**1 Ternary Operator**

PHP offers a short-hand syntax to conditionally return a value. Before learning it, let’s consider some example code:

$isClicked = FALSE;  
if ( $isClicked ) {  
  $link\_color = "purple";  
} else {  
  $link\_color = "blue";  
}

In the code above, our condition checks the value of the $isClicked variable. If it’s TRUE we assign $link\_color to "purple", otherwise we assign it the value "blue". Our code is somewhat repetitive—the code in each code block is only slightly different.

A ternary operator (?:) is another conditional operator. It takes three operands and returns a value:

* The first operand is a condition to check. This is followed by a question mark ?.
* The second operand is an expression to return if the condition is TRUE. This is followed by a colon (:).
* The third operand is an expression to return if the condition is FALSE.

Let’s see our previous example refactored with the ternary operator:

$isClicked = FALSE;  
$link\_color = $isClicked ? "purple" : "blue";

The ternary operator allows us to write fewer lines of code while maintaining readability.

Note

that code in the expression will be executed, but the intended use of the ternary is to conditionally return a value *not* to execute code.

**2 Ternary BEST PRACTICE**

<?php

namespace Codecademy;

function ternaryCheckout($items)

{

return $items <= 12 ? "express lane" : "regular lane";

}

function ternaryVote($age)

{

return $age >= 18 ? "yes" : "no";

}

// The outputs//

echo ternaryCheckout(1);

echo "\n";

echo ternaryCheckout(19);

echo "\n";

echo ternaryVote(2);

echo "\n";

echo ternaryVote(20);

**3 Truthy and Falsy**

<?php

namespace Codecademy;

function truthyOrFalsy($value)

{

if ($value) {

return "True";

} else {

  return "False";

}

}

echo truthyOrFalsy("0");

echo "\n";

echo truthyOrFalsy("null");

echo "\n";

echo truthyOrFalsy("an undefined or undeclared variable");

echo "\n";

echo truthyOrFalsy("an empty array");

echo "\n";

echo truthyOrFalsy("0");

echo "\n";

echo truthyOrFalsy(0);

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**Alternate Syntax**

An alternate syntax for logical || operator is the or operator, and an alternate syntax for logical && operator is the and operator. These operators have the advantage of making our code more human readable.

$oldUser = FALSE;

$is\_user = TRUE;

if ($oldUser or $is\_user){

echo "You can change the password.\n";

}

$correct\_pin = TRUE;

$sufficient\_funds = TRUE;

if ($correct\_pin and $sufficient\_funds){

echo "You can make the withdrawal.\n";

}

$antonia\_a\_good\_wife = true;

$antonia\_apretence = TRUE;

if ($antonia\_a\_good\_wife and $antonia\_apretence) {

echo "Expose her.\n";

}