What is PHP?

PHP means Personal Home Page. It is a server side scripting language designed for web development. It is a programming language that allows web developers to create dynamic content that interacts with databases. PHP is basically used for developing web based software applications. This tutorial helps you to build your base with PHP.

What is the use of PHP?

Performs system functions example it can create, open, read, write and close files on system. it can handle forms for example, you can gather data from files, save data to a file, return data to the user and you can send data through email. Through PHP you can add, delete and modify. I can also encrypt data. You can restrict users to access some page of your website.

How to connect a MySQL Database via PHP?

This is a extremely important step, connecting the MySQL Database via PHP because if your script cannot connect to its database, your queries to the database will fail.

What is PHP file?

PHP files can contain text, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and PHP code. PHP code are executed on the server, and the result is returned to the browser as plain HTML. The extension of this file is .php.

What can PHP do?

**CAN** generate dynamic page content.

**CAN** create, open, read, write and close files on the server.

**CAN** collect from data, can add, delete, modify data in your database.

**CAN** be use to control user-access

**CAN** encrypt data

Why PHP?

* Runs on various platforms (Windows, Linux, Unix, Mac, OS X)\
* It is compatible with Apache, IIS servers
* It supports a wide range of database
* It is free
* Easy to learn and runs efficiently on the server side

Use a Web Host With PHP Support

You do not need to do anything if your server has activated support for PHP. Just create some .php files, place them with your web directory, and the server will automatically parse them for you/

Basic PHP Syntax

In PHP script can be placed anywhere in the document. A PHP script starts with **<?php** – start with this **?>: -** end with this. And the extension of the file is .php. it also contains HTML tags and PHP scripting code.

PHP Case Sensitivity

All keywords, classes, functions, and user-defines functions are NOT case-sensitive. All variable names are case sensitive.

Rules for PHP Variables:

* A variable starts with the $ sign, followed by the name of the variable
* A variable name must start with a letter or the underscore character
* A variable name cannot start with a number
* A variable name can only contain alpha-numeric characters and underscores (A-z, 0-9, and )
* Variable names are case-sensitive ($age and $AGE are two different variables)

References:

<https://www.tutorialspoint.com/php/php_introduction.htm>

<https://www.siteground.com/tutorials/php-mysql/connect-database/>

https://www.w3schools.com/php/php\_variables.asp