



Search resources



```
add_filter( string $hook_name, callable $callback, int $priority = 10,
int $accepted_args = 1 ): true
```

Adds a callback function to a filter hook.

### Description

WordPress offers filter hooks to allow plugins to modify various types of internal data at runtime.

A plugin can modify data by binding a callback to a filter hook. When the filter is later applied, each bound callback is run in order of priority, and given the opportunity to modify a value by returning a new value.

The following example shows how a callback function is bound to a filter hook.

Note that `$example` is passed to the callback, (maybe) modified, then returned:

wp-includes/plugin.php

[Copy](#)

```
function example_callback( $example ) {
    // Maybe modify $example in some way.
    return $example;
}
add_filter( 'example_filter', 'example_callback' );
```

Bound callbacks can accept from none to the total number of arguments passed as parameters in the corresponding [apply\\_filters\(\)](#) call.

In other words, if an [apply\\_filters\(\)](#) call passes four total arguments, callbacks bound to it can accept none (the same as 1) of the arguments or up to four. The important part is that the `$accepted_args` value must reflect the number of arguments the bound callback actually opted to accept. If no arguments were accepted by the callback that is considered to be the same as accepting 1 argument. For example:

wp-includes/plugin.php

[Expand code](#)[Copy](#)

```
// Filter call.
$value = apply_filters( 'hook', $value, $arg2, $arg3 );

// Accepting zero/one arguments.
function example_callback() {
    ...
```

```

        return 'some value';
    }
    add_filter( 'hook', 'example_callback' ); // Where $priority is default 10, $accepted_args is default 1
    // Accepting two arguments (three possible).
    function example_callback( $value, $arg2 ) {
        ...
    }

```

\_Note:\_ The function will return true whether or not the callback is valid.

It is up to you to take care. This is done for optimization purposes, so everything is as quick as possible.

## Parameters

**\$hook\_name**[string](#)[required](#)

The name of the filter to add the callback to.

**\$callback**[callable](#)[required](#)

The callback to be run when the filter is applied.

**\$priority**[int](#)[optional](#)

Used to specify the order in which the functions associated with a particular filter are executed.

Lower numbers correspond with earlier execution, and functions with the same priority are executed in the order in which they were added to the filter.

Default: 10

**\$accepted\_args**[int](#)[optional](#)

The number of arguments the function accepts.

Default: 1

## Return

[true](#) Always returns true.

## More Information

- Hooked functions can take extra arguments that are set when the matching [do\\_action\(\)](#) or [apply\\_filters\(\)](#) call is run. For example, the [comment\\_id\\_not\\_found](#) action will pass the comment ID to each callback.
- Although you can pass the number of `$accepted_args`, you can only manipulate the `$value`. The other arguments are only to provide context, and their values cannot be changed by the filter function.
- You can also pass a class method as a callback.

Static class method:

wp-includes/plugin.php

Copy

```
add_filter( 'media_upload_newtab', array( 'My_Class', 'media_upload_callback' ) );
```

Instance method:

wp-includes/plugin.php

Copy

```
add_filter( 'media_upload_newtab', array( $this, 'media_upload_callback' ) );
```

- You can also pass an an anonymous function as a callback. For example:

wp-includes/plugin.php

Copy

```
add_filter( 'the_title', function( $title ) { return '<strong>' . $title . '</strong>'; } );
```

## Source

wp-includes/plugin.php

Copy

```
function add_filter( $hook_name, $callback, $priority = 10, $accepted_args = 1 ) {
    global $wp_filter;

    if ( ! isset( $wp_filter[ $hook_name ] ) ) {
        $wp_filter[ $hook_name ] = new WP_Hook();
    }

    $wp_filter[ $hook_name ]->add_filter( $hook_name, $callback, $priority, $accepted_args );

    return true;
}
```

[View all references](#) · [View on Trac](#) · [View on GitHub](#)

## Related

### Used by

[wp\\_font\\_dir\(\)](#)

wp-includes/fonts.php

[WP\\_Block\\_Bindings\\_Registry::register\(\)](#)

wp-includes/class-wp-block-bindings-registry.php

[wp\\_interactivity\\_process\\_directives\\_of\\_interactive\\_blocks\(\)](#)

wp-includes/interactivity-api/interactivity-api.php

[inject\\_ignored\\_hooked\\_blocks\\_metadata\\_attributes\(\)](#)

wp-includes/block-template-utils.php

[WP\\_REST\\_Font\\_Faces\\_Controller::handle\\_font\\_file\\_upload\(\)](#)

wp-includes/rest-api/endpoints/class-wp-rest-font-faces-controller.php

[Show 113 more](#)

## Changelog

### Version

### Description

[0.71](#)

Introduced.

## User Contributed Notes

Nagdy7 years ago

^ 12 v

Example: Let's add extra sections to TwentySeventeen Front page.

