

The Match expression is essentially the same as the Switch statement and was introduced in PHP 8.

The keyword is match, so let's recreate the switch statement below:

```
$paymentStatus = 1;
```

```
switch ($paymentStatus) {  
    case 1:  
        echo 'Paid';  
        break;  
    case 2:  
    case 3:  
        echo 'Payment Declined';  
        break;  
    case 0:  
        echo 'Pending Payment';  
        break;  
    default:  
        echo 'Unknown Payment Status';  
        break;  
}
```

Inside the curly braces, we form pairs of values where the key is the individual conditional expression, and the value is the return expression.

```
$paymentStatusDisplay = match ($paymentStatus) {  
    1 => 'Paid',  
    2,3 => 'Payment Declined',  
    0 => 'Pending Payment',  
    default => 'Unknown Payment Status',  
};  
echo $paymentStatusDisplay;
```

The first difference is that the `match` expression is actually an expression and evaluates to a value, so it can be assigned to a

variable. It can be practically any type of expression; for example, we could use a function that returns a value.

The second difference is that `switch` requires the use of `break` to avoid some unexpected outcomes, such as the evaluation of other `case` statements, while the `match` statement returns a value once a match is found.

The third difference is that in the `switch` statement, the `default` value is not required, whereas a fatal error is generated in `match` if a corresponding match is not found in any of the listed cases and the default value is not specified.

The fourth difference is that the `match` expression performs a strict comparison while the `switch` statement performs loose comparison. Both sides are expressions, and we could have complex expressions, function calls, logical operators used within a conditional expression.

```
$paymentStatus = false;  
// switch print 'Pending Payment'  
// match print 'Unknown Payment Status'
```

One thing to note is that the `match` expression does not deprecate the `switch` statement as it still has its use cases. For example, `match` returns a value once a match is found, whereas with `switch`, you can execute multiple statements.