* [Welcome to CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/welcome.html)
* [Installation Instructions](http://docs.google.com/installation/index.html)
  + [Downloading CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/installation/downloads.html)
  + [Installation Instructions](http://docs.google.com/installation/index.html)
  + [Upgrading From a Previous Version](http://docs.google.com/installation/upgrading.html)
  + [Troubleshooting](http://docs.google.com/installation/troubleshooting.html)
* [CodeIgniter Overview](http://docs.google.com/overview/index.html)
  + [Getting Started](http://docs.google.com/overview/getting_started.html)
  + [CodeIgniter at a Glance](http://docs.google.com/overview/at_a_glance.html)
  + [Supported Features](http://docs.google.com/overview/features.html)
  + [Application Flow Chart](http://docs.google.com/overview/appflow.html)
  + [Model-View-Controller](http://docs.google.com/overview/mvc.html)
  + [Architectural Goals](http://docs.google.com/overview/goals.html)
* [Tutorial](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/index.html)
  + [Static pages](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/static_pages.html)
  + [News section](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/news_section.html)
  + [Create news items](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/create_news_items.html)
  + [Conclusion](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/conclusion.html)
* [Contributing to CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/contributing/index.html)
  + [Writing CodeIgniter Documentation](http://docs.google.com/documentation/index.html)
  + [Developer’s Certificate of Origin 1.1](http://docs.google.com/DCO.html)
* [General Topics](http://docs.google.com/index.html)
  + [CodeIgniter URLs](http://docs.google.com/urls.html)
  + [Controllers](http://docs.google.com/controllers.html)
  + [Reserved Names](http://docs.google.com/reserved_names.html)
  + [Views](http://docs.google.com/views.html)
  + [Models](http://docs.google.com/models.html)
  + [Helpers](http://docs.google.com/helpers.html)
  + [Using CodeIgniter Libraries](http://docs.google.com/libraries.html)
  + [Creating Libraries](http://docs.google.com/creating_libraries.html)
  + [Using CodeIgniter Drivers](http://docs.google.com/drivers.html)
  + [Creating Drivers](http://docs.google.com/creating_drivers.html)
  + [Creating Core System Classes](http://docs.google.com/core_classes.html)
  + [Creating Ancillary Classes](http://docs.google.com/ancillary_classes.html)
  + [Hooks - Extending the Framework Core](http://docs.google.com/hooks.html)
  + [Auto-loading Resources](http://docs.google.com/autoloader.html)
  + [Common Functions](http://docs.google.com/common_functions.html)
  + [Compatibility Functions](http://docs.google.com/compatibility_functions.html)
  + [URI Routing](http://docs.google.com/routing.html)
  + [Error Handling](http://docs.google.com/errors.html)
  + [Caching](#gjdgxs)
  + [Profiling Your Application](http://docs.google.com/profiling.html)
  + [Running via the CLI](http://docs.google.com/cli.html)
  + [Managing your Applications](http://docs.google.com/managing_apps.html)
  + [Handling Multiple Environments](http://docs.google.com/environments.html)
  + [Alternate PHP Syntax for View Files](http://docs.google.com/alternative_php.html)
  + [Security](http://docs.google.com/security.html)
  + [PHP Style Guide](http://docs.google.com/styleguide.html)
* [Libraries](http://docs.google.com/libraries/index.html)
  + [Benchmarking Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/benchmark.html)
  + [Caching Driver](http://docs.google.com/libraries/caching.html)
  + [Calendaring Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/calendar.html)
  + [Shopping Cart Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/cart.html)
  + [Config Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/config.html)
  + [Email Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/email.html)
  + [Encrypt Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/encrypt.html)
  + [Encryption Library](http://docs.google.com/libraries/encryption.html)
  + [File Uploading Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/file_uploading.html)
  + [Form Validation](http://docs.google.com/libraries/form_validation.html)
  + [FTP Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/ftp.html)
  + [Image Manipulation Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/image_lib.html)
  + [Input Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/input.html)
  + [Javascript Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/javascript.html)
  + [Language Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/language.html)
  + [Loader Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/loader.html)
  + [Migrations Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/migration.html)
  + [Output Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/output.html)
  + [Pagination Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/pagination.html)
  + [Template Parser Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/parser.html)
  + [Security Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/security.html)
  + [Session Library](http://docs.google.com/libraries/sessions.html)
  + [HTML Table Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/table.html)
  + [Trackback Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/trackback.html)
  + [Typography Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/typography.html)
  + [Unit Testing Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/unit_testing.html)
  + [URI Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/uri.html)
  + [User Agent Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/user_agent.html)
  + [XML-RPC and XML-RPC Server Classes](http://docs.google.com/libraries/xmlrpc.html)
  + [Zip Encoding Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/zip.html)
* [Database Reference](http://docs.google.com/database/index.html)
  + [Quick Start: Usage Examples](http://docs.google.com/database/examples.html)
  + [Database Configuration](http://docs.google.com/database/configuration.html)
  + [Connecting to a Database](http://docs.google.com/database/connecting.html)
  + [Running Queries](http://docs.google.com/database/queries.html)
  + [Generating Query Results](http://docs.google.com/database/results.html)
  + [Query Helper Functions](http://docs.google.com/database/helpers.html)
  + [Query Builder Class](http://docs.google.com/database/query_builder.html)
  + [Transactions](http://docs.google.com/database/transactions.html)
  + [Getting MetaData](http://docs.google.com/database/metadata.html)
  + [Custom Function Calls](http://docs.google.com/database/call_function.html)
  + [Query Caching](http://docs.google.com/database/caching.html)
  + [Database Manipulation with Database Forge](http://docs.google.com/database/forge.html)
  + [Database Utilities Class](http://docs.google.com/database/utilities.html)
  + [Database Driver Reference](http://docs.google.com/database/db_driver_reference.html)
* [Helpers](http://docs.google.com/helpers/index.html)
  + [Array Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/array_helper.html)
  + [CAPTCHA Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/captcha_helper.html)
  + [Cookie Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/cookie_helper.html)
  + [Date Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/date_helper.html)
  + [Directory Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/directory_helper.html)
  + [Download Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/download_helper.html)
  + [Email Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/email_helper.html)
  + [File Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/file_helper.html)
  + [Form Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/form_helper.html)
  + [HTML Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/html_helper.html)
  + [Inflector Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/inflector_helper.html)
  + [Language Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/language_helper.html)
  + [Number Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/number_helper.html)
  + [Path Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/path_helper.html)
  + [Security Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/security_helper.html)
  + [Smiley Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/smiley_helper.html)
  + [String Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/string_helper.html)
  + [Text Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/text_helper.html)
  + [Typography Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/typography_helper.html)
  + [URL Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/url_helper.html)
  + [XML Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/xml_helper.html)

Toggle Table of Contents

[CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/index.html)

* [Welcome to CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/welcome.html)
* [Installation Instructions](http://docs.google.com/installation/index.html)
  + [Downloading CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/installation/downloads.html)
  + [Installation Instructions](http://docs.google.com/installation/index.html)
  + [Upgrading From a Previous Version](http://docs.google.com/installation/upgrading.html)
  + [Troubleshooting](http://docs.google.com/installation/troubleshooting.html)
* [CodeIgniter Overview](http://docs.google.com/overview/index.html)
  + [Getting Started](http://docs.google.com/overview/getting_started.html)
  + [CodeIgniter at a Glance](http://docs.google.com/overview/at_a_glance.html)
  + [Supported Features](http://docs.google.com/overview/features.html)
  + [Application Flow Chart](http://docs.google.com/overview/appflow.html)
  + [Model-View-Controller](http://docs.google.com/overview/mvc.html)
  + [Architectural Goals](http://docs.google.com/overview/goals.html)
* [Tutorial](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/index.html)
  + [Static pages](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/static_pages.html)
  + [News section](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/news_section.html)
  + [Create news items](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/create_news_items.html)
  + [Conclusion](http://docs.google.com/tutorial/conclusion.html)
* [Contributing to CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/contributing/index.html)
  + [Writing CodeIgniter Documentation](http://docs.google.com/documentation/index.html)
  + [Developer’s Certificate of Origin 1.1](http://docs.google.com/DCO.html)
* [General Topics](http://docs.google.com/index.html)
  + [CodeIgniter URLs](http://docs.google.com/urls.html)
  + [Controllers](http://docs.google.com/controllers.html)
  + [Reserved Names](http://docs.google.com/reserved_names.html)
  + [Views](http://docs.google.com/views.html)
  + [Models](http://docs.google.com/models.html)
  + [Helpers](http://docs.google.com/helpers.html)
  + [Using CodeIgniter Libraries](http://docs.google.com/libraries.html)
  + [Creating Libraries](http://docs.google.com/creating_libraries.html)
  + [Using CodeIgniter Drivers](http://docs.google.com/drivers.html)
  + [Creating Drivers](http://docs.google.com/creating_drivers.html)
  + [Creating Core System Classes](http://docs.google.com/core_classes.html)
  + [Creating Ancillary Classes](http://docs.google.com/ancillary_classes.html)
  + [Hooks - Extending the Framework Core](http://docs.google.com/hooks.html)
  + [Auto-loading Resources](http://docs.google.com/autoloader.html)
  + [Common Functions](http://docs.google.com/common_functions.html)
  + [Compatibility Functions](http://docs.google.com/compatibility_functions.html)
  + [URI Routing](http://docs.google.com/routing.html)
  + [Error Handling](http://docs.google.com/errors.html)
  + [Caching](#gjdgxs)
  + [Profiling Your Application](http://docs.google.com/profiling.html)
  + [Running via the CLI](http://docs.google.com/cli.html)
  + [Managing your Applications](http://docs.google.com/managing_apps.html)
  + [Handling Multiple Environments](http://docs.google.com/environments.html)
  + [Alternate PHP Syntax for View Files](http://docs.google.com/alternative_php.html)
  + [Security](http://docs.google.com/security.html)
  + [PHP Style Guide](http://docs.google.com/styleguide.html)
* [Libraries](http://docs.google.com/libraries/index.html)
  + [Benchmarking Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/benchmark.html)
  + [Caching Driver](http://docs.google.com/libraries/caching.html)
  + [Calendaring Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/calendar.html)
  + [Shopping Cart Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/cart.html)
  + [Config Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/config.html)
  + [Email Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/email.html)
  + [Encrypt Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/encrypt.html)
  + [Encryption Library](http://docs.google.com/libraries/encryption.html)
  + [File Uploading Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/file_uploading.html)
  + [Form Validation](http://docs.google.com/libraries/form_validation.html)
  + [FTP Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/ftp.html)
