CSV FILE

A CSV is a [text file](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/t/textfile.htm), so it can be created and edited using any [text editor](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/e/editor.htm). More frequently, however, a CSV file is created by exporting (File Menu -> Export) a spreadsheet or database in the program that created it.

To create a CSV file with a text editor, first choose your favorite text editor, such as [Notepad](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/n/notepad.htm) or [vim](https://www.computerhope.com/unix/vim.htm), and open a new file. Then enter the text data you want the file to contain, separating each value with a comma and each [row](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/r/row.htm) with a new line.

Title1,Title2,Title3

one,two,three

example1,example2,example3

Save this file with the [extension](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/e/extensio.htm) **.csv**. You can then open the file using Microsoft Excel or another spreadsheet program.

Why are CSV files used?

**There are two primary reasons CSV files are used online.**

1. CSV files are [plain-text files](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/p/plaintex.htm), which makes them easy for the website developer to create.
2. Because the CSV is plain-text it makes the data easy to import into any spreadsheet program or [database](https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/d/database.htm) regardless of what type of computer or software program you are using.

Functions used for csv file

fputcsv()—is used to create csv file.

Syntax:

fputcsv(file handle,array);

Example:

<?php  
$list = array (  
    array('aaa', 'bbb', 'ccc', 'dddd'),  
    array('123', '456', '789'),  
    array('"aaa"', '"bbb"')  
);  
$fp = fopen('file.csv', 'w');  
foreach ($list as $fields) {  
    fputcsv($fp, $fields);  
}  
  
fclose($fp);  
?>

The above written program write following to csv file:

aaa,bbb,ccc,dddd

123,456,789

"""aaa""","""bbb"""