**Start a PHP Session**

A session is started with the session\_start() function.

Session variables are set with the PHP global variable: $\_SESSION.

Now, let's create a new page called "demo\_session1.php". In this page, we start a new PHP session and set some session variables:

**Example**

<?php  
// Start the session  
session\_start();  
?>  
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
<body>  
  
<?php  
// Set session variables  
$\_SESSION["favcolor"] = "green";  
$\_SESSION["favanimal"] = "cat";  
echo "Session variables are set.";  
?>  
  
</body>  
</html>

## Get PHP Session Variable Values

Next, we create another page called "demo\_session2.php". From this page, we will access the session information we set on the first page ("demo\_session1.php").

Notice that session variables are not passed individually to each new page, instead they are retrieved from the session we open at the beginning of each page (session\_start()).

Also notice that all session variable values are stored in the global $\_SESSION variable:

**Example**

<?php  
session\_start();  
?>  
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
<body>  
  
<?php  
// Echo session variables that were set on previous page  
echo "Favorite color is " . $\_SESSION["favcolor"] . ".<br>";  
echo "Favorite animal is " . $\_SESSION["favanimal"] . ".";  
?>  
  
</body>  
</html>

**Modify a PHP Session Variable**

To change a session variable, just overwrite it:

**Example**

<?php  
session\_start();  
?>  
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
<body>  
  
<?php  
// to change a session variable, just overwrite it   
$\_SESSION["favcolor"] = "yellow";  
print\_r($\_SESSION);  
?>

**Destroy a PHP Session**

To remove all global session variables and destroy the session, use session\_unset() and session\_destroy():

**Example**

<?php  
session\_start();  
?>  
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
<body>  
  
<?php  
// remove all session variables  
session\_unset();   
  
// destroy the session   
session\_destroy();   
?>  
  
</body>  
</html>

</body>  
</html>