

Email

PHP can send out emails, even without an email solution installed on your server. You can set the “from” address to anything, but keep in mind that many email providers (Gmail, etc.) will flag emails sent with this method as suspicious.

Emailing will not be part of any assignments for this class, since I don't want to be spammed with test emails. But, some information about it is here if it comes in handy. If you intend to send out email from your website, it is probably best to also set up an SMTP server. If you're going to do this, you should look up some PHP libraries (such as PEAR) to help you out with emailing.

Sending an email

You can send an email with the **mail()** function. The mail function's arguments are:
to, subject, message, headers, parameters

You can include a **from** address within the **headers** parameter. The header may also contain information about the content, character set, and other information.

Let's say we have a form to send an email from:

```
<form method="post">
    <p>
        <label>Subject:</label>
        <input type="text" name="subject"/>
    </p>

    <p>
        <label>Message:</label><br/>
        <textarea name="message"></textarea>
    </p>

    <p>
        <label>To:</label>
        <input type="text" name="to"/>
    </p>

    <p>
        <label>From:</label>
        <input type="text" name="from"/>
    </p>

    <p>
        <input type="submit" value="Send" name="send-mail" />
    </p>
</form>
```

```
</p>  
</form>
```

Then, you can send an email with:

```
if ( isset( $_POST["send-mail"] ) )  
{  
    mail(      $_POST["to"],  
            $_POST["subject"],  
            $_POST["message"],  
            "From:" . $_POST["from"] );  
}
```

Here, the arguments could be:

To	Subject	Message	Headers
"bob@fakemail.com"	"You hve won 1 mil\$!"	"Plz send ur credit card # so I can forward ur accoutn 1 mil \$!"	"From:billgates@micro soft.com"

That's about it. This exists, but handling email this way is probably not the best way to handle things, especially in high-traffic websites.