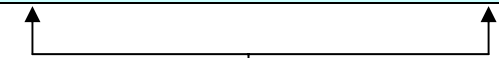


# Server-side Reference Sheet

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This document is designed for people who understand the concept behind server-side coding, but may have difficulty remembering the exact syntax. It may also help those who understand one of the languages below in translating their ideas to another language.

Code Description	Code Type	ASP	PHP	Java Servlets/JSP
Tags	Tags	<code>&lt;% commands %&gt;</code> <code>&lt;%= expression %&gt;</code>	<code>&lt;?php commands ?&gt;</code>	<code>&lt;% commands %&gt;</code> <code>&lt;%= expression %&gt;</code> <code>&lt;%! declaration %&gt;</code> <code>&lt;%@ directive %&gt;</code>
Comments	Command	<code>` comment</code>	<code>// comment</code> <code>/* comment */</code>	<code>// comment</code> <code>&lt;%-- comment --&gt;</code>
Write to page	Command	<code>Response.Write(expression)</code>	<code>echo expression;</code>	<code>out.println(expression);</code>
Use 'GET' method variable (from querystring)	Expression	<code>Request.QueryString("variableName")</code>	<code>\$_GET[variableName]</code>	<code>request.getParameter("variableName")</code>
Use 'POST' method variable	Expression	<code>Request.Form("variableName")</code>	<code>\$_POST[variableName]</code>	<code>request.getParameter("variableName")</code>
Creating/Editing Session variables	Command	<code>Session("variableName") = value</code>	<code>\$_SESSION[variableName] = value;</code>	<code>session.setAttribute("variableName", value);</code>
Reading Session variables	Expression	<code>Session("variableName")</code>	<code>\$_SESSION[variableName]</code>	<code>session.getAttribute("theName")</code>
Redirect to another page	Command	<code>Response.Redirect("url")</code>	<code>header("location: url");</code> <code>exit;</code>	<code>response.setHeader("Refresh", "time; URL=url");</code>
Include code from another file	Command	<code>&lt;!-- #include file="filename" --&gt;</code>	<code>include("filename");</code>	<code>&lt;%@ include file="filename" %&gt;</code>



These tags are important!

## Structured Query Language (SQL)

SQL is the standard language used to communicate with a database in order to read or change it. Below are only a few of the most common commands used to talk to a database. For more, check out <http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/>

### Basic reading information from a database

```
SELECT column(s) FROM table(s)
[WHERE condition(s)]
[ORDER BY column(s) [DESC]]
[LIMIT offset, rows]
```

*...if multiple values, separate with commas. Use \* for all columns.*  
*...strings in single quotes, operators such as =, >, <=, != etc.*  
*...DESC means descending order.*  
*...offset is the starting position, rows is number of records to display.*

#### Examples:

- `SELECT Writer, Director FROM Films WHERE Star = 'Harrison Ford'`
- `SELECT * FROM Phones WHERE Memory >= 128 AND Make = 'Nokia' ORDER BY Price`
- `SELECT * FROM Heroes ORDER BY Strength DESC LIMIT 10,5`

### Adding records to a database

```
INSERT INTO table (column(s))
VALUES (value(s))
```

*...separate columns with commas*  
*...strings in single quotes, comma separated*

#### Examples:

- `INSERT INTO Films (FilmID, Title, Director, Star, Year) VALUES ('NULL', 'Hook', 'Spielberg', 'Robin Williams', 1991)`
- `INSERT INTO Phones (Make, Model, Memory, Network) VALUES ('Sony Ericsson', 'K750i', 64, '02')`
- `INSERT INTO Heroes (Name, Location, Strength, Special Power) VALUES ('Spiderman', 'New York', 32, 'Spider-Sense')`

## Modifying records in a database

```
UPDATE table
SET column1=value1,
    column2=value2
[WHERE condition(s)]
```

*...comma separated expressions*  
*...no comma at the end*  
*...to limit the records to alter*

### Examples:

- UPDATE Films SET Writer = 'Tolkien' WHERE Saga = 'Lord of the Rings'
- UPDATE Phones SET Network = 'Orange', Price = 120 WHERE Make = 'Motorola' AND Model = 'L7'
- UPDATE Heroes SET Weakness = 'Kryptonite', Strength = 190, Location = 'Metropolis' WHERE AlterEgo = 'Clark Kent'

## Removing records from a database

```
DELETE FROM table
[WHERE condition(s)]
[ORDER BY column [DESC]]
[LIMIT rows]
```

*...only really useful with LIMIT*  
*...where rows is the number of records to remove*

### Examples:

- DELETE FROM Films WHERE Star = 'Ben Affleck'
- DELETE FROM Phones WHERE Price > 240 OR Make = 'Own Brand'
- DELETE FROM Heroes WHERE Status = 'deceased' ORDER BY Strength LIMIT 12

I haven't covered commands to create a database or add tables. I use the fantastic open-source [phpMyAdmin](#) to do this for me, but you will need SQL to query the database from within your server-side code.