

PHP Magic Constants

Topics : [PHP](#)

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Magic constants are the predefined constants in PHP which is changed depending on where they are used. They start with double underscore (__) and ends with double underscore.

These constants are created by various extensions. There are nine magic constant in the PHP and all of the constant resolved at the compile-time and the regular constant which is resolved at run time.

PHP's magic constants

All of the constants are resolved at compile-time instead of run time unlike the regular constant.

Magic constants are case-insensitive.

List of PHP's magic constants

Name	Description
__LINE__	It returns the current line number of the file
__FILE__	It returns the full path and filename of the executed file. If it is used inside the include, the name of the included file is returned.
__DIR__	It returns the directory of the file. If it is used inside an include, the directory of the included file is returned. This is equivalent to <code>dirname(__FILE__)</code> . This directory name does not have a trailing slash unless it is the root directory.
__FUNCTION__	It returns the function name where this constant is used. It will return blank if it is used outside of any function.
__CLASS__	It returns the class name. The class name includes the namespace if it was declared in (e.g. <code>Pack\Clā</code>). When used in a trait method, <code>__CLASS__</code> is the name of the class the trait is used in.
__TRAIT__	It returns the trait name. The trait name includes the namespace if it was declared in (e.g. <code>Pack\Clā</code>).
__METHOD__	It returns the class method name.
__NAMESPACE__	It returns the name of the current namespace.
ClassName::class	It does not start and end with the double underscore (__). It returns the fully qualified name of the ClassName. It is useful with namespaced classes.

PHP Code Example for `__LINE__`:

```
<?php
    echo "Printing at line number " . __LINE__ . "<br>";
?>
```

Output:

Printing at line number 2

PHP Code Example for `__FILE__`:

```
<?php
    echo "Print full path of file : " . __FILE__ . "<br>";
?>
```

Output:

Print full path of file : E:\xampp\htdocs\phptraining\magic_constant.php

PHP Code Example for `__DIR__`:

```
<?php
    echo "Print full path of directory : " . __DIR__ . "<br>";
?>
```

Output:

Print full path of directory : E:\xampp\htdocs\phptraining

PHP Code Example for `__FUNCTION__`:

```
<?php
    //Using magic constant inside function.
    function get_func(){
        echo 'The function name is ' . __FUNCTION__ . "<br>";
    }
    get_func();

?>
```

Output:

The function name is get_func

PHP Code Example for `__CLASS__`:

```
<?php
//Get Class name using magic constant __CLASS__
class ARYATECHNO
{
    public function __construct() { }
    function getClass_name(){
        echo "Class name is ".__CLASS__."<br>";
    }
}
$obj = new ARYATECHNO;
$obj->getClass_name();
?>
```

Output:

Class name is ARYATECHNO

PHP Code Example for `__TRAIT__`:

```
<?php
//prints name of the trait
trait get_Trait {
    function print_trait(){
        echo "Name of the trait :".__TRAIT__."<br>";
    }
}
class ARYATECH {
    use get_Trait;
}
$obj = new ARYATECH;
$obj->print_trait();
?>
```

Output:

Name of the trait :get_Trait

PHP Code Example for `__METHOD__`:

```
<?php
//Get method name using magic constants
class MAGIC {
    public function __construct() {

        echo "Method name is ".__METHOD__."<br>";
    }
    public function get_method(){

        echo "Method name is ".__METHOD__."<br>";
    }
}
$obj = new MAGIC;
$obj->get_method();
?>
```

Output:

Method name is MAGIC::__construct

Method name is MAGIC::get_method

PHP Code Example for __NAMESPACE__ :

```
<?php
namespace PHPCODE;
//Get namespace name using magic constants

class package {
    public function __construct() {
        echo 'Namespace name is '.__NAMESPACE__."<br>";
    }
}

$obj = new package;
?>
```

Output:

Namespace name is PHPCODE

PHP Code Example for CLASSNAME::CLASS:

```
<?php
class CLASSA{
}
echo "Get class name : ".CLASSA::class."<br>";
?>
```

Output:

Get class name : PHPCODE\CLASSA

Output :

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