

PHP

forms.
control structures - if / switch

Web forms

TV feedback

This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas

Provide your feedback

How many times do you watch soaps a week:

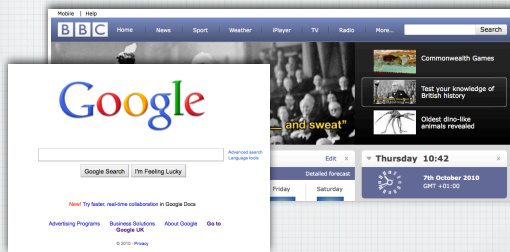
Thank you for your feedback

Input field - submit button

Input field - text

Web forms

Most common way of getting data from user



Web forms

No PHP in here - can be saved as an .html file

```
<body>
<h1>TV feedback</h1>
<p>This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas</p>
<h2>Provide your feedback</h2>

<form name="soapform" action="response1.php" method="get">

<p>How many times do you watch soaps a week:<input type="text" name="timesweek" /></p>
<p>Thank you for your feedback <input type="submit" name="continue" /></p>
</form>
</body>
```

Web forms

TV feedback

This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas

Provide your feedback

How many times do you watch soaps a week:

Thank you for your feedback

Demo

Web forms

form must be indicated by form element

```
<body>
<h1>TV feedback</h1>
<p>This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas</p>
<h2>Provide your feedback</h2>

<form name="soapform" action="response1.php" method="get">

</form>
</body>
```

Needs at least three attributes name, action and method

Web forms

form must be indicated by **form** element

```
<body>
<h1>TV feedback</h1>
<p>This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas</p>
<h2>Provide your feedback</h2>
<form name="soapform" action="response1.php" method="get">

</form>
</body>
```

Use **name** to give each form on the page a unique name

Web forms

Two ways of passing information between pages

get	form information is passed through the URL
post	form information is embedded in the HTTP stream

..more on this in a minute

Web forms

form must be indicated by **form** element

```
<body>
<h1>TV feedback</h1>
<p>This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas</p>
<h2>Provide your feedback</h2>
<form name="soapform" action="response1.php" method="get">

</form>
</body>
```

Use **action** to indicate the 'next' page where the form will be processed

form elements

TV feedback

This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas

Provide your feedback

How many times do you watch soaps a week:

Thank you for your feedback

```
<input type="text" name="timesaweek" />
<input type="submit" name="continue" />
```

Give every form element a unique **name** - these are used to pass the data values and in the processing page

Web forms

form must be indicated by **form** element

```
<body>
<h1>TV feedback</h1>
<p>This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas</p>
<h2>Provide your feedback</h2>
<form name="soapform" action="response1.php" method="get">

</form>
</body>
```

Use **method** to indicate the way that data will be transferred

method="get"

The form values are passed in the URL using **name = value** pairs

responseget1.php?timesaweek=4&continue=Submit+Query

`method="get"`

The form values are passed in the URL using **name = value pairs**

```
responseget1.php?timesaweek=4&continue=Submit+Query
```

Special encoding has to occur for spaces, =, & etc.

Called **URL encoding** and done automatically by the browser - note that **name** comes from the form

`method="get"`

The form values are passed in the URL using **name = value pairs**

```
responseget1.php?timesaweek=4&continue=Submit+Query
```

The continue button is also a form element - here with the default value

`$_GET['...']`

php creates a variable for each form element passed through using this notation

```
$_GET['form_element_name']
```

Best to create a variable to get values out at the top of the page

```
$timesaweek = $_GET['timesaweek'];
```

Web forms

responseget1.php page

```
<?php
$timesaweek = $_GET['timesaweek'];
?>

<html>
<head>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Responses</h1>
<p>Here are the results</p>
<p>
<?php
print "<p>The amount watched was ".$timesaweek."</p>";
?>
</p>
</body>
</html>
```

Web forms - POST example

TV feedback

This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas

Provide your feedback

How many times do you watch soaps a week:

Thank you for your feedback

Looks the same in the browser

`method="post"`

```
<body>
<h1>TV feedback</h1>
<p>This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas</p>
<h2>Provide your feedback</h2>
<form name="soapform" action="response2.php" method="post">
  <p>How many times do you watch soaps a week:<input type="text" name="timesaweek" /></p>
  <p>Thank you for your feedback <input type="submit" name="continue" /></p>
</form>
</body>
```

Small change here

But how is the data passed to the next page when using POST?

Web forms

Two ways of passing information between pages

get	form information is passed through the URL
post	form information is embedded in the HTTP stream

`$_POST['...']`

php creates a variable for each form element passed through using this notation

```
$_POST['form_element_name']
```

Best to create a variable to get values out at the top of the page

```
$timesaweek = $_POST['timesaweek'];
```

Web forms

Two ways of passing information between pages

get	form information is passed through the URL
post	form information is embedded in the HTTP stream

Web forms

responsepost1.php page

```
<?php
$timesaweek = $_POST['timesaweek'];
?>
<html>
<head>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Responses</h1>
<p>Here are the results</p>
<p>
<?php
print "<p>The amount watched was ".$timesaweek."</p>";
?>
</p>
</body>
</html>
```

← Uses the `_POST` array

How `_POST` works ...