  + [Image Manipulation Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/image_lib.html)
  + [Input Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/input.html)
  + [Javascript Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/javascript.html)
  + [Language Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/language.html)
  + [Loader Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/loader.html)
  + [Migrations Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/migration.html)
  + [Output Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/output.html)
  + [Pagination Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/pagination.html)
  + [Template Parser Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/parser.html)
  + [Security Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/security.html)
  + [Session Library](http://docs.google.com/libraries/sessions.html)
  + [HTML Table Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/table.html)
  + [Trackback Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/trackback.html)
  + [Typography Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/typography.html)
  + [Unit Testing Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/unit_testing.html)
  + [URI Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/uri.html)
  + [User Agent Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/user_agent.html)
  + [XML-RPC and XML-RPC Server Classes](http://docs.google.com/libraries/xmlrpc.html)
  + [Zip Encoding Class](http://docs.google.com/libraries/zip.html)
* [Database Reference](http://docs.google.com/database/index.html)
  + [Quick Start: Usage Examples](http://docs.google.com/database/examples.html)
  + [Database Configuration](http://docs.google.com/database/configuration.html)
  + [Connecting to a Database](http://docs.google.com/database/connecting.html)
  + [Running Queries](http://docs.google.com/database/queries.html)
  + [Generating Query Results](http://docs.google.com/database/results.html)
  + [Query Helper Functions](http://docs.google.com/database/helpers.html)
  + [Query Builder Class](http://docs.google.com/database/query_builder.html)
  + [Transactions](http://docs.google.com/database/transactions.html)
  + [Getting MetaData](http://docs.google.com/database/metadata.html)
  + [Custom Function Calls](http://docs.google.com/database/call_function.html)
  + [Query Caching](http://docs.google.com/database/caching.html)
  + [Database Manipulation with Database Forge](http://docs.google.com/database/forge.html)
  + [Database Utilities Class](http://docs.google.com/database/utilities.html)
  + [Database Driver Reference](http://docs.google.com/database/db_driver_reference.html)
* [Helpers](http://docs.google.com/helpers/index.html)
  + [Array Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/array_helper.html)
  + [CAPTCHA Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/captcha_helper.html)
  + [Cookie Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/cookie_helper.html)
  + [Date Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/date_helper.html)
  + [Directory Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/directory_helper.html)
  + [Download Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/download_helper.html)
  + [Email Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/email_helper.html)
  + [File Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/file_helper.html)
  + [Form Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/form_helper.html)
  + [HTML Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/html_helper.html)
  + [Inflector Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/inflector_helper.html)
  + [Language Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/language_helper.html)
  + [Number Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/number_helper.html)
  + [Path Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/path_helper.html)
  + [Security Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/security_helper.html)
  + [Smiley Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/smiley_helper.html)
  + [String Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/string_helper.html)
  + [Text Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/text_helper.html)
  + [Typography Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/typography_helper.html)
  + [URL Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/url_helper.html)
  + [XML Helper](http://docs.google.com/helpers/xml_helper.html)

