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Keyboard Shortcuts

?	This help
j	Next menu item
k	Previous menu item
g p	Previous man page
g n	Next man page
G	Scroll to bottom
g g	Scroll to top
g h	Goto homepage
g s	Goto search (current page)
/	Focus search box

[Ключевое слово final »](#)
[« Итераторы объектов](#)

- [Руководство по PHP](#)
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- [Классы и объекты](#)

Change language: Russian

Магические методы

Магические методы - это специальные методы, которые переопределяют действие PHP по умолчанию, когда над объектом выполняются определённые действия.

Предостережение

Все имена методов, начинающиеся с `__`, зарезервированы PHP. Не рекомендуется использовать имена методов с `__` в PHP, если вы не хотите использовать соответствующую магическую функциональность.

Следующие названия методов считаются магическими: [__construct\(\)](#), [__destruct\(\)](#), [__call\(\)](#), [__callStatic\(\)](#), [__get\(\)](#), [__set\(\)](#), [__isset\(\)](#), [__unset\(\)](#), [__sleep\(\)](#), [__wakeup\(\)](#), [__serialize\(\)](#), [__unserialize\(\)](#), [__toString\(\)](#), [__invoke\(\)](#), [__set_state\(\)](#), [__clone\(\)](#) и [__debugInfo\(\)](#)

Внимание

Все магические методы, за исключением [__construct\(\)](#), [__destruct\(\)](#) и [__clone\(\)](#), *ДОЛЖНЫ* быть объявлены как `public`, в противном случае будет вызвана ошибка уровня **E_WARNING**. До PHP 8.0.0 для магических методов [__sleep\(\)](#), [__wakeup\(\)](#), [__serialize\(\)](#), [__unserialize\(\)](#) и [__set_state\(\)](#) не выполнялась проверка.

Внимание

Если объявления типа используются в определении магического метода, они должны быть идентичны сигнатуре, описанной в этом документе. В противном случае выдаётся фатальная ошибка. До PHP 8.0.0 диагностические сообщения не отправлялись. Однако [__construct\(\)](#) и [__destruct\(\)](#) не должны объявлять возвращаемый тип; в противном случае выдаётся фатальная ошибка.

[__sleep\(\)](#) и [__wakeup\(\)](#)

```
public __sleep(): array
public __wakeup(): void
```

Функция [serialize\(\)](#) проверяет, присутствует ли в классе метод с магическим именем [__sleep\(\)](#). Если это так, то этот метод выполняется до любой операции сериализации. Он может очистить объект и должен возвращать массив с именами всех переменных этого объекта, которые должны быть сериализованы. Если метод ничего не возвращает, то сериализуется `null` и выдаётся предупреждение **E_NOTICE**.

Замечание:

Недопустимо возвращать в [__sleep\(\)](#) имена закрытых свойств в родительском классе. Это приведёт к ошибке уровня **E_NOTICE**. Вместо этого вы можете использовать [__serialize\(\)](#).

Замечание:

Начиная с PHP 8.0.0, возврат значения, не являющегося массивом, из [__sleep\(\)](#) приводит к предупреждению. Ранее выдавалось уведомление.

Предполагаемое использование [__sleep\(\)](#) состоит в завершении работы над данными, ждущими обработки или других подобных задач очистки. Кроме того, этот метод может быть полезен, когда есть очень большие объекты, которые нет необходимости полностью сохранять.

С другой стороны, функция [unserialize\(\)](#) проверяет наличие метода с магическим именем [__wakeup\(\)](#). Если она имеется, эта функция может восстанавливать любые ресурсы, которые может иметь объект.

Предполагаемое использование [__wakeup\(\)](#) заключается в восстановлении любых соединений с базой данных, которые могли быть потеряны во время операции сериализации и выполнения других операций повторной инициализации.

Пример #1 Сериализация и десериализация

```
<?php
class Connection
{
    protected $link;
    private $dsn, $username, $password;
```

```

public function __construct($dsn, $username, $password)
{
    $this->dsn = $dsn;
    $this->username = $username;
    $this->password = $password;
    $this->connect();
}

private function connect()
{
    $this->link = new PDO($this->dsn, $this->username, $this->password);
}

public function __sleep()
{
    return array('dsn', 'username', 'password');
}

public function __wakeup()
{
    $this->connect();
}
}??>

```

[__serialize\(\)](#) и [__unserialize\(\)](#)

```

public __serialize(): array
public __unserialize(array $data): void

```

[serialize\(\)](#) проверяет, есть ли в классе функция с магическим именем [__serialize\(\)](#). Если да, функция выполняется перед любой сериализацией. Она должна создать и вернуть ассоциативный массив пар ключ/значение, которые представляют сериализованную форму объекта. Если массив не возвращён, будет выдано [TypeError](#).

