

PHP - Introduction

- ✱ PHP stands for [Hypertext Preprocessor](#).
- ✱ The PHP programming language is a [server-side scripting language](#).
- ✱ The PHP language [runs on the server-side](#). This means that the execution (read starting) of the scripts are done on the server where the web-site is hosted.
- ✱ Generally, PHP is embedded with HTML and Scripting Language.
- ✱ HTML embedded means, that you can use PHP statements (read a piece of PHP code) within an HTML code.
- ✱ PHP files are returned to the browser as plain HTML.

Characteristics of PHP:

- ✱ PHP is free and an [open source software product](#).
- ✱ PHP supports many databases ([MySQL, Sybase, Oracle and many others.](#))
- ✱ PHP runs on different platforms ([Unix, Linux, Windows.](#))



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- ★ PHP is mostly support in all the web-servers used today ([Apache](#), [IIS \(Internet Information Services\)](#), etc.)
 - ★ A PHP file can contain plain text, HTML tags and scripts.
 - ★ The PHP files can have one of the following extensions: [.php](#), [php3](#) or [phtml](#).