



The flexible, fast, and secure  
template engine for PHP

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## extends ¶

The extends tag can be used to extend a template from another one.

Like PHP, Twig does not support multiple inheritance. So you can only have one extends tag called per rendering. However, Twig supports horizontal [reuse](#).

Let's define a base template, `base.html`, which defines a simple HTML skeleton document:

```

1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3      <head>
4          {% block head %}
5              <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css" />
6              <title>{% block title %}{% endblock %} - My Webpage</title>
7          {% endblock %}
8      </head>
9      <body>
10         <div id="content">{% block content %}{% endblock %}</div>
11         <div id="footer">
12             {% block footer %}
13                 &copy; Copyright 2011 by <a href="http://domain.invalid/">
14             {% endblock %}
15         </div>
16     </body>
17 </html>

```

In this example, the [block](#) tags define four blocks that child templates can fill in.

All the `block` tag does is to tell the template engine that a child template may override those portions of the template.

## Child Template ¶

A child template might look like this:

```

1  {% extends "base.html" %}
2
3  {% block title %}Index{% endblock %}
4  {% block head %}
5      {{ parent() }}
6      <style type="text/css">

```

### Table of Contents

- extends
  - Child Template
  - Parent Blocks
  - Named Block End-Tags
  - Block Nesting and Scope
  - Block Shortcuts
  - Dynamic Inheritance
  - Conditional Inheritance
  - How do blocks work?

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```

7      .important { color: #336699; }
8  </style>
9  {% endblock %}
10 {% block content %}
11     <h1>Index</h1>
12     <p class="important">
13         Welcome on my awesome homepage.
14     </p>
15 {% endblock %}

```

The `extends` tag is the key here. It tells the template engine that this template "extends" another template. When the template system evaluates this template, first it locates the parent. The `extends` tag should be the first tag in the template.

Note that since the child template doesn't define the `footer` block, the value from the parent template is used instead.

You can't define multiple `block` tags with the same name in the same template. This limitation exists because a block tag works in "both" directions. That is, a block tag doesn't just provide a hole to fill - it also defines the content that fills the hole in the *parent*. If there were two similarly-named `block` tags in a template, that template's parent wouldn't know which one of the blocks' content to use.

If you want to print a block multiple times you can however use the `block` function:

```

1  <title>{% block title %}{% endblock %}</title>
2  <h1>{{ block('title') }}</h1>
3  {% block body %}{% endblock %}

```

## Parent Blocks ¶

It's possible to render the contents of the parent block by using the [parent](#) function. This gives back the results of the parent block:

```

1  {% block sidebar %}
2      <h3>Table Of Contents</h3>
3      ...
4      {{ parent() }}
5  {% endblock %}

```

## Named Block End-Tags ¶

Twig allows you to put the name of the block after the end tag for better readability:

```

1  {% block sidebar %}
2      {% block inner_sidebar %}
3          ...
4      {% endblock inner_sidebar %}
5  {% endblock sidebar %}

```

Of course, the name after the `endblock` word must match the block name.

## Block Nesting and Scope ¶

Blocks can be nested for more complex layouts. Per default, blocks have access to variables from outer scopes:

```

1  {% for item in seq %}
2      <li>{% block loop_item %}{{ item }}{% endblock %}</li>
3  {% endfor %}

```

## Block Shortcuts ¶

For blocks with little content, it's possible to use a shortcut syntax. The following constructs do the same thing:

```

1  {% block title %}
2      {{ page_title|title }}
3  {% endblock %}

```

```

1  {% block title page_title|title %}

```

## Dynamic Inheritance ¶

Twig supports dynamic inheritance by using a variable as the base template:

```

1  {% extends some_var %}

```

If the variable evaluates to a `\Twig\Template` or a `\Twig\TemplateWrapper` instance, Twig will use it as the parent template:

```

1  // {% extends layout %}
2
3  $layout = $twig->load('some_layout_template.twig');
4
5  $twig->display('template.twig', ['layout' => $layout]);

```

You can also provide a list of templates that are checked for existence. The first template that exists will be used as a parent:

```

1  {% extends ['layout.html', 'base_layout.html'] %}

```

## Conditional Inheritance ¶

As the template name for the parent can be any valid Twig expression, it's possible to make the inheritance mechanism conditional:

```

1  {% extends standalone ? "minimum.html" : "base.html" %}

```

In this example, the template will extend the "minimum.html" layout template if the `standalone` variable evaluates to `true`, and "base.html" otherwise.

## How do blocks work? ¶

A block provides a way to change how a certain part of a template is rendered but it does not interfere in any way with the logic around it.

Let's take the following example to illustrate how a block works and more importantly, how it does not work:

```

1  {%# base.twig #}
2
3  {% for post in posts %}
4      {% block post %}
5          <h1>{{ post.title }}</h1>
6          <p>{{ post.body }}</p>
7      {% endblock %}
8  {% endfor %}

```

If you render this template, the result would be exactly the same with or without the `block` tag. The `block` inside the `for` loop is just a way to make it overridable by a child template:

```

1  {%# child.twig #}
2
3  {% extends "base.twig" %}
4
5  {% block post %}
6      <article>
7          <header>{{ post.title }}</header>
8          <section>{{ post.text }}</section>
9      </article>
10 {% endblock %}

```

Now, when rendering the child template, the loop is going to use the block defined in the child template instead of the one defined in the base one; the executed template is then equivalent to the following one:

```

1  {% for post in posts %}
2      <article>
3          <header>{{ post.title }}</header>
4          <section>{{ post.text }}</section>
5      </article>
6  {% endfor %}

```

Let's take another example: a block included within an `if` statement:

```

1  {% if posts is empty %}
2      {% block head %}
3          {{ parent() }}
4
5          <meta name="robots" content="noindex, follow">
6
7      {% endblock head %}
8  {% endif %}

```

Contrary to what you might think, this template does not define a block conditionally; it just makes overridable by a child template the output of what will be rendered when the condition is `true`.

If you want the output to be displayed conditionally, use the following instead: