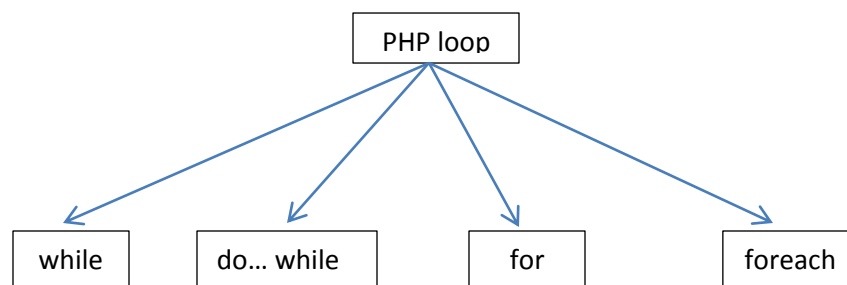




PHP loops (while loop & do... while loop)

Often when you write code, you want the same block of code to run over and over again.

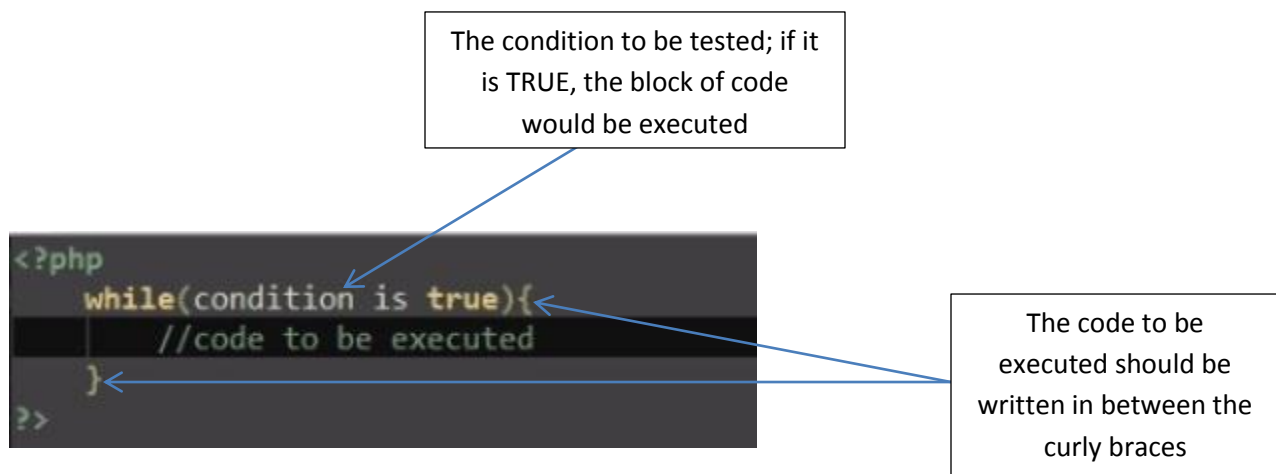
Instead of adding several almost equal code-lines in a script, we can use loops to perform a task like this.



While loop

The while loop executes a block of code as long as the specified condition is true.

Below is the basic structure of a while loop:



Below is an example of an algorithm that would loop from 1900 to 2018 and displays the result in a select form. The user can select his year of Birth. This can be useful when you are creating a registration form and you have a field to collect the user year of birth. This will save you a lot of time in writing each year in your script.

The variable **\$x** is assigned to 1900

The condition is then tested; if the variable **\$x** is less than or equals to 2018, we want to the block of code to execute

```
<?php
    $x = 1900;
    echo 'Date of Birth: <br />';
    echo '<select>';
        while($x <= 2018){
            echo '<option>'.$x.'</option>';
            $x++;
        }
    echo '</select>';
?>
```

Increment the value of **\$x**. For instance, when this loop starts; the value of **\$x** is assigned to **1900**, it will check the condition if **1900** is less than or equals to **2018**, the block of code would be executed then the value of **\$x** is incremented by one (1) and the new value of **\$x** is **1901**. It will then check the condition, if it is TRUE the block of code would be executed and the value of **\$x** is then incremented by one (1) and the new value of **\$x** is **1902** and so on until the condition becomes FALSE

Do... while loop

The do... while loop will always execute the block of code once, it will then check the condition, and repeat the loop while the specified condition is TRUE.

```
<?php
do{
    code to be executed
}while(condition is true);
?>
```

The code to be executed should be written in between the curly braces

The condition to be tested; if it is TRUE, the block of code would be executed

NB:

In a do... while loop the condition is tested **AFTER** executing the statements within the loop.

This means that the do... while loop would execute its statement at least once, even if the condition is FALSE the first time.

```
<?php
$x = 6;
do{
    echo $x;
    $x++;
}while($x <= 5);
?>
```

This loop would execute once, although the condition specified is FALSE (\$x is assigned to 6 and the condition is when \$x is less than or equals to 5; as in this case 6 is greater than 5)