

PHP - Echo/Print

In PHP, both **echo** and **print** statements are used to render the output either on the browser or the PHP console. Both of them are not functions but they are language constructs. Hence, parentheses should not be used with either of them.

The "echo" Statement in PHP

The **echo** statement is used with following **syntax** –

```
echo(string ...$expressions): void
```

The echo statement outputs one or more expressions, with no additional newlines or spaces.

Example

Here is an example of how the echo statement works in PHP –

```
<?php
    $name = "Rajesh";
    echo "Hello " . $name . " How are you?"
?>
```

It will produce the following **output** –

```
Hello Rajesh How are you?
```

Since a double quoted string is similar to a single quoted string in PHP, the following statement produces the same output.

```
echo 'Hello ' . $name . ' How are you?';
```

Example

A double quoted string outputs the value of the variable. Hence, the following statement inserts the value of "\$name" variable before printing the output.

```
<?php
    $name = "Rajesh";
    echo "Hello $name How are you?";
?>
```

It will produce the following **output** –

```
Hello Rajesh How are you?
```

Example

But, a single-quoted string will output "\$name" as it is.

```
<?php
    $name = "Rajesh";
    echo 'Hello $name How are you?';
?>
```

It will produce the following **output** –

```
Hello $name How are you?
```

A string passed to an echo statement can either be passed individually as multiple arguments or concatenated together and passed as a single argument. So, both the following statements are valid –

```
echo 'Hello ', 'how ', 'are ', 'you?', "\n";
echo 'Hello ' . 'how ' . 'are ' . 'you?' . "\n";
```

Example

Note that output of the two successive echo statements will be rendered in the same line if the newline character is not used. Take a look at the following example –

```
<?php
    echo "hello";
    echo "world";
?>
```

It will produce the following **output** –

Hello world

The "print" Statement in PHP

The print statement is similar to echo, but it outputs an expression.

```
print(string $expression): int
```

Like echo, print is also a language construct. Its argument is an expression but it is not put in parentheses.

The major difference is that the print statement in PHP accepts a single argument only and always returns 1.

Example

```
<?php
    $name = "Rajesh";

    print "Hello " . $name . " How are you?\n";
    print "Hello $name How are you?";
?>
```

It will produce the following **output** –

```
Hello Rajesh How are you?
Hello Rajesh How are you?
```

Output Multiline Strings Using Print/Echo

Both echo and print statements can output multiline strings spanning over more than one lines in the editor. Take a look at the following example –

```
<?php
    print "
    Multi-line
    string can be output
    by echo as well as
    print statement in PHP
```

```
" ;  
?>
```

It will produce the following **output** –

Multi-line
string can be output
by echo as well as
print statement in PHP

The output will remain the same if we replace **print** with **echo**.