By default, TwentySeventeen theme has 4 sections for the front page. This example will make them 6

Copy

```
add_filter( 'twentyseventeen_front_page_sections', 'prefix_custom_front_page_sections' );

function prefix_custom_front_page_sections( $num_sections )
{
    return 6;
}
```

[Log in to add feedback](#)

mkormendy4 years ago

^ 6 v

To pass a variable to the called function of the filter, you can use closures (since PHP 5.3+) when the argument is not available in the original coded `apply_filters`. For example:

Copy

```
add_filter('wp_footer', function($arguments) use ($myvar) {
    return $myvar;
}, $priority_integer, $accepted_arguments_integer);
```

[Log in to add feedback](#)

Rinku Y8 years ago

^ 2 v

Example: Let display custom length of post excerpt.

Copy

```
if( ! function_exists( 'prefix_custom_excerpt_length' ) )
{
    function prefix_custom_excerpt_length( $length )
    {
        return 40;
    }
}
add_filter( 'excerpt_length', 'prefix_custom_excerpt_length', 999 );
```

By default, WordPress display 57 character. you can set custom length using above code. this time except length will be 40. it is a nice and easiest use of `add_filter`.

[Log in to add feedback](#)

Xaib Aslam4 years ago

^ 1 v

Example: If you want to inject a CLASS/ID CSS in content. Let's add extra CLASS/ID to post content.

Copy

```
//Add Class/ID to Post Content
add_filter('the_content', 'xai_my_class');
function xai_my_class($content)
{
    //Replace the instance with the Class/ID markup.
    $string = '<ul'; //your tag
    $replace = '<ul class="detail-list"'; //add your class/id and tag
    $content = str_replace( $string, $replace, $content );
    return $content;
}
```

[Log in to add feedback](#)

biziclop3 years ago

^ 1 v

In the special case you have to add a filter before WordPress starts, you can create and pre-populate the global `$wp_filter` array instead of using the not-yet available `add_filter` (or `add_action`) function:

Copy

```
// Instead of add_filter( $tag, $function_to_add, $priority = 10, $accepted_args = 1 ):
$GLOBALS['wp_filter'][ $tag ][ $priority ][] = array(
    'function'      => $function_to_add,
    'accepted_args' => $accepted_args
);
```

`WP_Hook::build_preinitialized_hooks` will automatically take care of the rest.

Though to remove your filter, you can only use the [remove\\_all\\_filters\(\)](#) function.

[Log in to add feedback](#)

adiant4 years ago

^ 0 v

The Callback `$function_to_add` need not be defined until the Filter hook fires. This means that:

1. The `add_filter` function does not check that `$function_to_add` exists
2. The `function` statement for `$function_to_add` can be defined after the `add_filter` statement, even in a conditional (e.g. – `if` block) where the `$function_to_add` function does not actually exist until after the `add_filter` function executes
3. If the Filter hook never fires, an undefined `$function_to_add` function will not be reported as an error

Point 3 needs to be considered during Testing or Quality Control

An undefined \$function\_to\_add function detected when a Filter hook fires is reported as a Warning error:

Warning: call\_user\_func\_array() expects parameter 1 to be a valid callback, function 'reg\_public1' not found or invalid function name in /var/www/example.com/public\_html/wp-includes/class-wp-hook.php on line 288

[Log in to add feedback](#)

Codex9 years ago

^ -5 v

### Example

The filter `img_caption_shortcode` is applied in `media.php` using the following call:

Copy

```
// Allow plugins/themes to override the default caption template.
$output = apply_filters( 'img_caption_shortcode', '', $attr, $content );
if ( $output != '' )
    return $output;
```

The target filter function will be called with three arguments:

" <= This is normally the value the filter will be modifying

\$attr

\$content

In order for the filter function to actually receive the full argument list, the call to `add_filter()` must be modified to specify there are 3 arguments on the parameter list.

Expand code

Copy

```
add_filter('img_caption_shortcode', 'my_img_caption_shortcode_filter',10,3);

/**
 * Filter to replace the shortcode text with HTML5 compliant code
 *
 * @return text HTML content describing embedded figure
 */
function my_img_caption_shortcode_filter($val, $attr, $content = null)
{
    extract( shortcode_atts( array(
        'id'      => '',
        'align'   => '',
        'width'   => '',
        'caption' => ''
    ), $attr, $content ) );
    $output = $caption;
    return $output;
}
```

[Log in to add feedback](#)

You must [log in](#) before being able to contribute a note or feedback.

[About](#)  
[News](#)  
[Hosting](#)  
[Privacy](#)  
[Showcase](#)  
[Themes](#)  
[Plugins](#)  
[Patterns](#)  
[Learn](#)  
[Documentation](#)  
[Developers](#)  
[WordPress.tv ↗](#)  
[Get Involved](#)  
[Events](#)  
[Donate ↗](#)  
[Swag Store ↗](#)  
[WordPress.com ↗](#)

[Matt ↗](#)  
[bbPress ↗](#)  
[BuddyPress ↗](#)



CODE IS POETRY

