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`apply_filters( string $hook_name, mixed $value, mixed $args ): mixed`

Calls the callback functions that have been added to a filter hook.

### Description

This function invokes all functions attached to filter hook `$hook_name`.

It is possible to create new filter hooks by simply calling this function, specifying the name of the new hook using the `$hook_name` parameter.

The function also allows for multiple additional arguments to be passed to hooks.

Example usage:

wp-includes/plugin.php

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```
// The filter callback function.
function example_callback( $string, $arg1, $arg2 ) {
    // (maybe) modify $string.
    return $string;
}
add_filter( 'example_filter', 'example_callback', 10, 3 );

/*
 * Apply the filters by calling the 'example_callback()' function
 * that's hooked onto `example_filter` above.
 *
 * - 'example_filter' is the filter hook.
 * - 'filter me' is the value being filtered.
```

### Parameters

`$hook_name`**string**required

The name of the filter hook.

`$value`**mixed**required

The value to filter.

`$args`**mixed**optional

Additional parameters to pass to the callback functions.

Return

**mixed** The filtered value after all hooked functions are applied to it.

Source

wp-includes/plugin.php

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```
function apply_filters( $hook_name, $value, ...$args ) {
    global $wp_filter, $wp_filters, $wp_current_filter;

    if ( ! isset( $wp_filters[ $hook_name ] ) ) {
        $wp_filters[ $hook_name ] = 1;
    } else {
        ++$wp_filters[ $hook_name ];
    }

    // Do 'all' actions first.
    if ( isset( $wp_filter['all'] ) ) {
        $wp_current_filter[] = $hook_name;
    }
}
```

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Changelog

Version	Description
<a href="#">6.0.0</a>	Formalized the existing and already documented ...\$args parameter by adding it to the function

signature.

[0.71](#)

Introduced.

## User Contributed Notes

Codex9 years ago

^ 15 v

Echo after Filtering

Copy

```
echo apply_filters( $tag, $value );
```

Get Filtered

Copy

```
$myvar = apply_filters( $tag, $value );
```

Additional Filter Arguments

Copy

```
$myvar = apply_filters( $tag, $value, $param, $otherparam );
```

For example:

Copy

```
$myvar = apply_filters( 'example_filter', 'filter me', 'arg1', 'arg2 ' );
```

With the\_title filter

Copy

```
$my_custom_title = apply_filters('the_title', ' My Custom Title (tm) ');  
$my_custom_title will now contain 'My Custom Title ™', since the_title filter applies wptexturize()
```

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icc977 years ago

^ 13 v

One fundamental argument that is easy to miss is specifying the number of arguments. Most filters have only one argument and so people drop the argument from `add_filter` .

The `3` , below is very important.

Copy

```
add_filter( 'example_filter', 'example_callback', 10, 3 );
```

`add_filter( 'example_title', 'example_callback', 10, 3 ),`

Otherwise you get the following error, such as this StackOverflow

question(<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/24198086/missing-argument-2-for-the-function-in-wordpress>):

```
Missing argument 2 for example_callback()
```

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Dave Gaskin5 years ago

^ 12 v

Something that is not obvious from reading this function's definition and description is that if

```
add_filter( 'filter_name', 'filter_function' ) is never called/executed in code, the use of  
apply_filters( 'filter_name', $value ) will return the value of $value by default.
```

I noticed a call to `apply_filters( 'my_filter', ... )` in my theme's `functions.php` file and couldn't find a similar `add_filter( 'my_filter', ... )` call anywhere else and was confused about this (I'm still wrapping my head around filters/hooks).

More detail on this can be seen in the example found on this page: <https://docs.presscustomizr.com/article/26-wordpress-actions-filters-and-hooks-a-guide-for-non-developers> at the section about Filters.

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Jilani Ahmed8 months ago

^ 0 v

If someone would like to give permission to other developers to change their plugin or theme function value without touching the core code then should use `apply_filters`

For example –

Copy

```
$value = 'Hello world!';  
echo apply_filters( 'wpdocs_hook_name', $value, $arg1, $arg2 ); // You can pass arguments also
```

Now how 3rd party developer will work using this hook name? Using the `add_filter` developer can change the `$value` variable. Please follow below –

Copy

```
function wpdocs_func_name( $value, $arg1, $arg2 ) {  
    return 'Hi Jack!';  
}  
add_filter( 'wpdocs_hook_name', 'wpdocs_func_name', 10, 3 ); // Must specify the arguments number i
```

Now the result will show “Hi Jack!” instead of “Hello world!” and it has changed the `$value` variable dynamically without touching the core file.

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The second line in the description is technically incorrect:

“It is possible to create new filter hooks by simply calling this function...”

`apply_filters` doesn't create filter hooks. Read for <https://stackoverflow.com/q/72161547/3429430> details

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CODE IS POETRY