User clicks on form



Page request AND data is sent to server using HTTP



```
POST /responses.php HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0
Content-Length: 27
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

timesaweek=4&continue=Submit+Query
```

Method choice - GET vs POST

GET - visible, bookmarkable

POST - not seen on screen, not bookmarkable

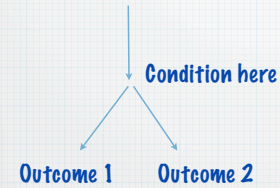
Control structures / flow control

- if ... else
- while ... do ..

Much of this material is explained in [PHP programming 2nd Ed. Chap 2](#)

But sometimes we need to have choices / alternatives

Start at the top



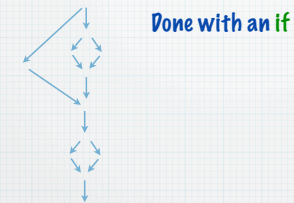
Work down to the bottom

Control structures / flow control

- if ... else
- while ... do ..

Much of this material is explained in [PHP programming 2nd Ed. Chap 2](#)

Can be complex flows



Done with an if

PHP files are processed top to bottom in sequence

```
<html>
<?php ... ?>
<head>
<?php ... ?>
<title>... <?php ... ?> ...</title>
</head>
<body>
<p>
<?php ... ?>
</p>
</body>
</html>
```

Starting at the top

Working down to the bottom

The control flow

```
if (expression)
    statement
```

Perform the statement if the expression is true

```
if (expression)
    statement1
else
    statement2
```

Perform statement1 if the expression is true otherwise statement2

```
if (expression){
    statement;
    statement;
}
else {
    statement;
    statement;
};
```

Perform blocks of statements if the expression is true otherwise ...

```
if (expression){
    statement;
}
else
if (expression){
    statement;
}
else {
    statement;
};
```

If there are many choices a **nested series** of **if** statement may be required

Note how **tabs** are used to help read the code - do the same with your code

if ... else

To include more than one statement in an if statement, use a block / curly brace-enclosed set of statements:

```
if (expression){
    statement;
    statement;
}
else {
    statement;
    statement;
};
```

if ... else

The **if** statement checks the truthfulness of an expression and, if the expression is **true**, evaluates a statement:

```
if (expression)
    statement
```

predicate must be in brackets

Example

Get a random number between 1 and 20 (inclusive) and determine **odd** or **even**

```
$myNumber=rand(1,20);
print "<p>The number is: ".$myNumber."</p>";
if (($myNumber % 2) == 0){
    print "<p>Its even</p>";
}
else
{
    print "<p>Its odd</p>";
};
```

if ... else

To specify an alternative statement to execute when the expression is false, use the **else** keyword:

```
if (expression)
    statement
else
    statement
```

Control structures / flow control

- **if ... else**
- **while ... do ..**

Much of this material is explained in **PHP programming 2nd Ed. Chap 2**

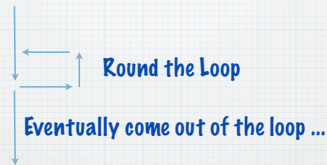
Control structures / flow control

- if ... else
- while ... do ..

Much of this material is explained in [PHP programming 2nd Ed. Chap 2](#)

Sometimes we need to do things many times

Start



Loops / Iteration / doing things over and over and over and over

a while loop

while loop

The structure of a **while** statement is:

```
while (condition)
    statement
```

Loop continues whilst condition is true

or with many statements -

```
while (condition){
    statement;
    statement;
    statement;
    statement;
};
```

Do something in here to change the condition (unless you want it to continue ∞)

while loop

```
$today="Monday";

while($today<"Friday"){
    print "<p>Today is ".$today."</p>";
    if (rand(1,10)>7){
        $today="Friday";
    }
};

print "Final value of today is ".$today;
```

If the condition is initially **false**, the loop doesn't execute at all (i.e. 0 times)

while loop

```
$today="Friday";

while($today<"Friday"){
    print "<p>Today is ".$today."</p>";
    if (rand(1,10)>7){
        $today="Friday";
    }
};

print "Final value of today is ".$today;
```

If the condition is initially **false**, the loop doesn't execute at all (i.e. 0 times)

Arrays

- associative arrays

Much of this material is explained in [PHP programming 2nd Ed. Chap 5](#)

Arrays

Sometimes we have a set of values that should have a single name

Can use a structure called an array to store these



A series of boxes with the same name

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

	0	1	2	3
\$favTV	West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

	Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
\$favTV	West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

	Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
\$favTV	West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
print $favTV['Barry'];
```

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

	Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
\$favTV	West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
print $favTV['Barry'];
```


associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

⚡favTV

Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
print $favTV['Barry'];  
Mad men
```

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

⚡favTV

Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
print $favTV["Dan"];  
West Wing
```