[CodeIgniter](http://docs.google.com/index.html)

* [Docs](http://docs.google.com/index.html) »
* [General Topics](http://docs.google.com/index.html) »
* Web Page Caching

classic layout

Web Page Caching[**¶**](#30j0zll)

CodeIgniter lets you cache your pages in order to achieve maximum performance.

Although CodeIgniter is quite fast, the amount of dynamic information you display in your pages will correlate directly to the server resources, memory, and processing cycles utilized, which affect your page load speeds. By caching your pages, since they are saved in their fully rendered state, you can achieve performance that nears that of static web pages.

How Does Caching Work?[**¶**](#1fob9te)

Caching can be enabled on a per-page basis, and you can set the length of time that a page should remain cached before being refreshed. When a page is loaded for the first time, the cache file will be written to your application/cache folder. On subsequent page loads the cache file will be retrieved and sent to the requesting user’s browser. If it has expired, it will be deleted and refreshed before being sent to the browser.

Enabling Caching[**¶**](#3znysh7)

To enable caching, put the following tag in any of your controller methods:

$this->output->cache($n);

Where $n is the number of **minutes** you wish the page to remain cached between refreshes.

The above tag can go anywhere within a method. It is not affected by the order that it appears, so place it wherever it seems most logical to you. Once the tag is in place, your pages will begin being cached.

Important

Because of the way CodeIgniter stores content for output, caching will only work if you are generating display for your controller with a [view](http://docs.google.com/views.html).

Important

If you change configuration options that might affect your output, you have to manually delete your cache files.

Note

Before the cache files can be written you must set the file permissions on your *application/cache/* directory such that it is writable.

Deleting Caches[**¶**](#2et92p0)

If you no longer wish to cache a file you can remove the caching tag and it will no longer be refreshed when it expires.

Note

Removing the tag will not delete the cache immediately. It will have to expire normally.

If you need to manually delete the cache, you can use the delete\_cache() method:

// Deletes cache for the currently requested URI  
$this->output->delete\_cache();  
  
// Deletes cache for /foo/bar  
$this->output->delete\_cache('/foo/bar');

[Next](http://docs.google.com/profiling.html)   [Previous](http://docs.google.com/errors.html)

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