

# Introduction to PHP



# PHP Introduction

PHP is stand for “PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor”  
-- It is a widely-used open source general-purpose scripting language that is especially suited for web development and can be embedded into HTML.

# PHP Introduction

- > PHP is a server-side scripting language
- > PHP scripts are executed on the server
- > PHP supports many databases (MySQL, Informix, Oracle, Sybase, Solid, PostgreSQL, Generic ODBC, etc.)
- > PHP is open source software
- > PHP is free to download and use

# PHP Introduction

- > PHP runs on different platforms (Windows, Linux, Unix, etc.)
- > PHP is compatible with almost all servers used today (Apache, IIS, etc.)
- > PHP is FREE to download from the official PHP resource: [www.php.net](http://www.php.net)
- > PHP is easy to learn and runs efficiently on the server side

# PHP Introduction

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN"
    "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
<html>
    <head>
        <title>Example</title>
    </head>
    <body>

        <?php
            echo "Hi, I'm a PHP script!";
        ?>

    </body>
</html>
```

# PHP Introduction

PHP code is executed on the server, generating HTML which is then sent to the client. The client would receive the results of running that script, but would not know what the underlying code was.

A visual, if you please...

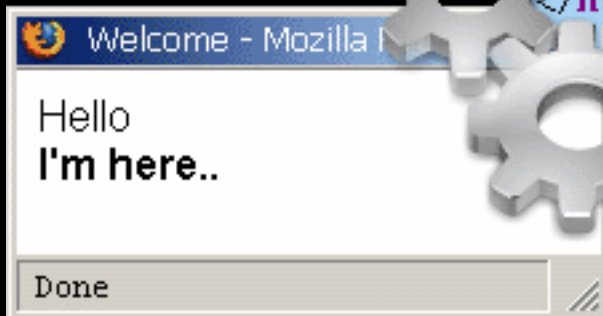
# PHP Introduction

ON SERVER

```
<html>
<head> <title>Welcome</title> </head>
<body>
<?
    echo "Hello";
    print "<br />";
    echo "<b>I'm here..</b>";
??
</body>
</html>
```



```
<html>
<head> <title>Welcome</title> </head>
<body>
Hello<br /><b>I'm here..</b></body>
</html>
```



# PHP Getting Started

On windows, you can download and install WAMP. With one installation and you get an Apache webserver, database server and php.

<http://www.wampserver.com>

On mac, you can download and install MAMP.

<http://www.mamp.info/en/index.html>



# PHP Hello World

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>PHP Test</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <?php echo '<p>Hello World</p>'; ?>
  </body>
</html>
```

Above is the PHP source code.

# PHP Hello World

It renders as HTML that looks like this:

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>PHP Test</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Hello World</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

# PHP Comments

In PHP, we use `//` to make a single-line comment or `/*` and `*/` to make a large comment block.

```
<html>
<body>

<?php
//This is a comment

/*
This is
a comment
block
*/
?>

</body>
</html>
```

# PHP Variables

- > Variables are used for storing values, like text strings, numbers or arrays.
- > When a variable is declared, it can be used over and over again in your script.
- > All variables in PHP start with a \$ sign symbol.
- > The correct way of declaring a variable in PHP:

```
$var_name = value;
```

# PHP Variables

```
<?php  
$txt="Hello World!";  
$x=16;  
?>
```

- > In PHP, a variable does not need to be declared before adding a value to it.
- > In the example above, you see that you do not have to tell PHP which data type the variable is.
- > PHP automatically converts the variable to the correct data type, depending on its value.

# PHP Variables

- > A variable name must start with a letter or an underscore "\_" -- not a number
- > A variable name can only contain alpha-numeric characters, underscores (a-z, A-Z, 0-9, and \_)
- > A variable name should not contain spaces. If a variable name is more than one word, it should be separated with an underscore (\$my\_string) or with capitalization (\$myString)