

PHP Switch...Case Statements

In this tutorial you will learn how to use the switch-case statement to test or evaluate an expression with different values in PHP.

PHP If...Else Vs Switch...Case

The switch-case statement is an alternative to the if-elseif-else statement, which does almost the same thing. The switch-case statement tests a variable against a series of values until it finds a match, and then executes the block of code corresponding to that match.

```
switch(n){
    case label1:
        // Code to be executed if n=label1
        break;
    case label2:
        // Code to be executed if n=label2
        break;
    ...
    default:
        // Code to be executed if n is different from all labels
}
```

Consider the following example, which display a different message for each day.

Example	Run this code »
<pre><?php \$today = date("D"); switch(\$today){ case "Mon": echo "Today is Monday. Clean your house."; break; case "Tue": echo "Today is Tuesday. Buy some food."; break; case "Wed": echo "Today is Wednesday. Visit a doctor."; break; case "Thu": echo "Today is Thursday. Repair your car."; </pre>	

```
        break;
    case "Fri":
        echo "Today is Friday. Party tonight.";
        break;
    case "Sat":
        echo "Today is Saturday. Its movie time.";
        break;
    case "Sun":
        echo "Today is Sunday. Do some rest.";
        break;
    default:
        echo "No information available for that day.";
        break;
}
?>
```

The `switch-case` statement differs from the `if-elseif-else` statement in one important way. The `switch` statement executes line by line (i.e. statement by statement) and once PHP finds a `case` statement that evaluates to true, it's not only executes the code corresponding to that case statement, but also executes all the subsequent `case` statements till the end of the `switch` block automatically.

To prevent this add a `break` statement to the end of each `case` block. The `break` statement tells PHP to break out of the `switch-case` statement block once it executes the code associated with the first true case.