Do?

Definition: PHP can generate dynamic page content, manage files on the server, and interact with databases.

Use: Commonly used to build dynamic websites, e-commerce systems, and web applications.

Features:

* • Read/write files on server
* • Send/receive cookies
* • Collect form data
* • Add/delete database records

Example:

<?php $name = $\_POST["name"]; echo "Welcome, $name"; ?>

## PHP vs Other Languages

Definition: Comparison of PHP with other popular languages like Python, JavaScript, etc.

Use: Choose PHP when you need rapid deployment and built-in web capabilities.

Features:

* • Easier to learn and deploy
* • Great integration with HTML
* • Wider web hosting support

Example:

PHP: <?php echo "Hi"; ?> vs Python: print("Hi")