

In PHP, the `sprintf` function is used to format a string according to a specified format and returns the formatted string. It is similar to the `printf` function, but instead of printing the formatted string, `sprintf` allows you to store the formatted result in a variable or use it in further operations.

```
$name = "Alice";  
$age = 25;  
  
$formattedString = sprintf("Name: %s, Age: %d", $name, $age);  
echo $formattedString;
```

#php