PHP Basics

Covering the basics of PHP and how it differs from javascript.



What is it?

Commonly known as a back end or server-side language, php is used in millions of web sites/apps today.

What is PHP?

- PHP stands for PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor
- PHP is a server-side scripting language, like ASP
- PHP scripts are executed on the server
- PHP supports many databases (MySQL, Informix, Oracle, Sybase, Solid, PostgreSQL, Generic ODBC, etc.)
- PHP is an open source software (OSS)
- PHP is free to download and use

What can PHP do?

- Performs Calculations
- Collects User Information
- Interacts With MySQL Databases
- Creates Graphics with GD Library
- Works With Cookies
- Creates, adds to and edits files
- File uploading



Php Tags

Php requires tag declarations, these can be open or closed

```
<?php if(isset($hasError)) { //If errors are found ?>
    Please check if you've filled all the fields with
<?php } ?>

<?php if(isset($emailSent) && $emailSent == true) { //If email is sent ?>
    <div class="alert alert-success">
        <<strong>Message Successfully Sent!</strong>
    Thank you for using our contact form, <strong><?php echo $name;?></strong>
    </div>
<?php } ?>
```

Php includes

Php can import code, html or php into it's files. This is done using a php include.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en" dir="ltr">
<?php include 'includes/head.php' ?>
 <body>
 include 'includes/header.php'
   <main role="main">
```

Php mail

Php has the ability to send mail via the Mail function.

```
//If there is no error, send the email
if(!isset($hasError)) {
    $emailTo = 'you@yourwebsite.com'; // Put your
    $body = "Name: $name \n\nEmail: $email \n\nPh
    $headers = 'From: My Site <'.$emailTo.'>' . '

    mail($emailTo, $subject, $body, $headers);
    $emailSent = true;
}
```

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