RAMANUJAN COLLEGE

Cookies & Sessions

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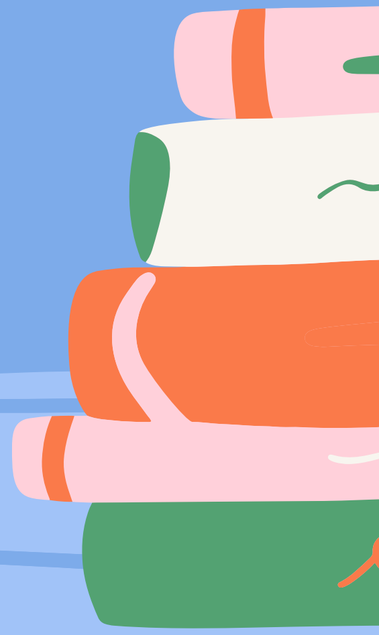

What is a Cookie?

A cookie is a small file that the server embeds on the user's computer. Each time the same computer requests for a page with a browser, it will send the cookie too. With PHP, you can both create and retrieve cookie values.

How to Create a Cookie?

The **setcookie**() function is used to create cookies.

Note: *The setcookie() function must appear* ***BEFORE*** *the <html> tag.*

setcookie(name, [value], [expire], [path], [domain], [secure]);

How to Retrieve a Cookie Value?

To access a cookie you just refer to the cookie name as a variable or use $_COOKIE array.

Tip: Use the isset() function to find out if a cookie has been set.

How to Delete a Cookie ?

It will expire

OR

Cookies must be deleted with the same parameters as they were set with. If the value argument is an empty string (""), and all other arguments match a previous call to setcookie, then the cookie with the specified name will be deleted from the remote client.

What is a Session?

The session support allows you to register arbitrary numbers of variables to be preserved across requests.

A visitor accessing your web site is assigned an unique id, the so-called session id. This is either stored in a cookie on the user side or is propagated in the URL.

How to Create a Session ?

The session_start() function is used to create cookies.

```
<?php
session_start();
?>
```

How to Retrieve a Session Value

Register Session variable

session_register('var1','var2',...); *// will also create a session*

PS:Session variable will be created on using even if you will not register it!

Use it

```
<?php
session_start();
if (!isset($_SESSION['count']))
$_SESSION['count'] = 0;
```

How to Delete a Session Value

session_unregister(´varname´);

How to destroy a session:

session_destroy()