Замечание:

Если и [__serialize\(\)](#) и [__sleep\(\)](#) определены в одном и том же объекте, будет вызван только метод [__serialize\(\)](#). [__sleep\(\)](#) будет игнорироваться. Если объект реализует интерфейс [Serializable](#), метод `serialize()` интерфейса будет игнорироваться, а вместо него будет использован [__serialize\(\)](#).

Предполагаемое использование [__serialize\(\)](#) заключается в определении удобного для сериализации произвольного представления объекта. Элементы массива могут соответствовать свойствам объекта, но это не обязательно.

И наоборот, [__unserialize\(\)](#) проверяет наличие магической функции [__unserialize\(\)](#). Если функция присутствует, ей будет передан восстановленный массив, который был возвращён из [__serialize\(\)](#). Затем он может восстановить свойства объекта из этого массива соответствующим образом.

Замечание:

Если и [__unserialize\(\)](#) и [__wakeup\(\)](#) определены в одном и том же объекте, будет вызван только метод [__unserialize\(\)](#). [__wakeup\(\)](#) будет игнорироваться.

Замечание:

Функция доступна с PHP 7.4.0.

Пример #2 Сериализация и десериализация

```

<?php
class Connection
{
    protected $link;
    private $dsn, $username, $password;

    public function __construct($dsn, $username, $password)

```

```

{
$this->dsn = $dsn;
$this->username = $username;
$this->password = $password;
$this->connect();
}

private function connect()
{
$this->link = new PDO($this->dsn, $this->username, $this->password);
}

public function __serialize(): array
{
return [
'dsn' => $this->dsn,
'user' => $this->username,
'pass' => $this->password,
];
}

public function __unserialize(array $data): void
{
$this->dsn = $data['dsn'];
$this->username = $data['user'];
$this->password = $data['pass'];

$this->connect();
}
}??>

```

__toString()

```
public __toString(): string
```

Метод __toString() позволяет классу решать, как он должен реагировать при преобразовании в строку. Например, что вывести при выполнении `echo $obj;`.

Внимание

Начиная с PHP 8.0.0, возвращаемое значение следует стандартной семантике типа PHP, что означает, что оно будет преобразовано в строку (string), если возможно, и если [strict typing](#) отключён.

Объект, реализующий [Stringable](#) не будет приниматься объявлением типа string, если включена [строгая типизация](#). Если такое поведение необходимо, то объявление типа должно принимать интерфейс [Stringable](#) и строку (string) с помощью объединения типов.

Начиная с PHP 8.0.0, любой класс, содержащий метод __toString(), также будет неявно реализовывать интерфейс [Stringable](#) и, таким образом, будет проходить проверку типа для этого интерфейса. В любом случае рекомендуется явно реализовать интерфейс.

В PHP 7.4 возвращаемое значение *ДОЛЖНО* быть строкой (string), иначе выдаётся [Error](#).

До PHP 7.4.0 возвращаемое значение *должно* быть строкой (string), в противном случае выдаётся фатальная ошибка `E_RECOVERABLE_ERROR`. is emitted.

Внимание

Нельзя выбросить исключение из метода __toString() до PHP 7.4.0. Это приведёт к фатальной ошибке.

Пример #3 Простой пример

```

<?php
// Объявление простого класса
class TestClass

```

```
{
public $foo;

public function __construct($foo)
{
$this->foo = $foo;
}

public function __toString()
{
return $this->foo;
}
}

$class = new TestClass('Привет');
echo $class;
?>
```

Результат выполнения приведённого примера:

Привет

[__invoke\(\)](#)

[__invoke\(\)](#)(...\$values): [mixed](#)

Метод [__invoke\(\)](#) вызывается, когда скрипт пытается выполнить объект как функцию.

Пример #4 Использование [__invoke\(\)](#)

```
<?php
class CallableClass
{
public function __invoke($x)
{
var_dump($x);
}
}

$obj = new CallableClass;
$obj(5);
var_dump(is_callable($obj));
?>
```

Результат выполнения приведённого примера:

```
int(5)
bool(true)
```

Пример #5 Пример использования [__invoke\(\)](#)

```
<?php
class Sort
{
private $key;

public function __construct(string $key)
{
$this->key = $key;
}

public function __invoke(array $a, array $b): int
{
return $a[$this->key] <=> $b[$this->key];
}
}
```

```

$customers = [
['id' => 1, 'first_name' => 'John', 'last_name' => 'Do'],
['id' => 3, 'first_name' => 'Alice', 'last_name' => 'Gustav'],
['id' => 2, 'first_name' => 'Bob', 'last_name' => 'Filipe']
];

// сортировка клиентов по имени
usort($customers, new Sort('first_name'));
print_r($customers);

// сортировка клиентов по фамилии
usort($customers, new Sort('last_name'));
print_r($customers);
?>

