

Title: Conversations

Subtitle: PHP Streamlining Ideas

Second Subtitle: PHP Streamlining Ideas

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Here are a few ideas I've noticed that make a big difference and definitely speed up the overall....

Blank Space:

The biggest is blank space, indent, etc; this is all read by a computer as processed, so remove all indents and blank space, its not necessary and PHP....Don't believe this? Try removing just the indents from any file on a server and see the difference in reading time...Especially in IE which seems to then FF....

Escaping Info Correctly:

There are two main ways to escape a line of code or instructions:

// Escapes the line it's on..

/* */ Escapes an Area of code or info..

Many people when including their own head or GPL data, make a common line individually (by using // on each line), this means when its read, it reads line and has something that must be processed for each line, before the next line. It is far better to have /* at the start of the head, and */ to close it at the end. It only has one escape to read for multiple lines, this also means if something is added to the closing line */}, it doesn't vanish, like it can when accidentally added.

Including files:

Many people have no ideas about the differences between include or require. we have include_once or require_once as standard for most operations in PHP.

Include_once:

This performs the operation of including the file, at the time the item is included.

Require_once:

This must be included before the item can be performed.

So if you have functions that you know exist in other functions or classes, and you need an operation to perform, then these need requiring; else the operation can't be performed. It is collected from the include at the time of the operation (which of course waits for the info it needs), which obviously is too late, as that operation has already been performed. Have all constants, functions and classes before it can be operated.

The only time not to use _once is if an item will need multiple copies of itself. 95% of the time, it is far safer to use _once, in case of multiple including. It somehow leads around in a full circle.

Includes are there when items happen, so a header/footer is loaded at the contents behind the header should be ready when it is asked for.

If !not defined CONSTANTS

This is something you would think would work and is often seen to escape file/constant is loaded...

The problem with that though, is a CONSTANT is as the name suggests something changing that means....

There is also numerous PHP tests/operations that were designed to do the method_exists, function_exists, file_exists with these your asking for the and so therefore taking less time to complete.

As mentioned previously we have include_once or require_once, this will be there once over the whole system; else what happens if a file is asked within both locations the constant won't be defined, as it is per file, yet require_once will be per site.

The other major problem is these switches don't work as well as they could not exactly the same thing...

If !defined('CONSTANT'); = if not defined constant?

Define ('CONSTANT', ''); = constant equals this, so the question is still not been answered, it's been told it equals something...

Defined ('CONSTANT'); = that tells the original question; yes it is defined further investigation, to then understand as what or if it even is defined

Approximated Files

In most web development, if something comes from the same folder it does root of the server first; you can simply place it as a file name and extension. There are times in PHP this might not work, yet 95% of the time it works of collecting the file is from different sources.

This saves vast amounts of resources in some cases, especially where path (dirname(_file_)).'./here.php' which can be just put as 'here.php', there a where we try and collect a global constant, and go to the root path and then to it...

Converting File Address or Not

Using constants to place words is what it's meant for, as it's something constant of a file or directory, it's a good practise as a name can change only once can be given in an address, if these are also maintained as defined questions constant alive in the system and adds security if they are not defined exist need to have a security code though to work for none inclusion of files v

Variables for server address though can be dangerous, as each time that definition of the variables must be tested, as they are variables.

Basically this is saying keep it simple..

If a file is one up folder '../' same folder 'name.ext' you don't need to be your approach to file locations, the reason for saying use this method is

folder name; it isn't inflicted by a million variables or even a constant of complete beginners, unless configured and defined by a system for them. Lastly and most importantly is, it takes far less time to go up one or two levels than what each item for the file location is.

Sometimes these paths are needed, for instances Tag's, where items can be added and so need the exact folder name, yet not always the root path as it has been inline with the files asked for..

The more you can shorten a path, the quicker reaching it will be...Think of asking your self when you go on journey, you simplify it first...Not adding extra steps if they are still there on your journey you make regularly....Imagine if you have a house, just to check if you have a house, to see if you have a bathroom or not.

Server Address with Spaces

Though space has been mentioned, it is really noticeable if you leave spaces in addresses of files you're trying to collect.

For instance:

```
PATH . '/modules' . $some["config"] . 'index.php'
```

You're basically asking it to convert all those spaces into code, there is no spaces, other than to slow your PHP code down.

```
PATH.'/modules'.$some["config"].'index.php'
```

To be continued.....