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

⚡favTV

Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
print $favTV["Dan"];
```

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

⚡favTV

Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
$favTV['Walter']="ER"
```

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

⚡favTV

Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	Desperate Housewives

```
print $favTV["Dan"];
```

associative arrays

Uses labels to index the cells

⚡favTV

Dan	Barry	Phil	Walter
West Wing	Mad men	Horizon	ER

```
$favTV['Walter']="ER"
```

associative arrays

Use simple assignment to create the array

```
$favTV["Dan"]="West Wing";
```

\$favTV	Dan
	West Wing

useful functions

See appropriate references for full definitions of these

functions	explanation
count()	no of array cells
array_pad()	create an array with the same value
array_slice()	extract part of an array
array_keys()	returns an array of the keys
array_key_exists()	see if a key exists

associative arrays

Use simple assignment to create the array

```
$favTV["Dan"]="West Wing";  
$favTV["Barry"]="Mad men";
```

\$favTV	Dan	Barry
	West Wing	Mad men

Web forms

TV feedback

This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas

Provide your feedback

Soap Opera:

How many times do you watch this programme a week:

Other Comments:

Thank you for your feedback

associative arrays

Use simple assignment to create the array

```
$favTV["Dan"]="West Wing";  
$favTV["Barry"]="Mad men";  
$favTV["Phil"]="Horizon";
```

\$favTV	Dan	Barry	Phil
	West Wing	Mad men	Horizon

Web forms

Two ways of passing information between pages

get	form information is passed through the URL
post	form information is embedded in the HTTP stream

Web forms

```
<form name="form1" action="responseget.php" method="get">
<p>Soap Opera:
  <select name="soapname">
    <option value="EE">Eestenders</option>
    <option value="CS">Coronation Street</option>
    <option value="EMD">Emmerdale</option>
  </select>
</p>
<p>How many times do you watch this programme a week:<input type="text" name="timesaweek"></p>
<p>Other Comments: <textarea name="comments" cols="60" rows="3"></textarea></p>
<p>Thank you for your feedback <input type="submit" name="continue" value="Continue" /></p>
</form>
```

method="GET"

1. The form values are passed in the URL using name = value pairs

```
responseget.php?soapname=EE&timesaweek=3&comments=Its
+depressing&continue=Continue
```

method="GET"

1. The form values are passed in the URL using name = value pairs

```
responseget.php?soapname=EE&timesaweek=3&comments=Its
+depressing&continue=Continue
```

method="GET"

1. The form values are passed in the URL using name = value pairs

```
responseget.php?soapname=EE&timesaweek=3&comments=Its
+depressing&continue=Continue
```

Note how special encoding has to occur for spaces, =, & etc.

Called **URL encoding** and done automatically by the browser

method="GET"

1. The form values are passed in the URL using name = value pairs

```
responseget.php?soapname=EE&timesaweek=3&comments=Its
+depressing&continue=Continue
```

method="GET"

1. The form values are passed in the URL using name = value pairs

```
responseget.php?soapname=EE&timesaweek=3&comments=Its
+depressing&continue=Continue
```

The continue button is also a form element

\$_GET associative array

PHP automatically creates an associative array with the passed URL values

```
responseget.php?soapname=EE&timesawee=3&comments=Its+depressing&continue=Continue
```

\$_GET	soapname	timesawee	comments	continue
	EE	3	its depressing	Continue

Web forms

```
<form name="form1" action="responsepost.php" method="post">
<p>Soap Opera:
<select name="soapname">
<option value="EE">Eastenders</option>
<option value="CS">Coronation Street</option>
<option value="EMD">Emmerdale</option>
</select>
</p>
<p>How many times do you watch this programme a week:<input type="text" name="timesawee"></p>
<p>Other Comments: <textarea name="comments" cols="60" rows="3"></textarea></p>
<p>Thank you for your feedback <input type="submit" name="continue" value="Continue" /></p>
</form>
```

Small change here

Web forms

responseget.php page

```
$soapname=$_GET['soapname'];
$timesawee=$_GET['timesawee'];
$comments=$_GET['comments'];
```

We can use the \$_GET associative array to get at the form selections

```
print "The soap watched is ".$soapname;
print "The amount watched was ".$timesawee."<br />";
print "Comments ".$comments."<br />";
```

\$_GET associative array

PHP automatically creates an associative array with the passed URL values from the HTTP stream

\$_POST	soapname	timesawee	comments	continue
	EE	3	its depressing	Continue

Web forms - POST example

TV feedback

This form will allow you to provide feedback for your favourite soap operas

Provide your feedback

Soap Opera:

How many times do you watch this programme a week:

Other Comments:

Thank you for your feedback

Looks the same in the browser

Web forms

responsepost.php page

```
$soapname=$_POST['soapname'];
$timesawee=$_POST['timesawee'];
$comments=$_POST['comments'];
```

Uses the \$_POST array

```
print "The soap watched is ".$soapname;
print "The amount watched was ".$timesawee."<br />";
print "Comments ".$comments."<br />";
```

name-value pairs
INSIDE the http
stream