```

Результат выполнения приведённого примера:

```

Array
(
    [0] => Array
        (
            [id] => 3
            [first_name] => Alice
            [last_name] => Gustav
        )

    [1] => Array
        (
            [id] => 2
            [first_name] => Bob
            [last_name] => Filipe
        )

    [2] => Array
        (
            [id] => 1
            [first_name] => John
            [last_name] => Do
        )
)
Array
(
    [0] => Array
        (
            [id] => 1
            [first_name] => John
            [last_name] => Do
        )

    [1] => Array
        (
            [id] => 2
            [first_name] => Bob
            [last_name] => Filipe
        )

    [2] => Array
        (
            [id] => 3
            [first_name] => Alice
            [last_name] => Gustav
        )
)

```

[__set_state\(\)](#)

static **__set_state**(array \$properties): object

Этот [статический](#) метод вызывается для тех классов, которые экспортируются функцией [var_export\(\)](#).

Единственным параметром этого метода является массив, содержащий экспортируемые свойства в виде ['property' => value, ...].

Пример #6 Использование [__set_state\(\)](#)

```
<?php

class A
{
    public $var1;
    public $var2;

    public static function __set_state($an_array)
    {
        $obj = new A;
        $obj->var1 = $an_array['var1'];
        $obj->var2 = $an_array['var2'];
        return $obj;
    }
}

$a = new A;
$a->var1 = 5;
$a->var2 = 'foo';

$b = var_export($a, true);
var_dump($b);
eval('$c = ' . $b . ';' );
var_dump($c);
?>
```

Результат выполнения приведённого примера:

```
string(60) "A::__set_state(array(
    'var1' => 5,
    'var2' => 'foo',
))"
object(A)#2 (2) {
    ["var1"]=>
    int(5)
    ["var2"]=>
    string(3) "foo"
}
```

Замечание: При экспорте объекта [var_export\(\)](#) не проверяет, реализует ли класс объекта метод [__set_state\(\)](#), поэтому повторный импорт объектов приведёт к исключению [Error](#), если метод [__set_state\(\)](#) не реализован. В частности, это относится к некоторым внутренним классам. Необходимость проверки, реализует ли импортируемый класс метод [__set_state\(\)](#), полностью лежит на разработчике.

[__debugInfo\(\)](#)

[__debugInfo\(\)](#): array

Этот метод вызывается функцией [var_dump\(\)](#), когда необходимо вывести список свойств объекта. Если этот метод не определён, тогда будут выведены все свойства объекта с модификаторами public, protected и private.

Пример #7 Использование [__debugInfo\(\)](#)

```
<?php

class C {
    private $prop;

    public function __construct($val) {
        $this->prop = $val;
    }
}
```



```
public function __debugInfo() {
return [
'propSquared' => $this->prop ** 2,
];
}
}
```

```
var_dump(new C(42));
?>
```

Результат выполнения приведённого примера:

```
object(C)#1 (1) {
    ["propSquared"]=>
    int(1764)
}
```

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User Contributed Notes 22 notes

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51

[*jon at webignition dot net ¶*](#)

15 years ago

The `__toString()` method is extremely useful for converting class attribute names and values into common string representations of data (of which there are many choices). I mention this as previous references to `__toString()` refer only to debugging uses.

I have previously used the `__toString()` method in the following ways:

- representing a data-holding object as:
 - XML
 - raw POST data
 - a GET query string
 - header name:value pairs
- representing a custom mail object as an actual email (headers then body, all correctly represented)

When creating a class, consider what possible standard string representations are available and, of those, which would be the most relevant with respect to the purpose of the class.

Being able to represent data-holding objects in standardised string forms makes it much easier for your internal representations of data to be shared in an interoperable way with other applications.

[up](#)

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[*jsnell at e-normous dot com ¶*](#)

15 years ago

Be very careful to define `__set_state()` in classes which inherit from a parent using it, as the static `__set_state()` call will be called for any children. If you are not careful, you will end up with an object of the wrong type. Here is an example:

```
<?php
class A
{
public $var1;

public static function __set_state($an_array)
{
$obj = new A;
$obj->var1 = $an_array['var1'];
return $obj;
}
```

```

}
}

class B extends A {
}

$b = new B;
$b->var1 = 5;

eval('$new_b = ' . var_export($b, true) . ');');
var_dump($new_b);
/*
object(A)#2 (1) {
    ["var1"]=>
    int(5)
}
*/
?>

```

[up](#)

[down](#)

12

[kguest at php dot net ¶](#)

6 years ago

__debugInfo is also utilised when calling print_r on an object:

```

$ cat test.php
<?php
class FooQ {

private $bar = '';

public function __construct($val) {

$this->bar = $val;
}

public function __debugInfo()
{
return ['_bar' => $this->bar];
}
}

$fooq = new FooQ("q");
print_r ($fooq);

