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# Cookies

## Definition

A cookie is a small file (max size 4kb) that is stored on the client side (on the browser).

Once a cookie has been created, all pages will share the cookie.

A cookie can only be read from the domain from which it came. For example, if you have a cookie on Facebook, it will only be used on FB.

However, most sites display items from other domains (such as advertising). Generally these domains have their own cookies, this is called third party cookies or third party cookies.

You have the option to disable cookies directly from your browser.

## Create a cookie

To create a cookie, here is the syntax:

```
setcookie ("nickname", "simon", time () + 60);  
// expires after 60 seconds  
the cookie has been set for 60 seconds';
```

The setcookie () function expects several arguments: the name of the cookie, its value, and the lifetime of the cookie.

Each cookie has a lifespan that is expressed in timestamp (seconds elapsed since<sup>1</sup> January 1970).

## Retrieve the value of a cookie

To retrieve the value of a cookie, we use the super global variable **\$ \_COOKIE:**

```
print_r ($ _ COOKIE);
```

# Sessions

## Definition

A session is a global variable stored on the server.

When a session is created, a cookie containing the id of the session is stored at the client.

Compared to cookies, sessions can store a lot of data.

The values of a session are automatically destroyed when you close the browser.

Like var \$\_COOKIE, the values of the session are stored in the \$\_SESSION array.

A session must begin before any HTML tag.

## Create a session

To create a session, here's an example:

```
session_start (); // start the session  
if (isset ($_SESSION ['page_view']))  
{  
    $_SESSION ['page_view'] + = 1;  
}  
else  
{  
    $_SESSION ['page_view'] = 1;  
}
```

We start a session and we will save the number of pages viewed in all.

## **Retrieve the value of a session**

To retrieve the value of a session, we use the super global variable **\$ \_SESSION**:

```
print_r ($ _ SESSION);
```

## **Destroy a session**

To destroy a session, use this function:

```
session_destroy ();
```

To delete only one element of the session we use unset:

```
unset ($ _ SESSION ['page_view']);
```