



Your PHP & MySQL Toolbox

In Chapter 1, you learned how to harness PHP to bring life to Owen's web form. Look at everything you've learned already...

PHP

A server-side scripting language that lets you manipulate web page content on the server before a page is delivered to the client browser.

PHP script

A text file that contains PHP code to carry out tasks on a web server.

MySQL

An application that lets you store data in databases and tables and insert and retrieve information using the SQL language.

SQL

A query language for interacting with database applications like MySQL.

<?php ?>

These tags must surround all PHP code in your PHP scripts.

mail()

The PHP function for sending an email. It takes the email subject, email body text, and the destination email address as parameters (you can optionally specify a From address too).

variable

A storage container for a piece of data. In PHP, variables must start with a dollar sign, like this: `$variable_name`.

\$_POST

A special variable that holds form data.

echo

The PHP command for sending output to the browser window. Its syntax is:

```
echo 'Hello World';
```

array

A data structure that stores a set of values. Each value has an index that you can use to access it.

escape character

Used to represent characters in PHP code that are difficult to type or that might conflict with other code, such as `\n` (newlines).

client-side

Interpreted solely by the client web browser.

server-side

Interpreted by a web server, not a client machine.