```

```
$ php test.php
```

```
FooQ Object
```

```
(
    [_bar] => q
)
```

```
$
```

[up](#)

[down](#)

8

[daniel dot peder at gmail dot com ¶](#)

5 years ago

<http://sandbox.onlinephpfunctions.com/code/4d2cc3648aed58c0dad90c7868173a4775e5ba0c>

IMHO a bug or need feature change

providing a object as a array index doesn't try to us __toString() method so some volatile object identifier is used to index the array, which is breaking any persistency. Type hinting solves that, but while other than "string" type hinting doesn't work on ob jects, the automatic conversion to string should be very intuitive.

PS: tried to submit bug, but without patch the bugs are ignored, unfortunately, I don't C coding

```
<?php
```

```
class shop_product_id {

protected $shop_name;
protected $product_id;

function __construct($shop_name,$product_id){
$this->shop_name = $shop_name;
$this->product_id = $product_id;
}

function __toString(){
return $this->shop_name . ':' . $this->product_id;
}
}

$shop_name = 'Shop_A';
$product_id = 123;
$demo_id = $shop_name . ':' . $product_id;
$demo_name = 'Some product in shop A';

$all_products = [ $demo_id => $demo_name ];
$pid = new shop_product_id( $shop_name, $product_id );

echo "with type hinting: ";
echo ($demo_name === $all_products[(string)$pid]) ? "ok" : "fail";
echo "\n";

echo "without type hinting: ";
echo ($demo_name === $all_products[$pid]) ? "ok" : "fail";
echo "\n";
```

[up](#)

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[rayRO](#)

17 years ago

If you use the Magical Method '___set()', be sure that the call of

```
<?php
```

```
$myobject->test['myarray'] = 'data';
```

```
?>
```

will not appear!

For that you have to do it the fine way if you want to use ___set Method ;)

```
<?php
```

```
$myobject->test = array('myarray' => 'data');
```

```
?>
```

If a Variable is already set, the ___set Magic Method already won't appear!

My first solution was to use a Caller Class.

With that, I ever knew which Module I currently use!

But who needs it... :]

There are quite better solutions for this...

Here's the Code:

```
<?php
```

```
class Caller {
```

```
public $caller;
```

```

public $module;

function __call($funcname, $args = array()) {
$this->setModuleInformation();

if (is_object($this->caller) && function_exists('call_user_func_array'))
$return = call_user_func_array(array(&$this->caller, $funcname), $args);
else
trigger_error("Call to Function with call_user_func_array failed", E_USER_ERROR);

$this->unsetModuleInformation();
return $return;
}

function __construct($callerClassName = false, $callerModuleName = 'Webboard') {
if ($callerClassName == false)
trigger_error('No Classname', E_USER_ERROR);

$this->module = $callerModuleName;

if (class_exists($callerClassName))
$this->caller = new $callerClassName();
else
trigger_error('Class not exists: \''.$callerClassName.'\'', E_USER_ERROR);

if (is_object($this->caller))
{
$this->setModuleInformation();
if (method_exists($this->caller, '__init'))
$this->caller->__init();
$this->unsetModuleInformation();
}
else
trigger_error('Caller is no object!', E_USER_ERROR);
}

function __destruct() {
$this->setModuleInformation();
if (method_exists($this->caller, '__deinit'))
$this->caller->__deinit();
$this->unsetModuleInformation();
}

function __isset($isset) {
$this->setModuleInformation();
if (is_object($this->caller))
$return = isset($this->caller->{$isset});
else
trigger_error('Caller is no object!', E_USER_ERROR);
$this->unsetModuleInformation();
return $return;
}

function __unset($unset) {
$this->setModuleInformation();
if (is_object($this->caller)) {
if (isset($this->caller->{$unset}))
unset($this->caller->{$unset});
}
else
trigger_error('Caller is no object!', E_USER_ERROR);
$this->unsetModuleInformation();
}

```

```

}

function __set($set, $val) {
$this->setModuleInformation();
if (is_object($this->caller))
$this->caller->{$set} = $val;
else
trigger_error('Caller is no object!', E_USER_ERROR);
$this->unsetModuleInformation();
}

function __get($get) {
$this->setModuleInformation();
if (is_object($this->caller)) {
if (isset($this->caller->{$get}))
$return = $this->caller->{$get};
else
$return = false;
}
else
trigger_error('Caller is no object!', E_USER_ERROR);
$this->unsetModuleInformation();
return $return;
}

function setModuleInformation() {
$this->caller->module = $this->module;
}

function unsetModuleInformation() {
$this->caller->module = NULL;
}
}

// Well this can be a Config Class?
class Config {
public $module;

public $test;

function __construct()
{
print('Constructor will have no Module Information... Use __init() instead!<br />');
print('--> '.print_r($this->module, 1).' <--');
print('<br />');
print('<br />');
$this->test = '123';
}

function __init()
{
print('Using of __init()!<br />');
print('--> '.print_r($this->module, 1).' <--');
print('<br />');
print('<br />');
}

function testFunction($test = false)
{
if ($test != false)
$this->test = $test;
}

```

```

}

echo('<pre>');
$wow = new Caller('Config', 'Guestbook');
print_r($wow->test);
print('<br />');
print('<br />');
$wow->test = '456';
print_r($wow->test);
print('<br />');
print('<br />');
$wow->testFunction('789');
print_r($wow->test);
print('<br />');
print('<br />');
print_r($wow->module);
echo('</pre>');
?>

```

Outputs something Like:

```

Constructor will have no Module Information... Use __init() instead!
--> <--

```

```

Using of __init()!
--> Guestbook <--

```

123

456

789

Guestbook

[up](#)

[down](#)

10

[dhuseby domain getback tld com ¶](#)

15 years ago

The above hint for using `array_keys((array)$obj)` got me investigating how to get `__sleep` to really work with object hierarchies.

With PHP 5.2.3, If you want to serialize an object that is part of an object hierarchy and you want to selectively serialize members (public, private, and protected) by manually specifying the array of members, there are a few simple rules for naming members that you must follow:

1. public members should be named using just their member name, like so:

```

<?php
class Foo {
public $bar;

public function __sleep() {
return array("bar");
}
}
?>

```

2. protected members should be named using `"\0" . "*" . "\0" . member name`, like so:

```

<?php
class Foo {

```

```
protected $bar;
```

```
public function __sleep() {  
    return array("\0*\0bar");  
}  
}  
?>
```

3. private members should be named using "\0" . class name . "\0" . member name, like so:

```
<?php  
class Foo {  
    private $bar;  
  
    public function __sleep() {  
        return array("\0Foo\0bar");  
    }  
}  
?>
```

So with this information let us serialize a class hierarchy correctly:

```
<?php  
  
class Base {  
    private $foo = "foo_value";  
    protected $bar = "bar_value";  
  
    public function __sleep() {  
        return array("\0Base\0foo", "\0*\0bar");  
    }  
}  
  
class Derived extends Base {  
    public $baz = "baz_value";  
    private $boo = "boo_value";  
  
    public function __sleep() {  
        // we have to merge our members with our parent's  
        return array_merge(array("baz", "\0Derived\0boo"), parent::__sleep());  
    }  
}  
  
class Leaf extends Derived {  
    private $qux = "qux_value";  
    protected $zaz = "zaz_value";  
    public $blah = "blah_value";  
  
    public function __sleep() {  
        // again, merge our members with our parent's  
        return array_merge(array("\0Leaf\0qux", "\0*\0zaz", "blah"), parent::__sleep());  
    }  
}  
  
// test it  
$test = new Leaf();  
$s = serialize($test);  
$test2 = unserialize($s);  
echo $s;  
print_r($test);  
print_r($test2);
```

?>

Now if you comment out all of the `__sleep()` functions and output the serialized string, you will see that the output doesn't change. The most important part of course is that with the proper `__sleep()` functions, we can unserialize the string and get a properly set up object.

I hope this solves the mystery for everybody. `__sleep()` does work, if you use it correctly :-)

[up](#)

[down](#)

7

[smiley at HELLOSPAMBOT dot chillerlan dot net ¶](#)

8 years ago

A simple API wrapper, using `__call()` and the PHP 5.6 `"..."` token.

<http://php.net/manual/functions.arguments.php#functions.variable-arg-list>

```
<?php
namespace Example;

use Exception;
use ReflectionClass;
use SomeApiInterface;
use SomeHttpClient;
use SomeEndpointHandler;

/**
 * Class SomeApiWrapper
 *
 * @method SomeEndpointHandler method1(MethodParams $param1)
 * @method SomeEndpointHandler method2(MethodParams $param1, AuthParams $param2 = null)
 * ...
 * @method SomeEndpointHandler method42()
 */
class SomeApiWrapper{

    /**
     * @var \SomeHttpClient
     */
    private $httpClient;

    /**
     * @var array
     */
    private $methodMap = [];

    /**
     * SomeApiWrapper constructor.
     */
    public function __construct(){
        $this->mapApiMethods();
        $this->httpClient = new SomeHttpClient();
    }

    /**
     * The API is flat and has ~ 150 endpoints, all of which take optional parameters
     * from up to 3 groups (method params, authentication, filters). Instead of
     * implementing the interface and adding countless stubs that have basically
     * the same signature, i just map its methods here and use __call().
     */
    private function mapApiMethods(){
        $reflectionClass = new ReflectionClass(SomeApiInterface::class);

        foreach($reflectionClass->getMethods() as $m){
```



```

$this->methodMap[] = $m->name;
}
}

/**
 * Thanks to the PHP 5.6+ "... " token, there's no hassle with the arguments anymore
 * (ugh, bad pun). Just hand the method parameters into the endpoint handler,
 * along with other mandatory params - type hints are your friends.
 *
 * It's magic!
 *
 * @param string $method
 * @param array $arguments
 *
 * @return \SomeEndpointHandler
 * @throws \Exception
 */
public function __call($method, $arguments){

if(in_array($method, $this->methodMap)){
return new SomeEndpointHandler($this->httpClient, $method, ...$arguments);
}

throw new Exception('Endpoint "'. $method. '" does not exist');
}

}

```

[up](#)

[down](#)

4

[ctamayo at sitecrafting dot com ¶](#)

3 years ago

Due to a bug in PHP <= 7.3, overriding the __debugInfo() method from SPL classes is silently ignored.

```
<?php
```

```

class Debuggable extends ArrayObject {
public function __debugInfo() {
return ['special' => 'This should show up'];
}
}

```

```
var_dump(new Debuggable());
```

```

// Expected output:
// object(Debuggable)#1 (1) {
//   ["special"]=>
//   string(19) "This should show up"
// }

```

```

// Actual output:
// object(Debuggable)#1 (1) {
//   ["storage":"ArrayObject":private]=>
//   array(0) {
//   }
// }

```

```
?>
```

Bug report: <https://bugs.php.net/bug.php?id=69264>

[up](#)

[down](#)

10

[daan dot broekhof at gmail dot com](mailto:daan.dot.broekhof@gmail.com)

11 years ago

Ever wondered why you can't throw exceptions from __toString()? Yeah me too.

Well now you can! This trick allows you to throw any type of exception from within a __toString(), with a full & correct backtrace.

How does it work? Well PHP __toString() handling is not as strict in every case: throwing an Exception from __toString() triggers a fatal E_ERROR, but returning a non-string value from a __toString() triggers a non-fatal E_RECOVERABLE_ERROR. Add a little bookkeeping, and can circumvented this PHP deficiency!

(tested to work PHP 5.3+)

```
<?php
```

```
set_error_handler(array('My_ToStringFixer', 'errorHandler'));
error_reporting(E_ALL | E_STRICT);
```

```
class My_ToStringFixer
```

```
{
protected static $_toStringException;
```

```
public static function errorHandler($errorNumber, $errorMessage, $errorFile, $errorLine)
```

```
{
if (isset(self::$_toStringException))
{
$exception = self::$_toStringException;
// Always unset '_toStringException', we don't want a straggler to be found later if something came between the setting
and the error
self::$_toStringException = null;
if (preg_match('~^Method .*::__toString\(\) must return a string value$~', $errorMessage))
throw $exception;
}
return false;
}
```

```
public static function throwToStringException($exception)
```

```
{
// Should not occur with prescribed usage, but in case of recursion: clean out exception, return a valid string, and weep
if (isset(self::$_toStringException))
{
self::$_toStringException = null;
return '';
}
```

```
self::$_toStringException = $exception;
```

```
return null;
```

```
}
}
```

```
class My_Class
```

```
{
public function doComplexStuff()
{
throw new Exception('Oh noes!');
}
```

```
public function __toString()
```

```
{
try
{
```

```
// do your complex thing which might trigger an exception
return $this->doComplexStuff();
}
catch (Exception $e)
{
// The 'return' is required to trigger the trick
return My_ToStringFixer::throwToStringException($e);
}
}
}
```

```
$x = new My_Class();
```

```
try
{
echo $x;
}
catch (Exception $e)
{
echo 'Caught Exception! : '. $e;
}
?>
```

[up](#)

[down](#)

5

[jeffxlevy at gmail dot com ¶](#)

18 years ago

Intriguing what happens when `__sleep()` and `__wakeup()` and `sessions()` are mixed. I had a hunch that, as session data is serialized, `__sleep` would be called when an object, or whatever, is stored in `_SESSION`. true. The same hunch applied when `session_start()` was called. Would `__wakeup()` be called? True. Very helpful, specifically as I'm building massive objects (well, lots of simple objects stored in sessions), and need lots of automated tasks (potentially) reloaded at "wakeup" time. (for instance, restarting a database session/connection).

[up](#)

[down](#)

6

[ddavenport at newagedigital dot com ¶](#)

19 years ago

One of the principles of OOP is encapsulation--the idea that an object should handle its own data and no others'. Asking base classes to take care of subclasses' data, esp considering that a class can't possibly know how many dozens of ways it will be extended, is irresponsible and dangerous.

Consider the following...

```
<?php
class SomeStupidStorageClass
{
public function getContents($pos, $len) { ...stuff... }
}

class CryptedStorageClass extends SomeStupidStorageClass
{
private $decrypted_block;
public function getContents($pos, $len) { ...decrypt... }
}
?>
```

If `SomeStupidStorageClass` decided to serialize its subclasses' data as well as its own, a portion of what was once an encrypted thingie could be stored, in the clear, wherever the thingie was stored. Obviously, `CryptedStorageClass` would never have chosen this...but it had to either know how to serialize its parent class's data without calling `parent::__sleep()`, or let the base class do what it wanted to.

Considering encapsulation again, no class should have to know how the parent handles its own private data. And it

certainly shouldn't have to worry that users will find a way to break access controls in the name of convenience.

If a class wants both to have private/protected data and to survive serialization, it should have its own `__sleep()` method which asks the parent to report its own fields and then adds to the list if applicable. Like so....

```
<?php
```

```
class BetterClass
{
    private $content;

    public function __sleep()
    {
        return array('basedata1', 'basedata2');
    }

    public function getContents() { ...stuff... }
}

class BetterDerivedClass extends BetterClass
{
    private $decrypted_block;

    public function __sleep()
    {
        return parent::__sleep();
    }

    public function getContents() { ...decrypt... }
}

?>
```

The derived class has better control over its data, and we don't have to worry about something being stored that shouldn't be.

[up](#)

[down](#)

4

[***martin dot goldinger at netserver dot ch ¶***](#)

18 years ago

When you use sessions, its very important to keep the sessiondata small, due to low performance with unserialize. Every class shoud extend from this class. The result will be, that no null Values are written to the sessiondata. It will increase performance.

```
<?
class BaseObject
{
    function __sleep()
    {
        $vars = (array)$this;
        foreach ($vars as $key => $val)
        {
            if (is_null($val))
            {
                unset($vars[$key]);
            }
        }
        return array_keys($vars);
    }
};
?>
```

[up](#)

[down](#)

3

[yanleech at gmail dot com ¶](#)

15 years ago

Maybe we can using unserialize() & __wakeup() instead "new" when creating a new instance of class.

Consider following codes:

```
class foo
{
static public $WAKEUP_STR = 'O:3:"foo":0:{}';
public function foo(){}
public function bar(){}
}
```

```
$foo = unserialize(foo::$WAKEUP_STR);
```

[up](#)

[down](#)

2

[Anonymous ¶](#)

13 years ago

Concerning __set() with protected/private/overloaded properties, the behavior might not be so intuitive without knowing some underlying rules. Consider this test object for the following examples...

```
<?php
class A {
protected $test_int = 2;
protected $test_array = array('key' => 'test');
protected $test_obj;
```

```
function __construct() {
$this->test_obj = new stdClass();
}
```

```
function __get($prop) {
return $this->$prop;
}
```

```
function __set($prop, $val) {
$this->$prop = $val;
}
}
```

```
$a = new A();
```

```
?>
```

Combined Operators (., +=, *=, etc): you must also define a companion __get() method to grant write -and- read access to the property. Remember, "\$x += \$y" is shorthand for "\$x = \$x + \$y". In other words, "__set(\$x, (__get(\$x) + \$y))".

Properties that are Arrays: attempting to set array values like "\$a->test_array[] = 'asdf';" from outside this object will result in an "Indirect modification of overloaded property" notice and the operation completely ignored. You can't use '[' for array value assignment in this context (with the exception only if you made __get() return by reference, in which case, it would work fine and bypass the __set() method altogether). You can work around this doing something like unioning the array instead:

```
<?php
```

```
$a->test_array[] = 'asdf'; // notice given and ignored unless __get() was declared to return by reference
```

```
$a->test_array += array(1 => 'asdf'); // to add a key/value
```

```
$a->test_array = array("key" => 'asdf') + $a->test_array; // to overwrite a key/value.
```

?>

Properties that are Objects: as long as you have that `__get()` method, you can freely access and alter that sub object's own properties, bypassing `__set()` entirely. Remember, objects are assigned and passed by reference naturally.

```
<?php
```

```
$a->test_obj->prop = 1; // fine if $a did not have a set method declared.
```

?>

All above tested in 5.3.2.

[up](#)

[down](#)

2

[staff at pro-unreal dot de ¶](#)

10 years ago

To avoid instantiating the parent instead of the inherited class for `__set_state()` as reported by jsnell, you could use late static binding introduced in PHP 5.3:

```
<?php
```

```
class A {
    public static function __set_state($data) {
        return new static();
    }
}
```

```
class B extends A {
}
```

```
$instance = new B();
eval('$test = ' . var_export($instance, true) . ';' );
var_dump($test);
// -> object(B)#2 (0) {
// }
```

?>

[up](#)

[down](#)

2

[osbertv at yahoo dot com ¶](#)

12 years ago

Invoking a class inside a class results in an error.

```
<?php
```

```
class A
{
    public function __invoke()
    {
        echo "Invoking A() Class";
    }
}
```

```
class B
{
    public $a;

    public function __construct()
    {
        $this->a = new A();
    }

    public function __invoke()
```

```
{
echo "Invoking B() Class";
}
}
```

```
$a = new A();
$b = new B();
$a();
$b();
$b->a();
```

?>

returns
Invoking B() Class
PHP Fatal error: Call to undefined method B::a()

[up](#)

[down](#)

1

[tyler at nighthound dot us ¶](#)

7 months ago

Please note that as of PHP 8.2 implementing `__serialize()` has no control over the output of `json_encode()`. you still have to implement `JsonSerializable`.

[up](#)

[down](#)

1

[Wesley ¶](#)

12 years ago

Warning `__toString` can be triggerd more then one time

```
<?php
if(strpos(substr($obj,0,1024), 'sometstuff')
echo $obj;
return 'missing sometstuff at the start, create container!';
```

`substr()` will trigger a `__toString` aswell as `echo $obj`;
?>

wich cause a performance issue since it will gather all data twice.

what i used as a hotfix:

```
<?php
__toString(){
if(null === $this->sToString)
$this->sToString = $this->_show();
return $this->sToString;
}
?>
```

[up](#)

[down](#)

1

[rudie-de-hotblocks at osu1 dot php dot net ¶](#)

14 years ago

Note also that the constructor is executed also, and before `__set_state()`, making this magic function less magic, imho, (except for the ability to assign private members).

[up](#)

[down](#)

0

[vali dot dr at gmail dot com ¶](#)

3 years ago

It should be noted that if you unset a class typed property and then try to access it, `__get` will be called. But it MUST

return the original type.

https://wiki.php.net/rfc/typed_properties_v2#overloaded_properties

[up](#)

[down](#)

-1

[Anonymous ¶](#)

15 years ago

Serializing objects is problematic with references. This is solved redefining the `__sleep()` magic method. This is also problematic when parent class has private variables since the parent object is not accessible nor its private variables from within the child object.

I found a solution that seems working for classes that implements this `__sleep()` method, and for its subclasses. Without more work in subclasses. The inheritance system does the trick.

Recursively `__sleep()` call parent's `__sleep()` and return the whole array of variables of the object instance to be serialized.

```
<?php
class foo {
}

class a {
private $var1;

function __construct(foo &$obj = NULL) {
$this->var1 = &$obj;
}

/** Return its variables array, if its parent exists and the __sleep method is accessible, call it and push the result
into the array and return the whole thing. */
public function __sleep() {
$a = array_keys(get_object_vars(&$this));
if (method_exists(parent, '__sleep')) {
$p = parent::__sleep();
array_push($a, $p);
};
return $a;
}
}

class b extends a {
function __construct(foo &$obj = NULL) {
parent::__construct($obj);
}
}

session_start();
$myfoo = &new foo();
$myb = &new b($myfoo);
$myb = unserialize(serialize(&$myb));
?>
```

This should work, I haven't tested deeper.

[up](#)

[down](#)

-1

[docey ¶](#)

18 years ago

about `__sleep` and `_wakeup`, consider using a method like this:

```
class core
```



```

{

var $sub_core; //ref of subcore
var $_sleep_subcore; // place where serialize version of sub_core will be stored


function core(){
$this->sub_core = new sub_core();
return true;
}


function __wakeup()
{
// on wakeup of core, core unserializes sub_core
// wich it had stored when it was serialized itself
$this->sub_core = unserialize($this->_sleep_subcore);
return true;
}


function __sleep()
{
// sub_core will be serialized when core is serialized.
// the serialized subcore will be stored as a string inside core.
$this->_sleep_subcore = serialize($this->sub_core);
$return_arr[] = "_sleep_subcore";
return $return_arr;
}

}


class sub_core
{
var $info;

function sub_core()
{
$this->info["somedata"] = "somedata overhere"
}


function __wakeup()
{
return true;
}


function __sleep()
{
$return_arr[] = "info"
return $return_arr;
}

}

```

this way subcore is being serialized by core when core is being serialized. subcore handles its own data and core stores it as a serialize string inside itself. on wakeup core unserializes subcore.

this may have a performance cost, but if you have many objects connected this way this is the best way of serializing them. you only need to serialize the the main object wich will serialize all those below which will serialize all those below them again. in effect causing a sort of chainreaction in wich each object takes care of its own info.

offcourse you always need to store the eventually serialized string in a safe place. somebody got experience with this way of __wakeup and __sleep.

works in PHP4&5

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