

# Difference Between PHP and .NET

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## Key Difference - PHP and .NET

PHP is used in big applications like [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) and [Wikipedia](#). .NET framework has some technologies, and they are used for building [desktop](#), [mobile](#) and [web applications](#). PHP can make the website dynamic, so it is possible to change page content according to various conditions. The **key difference** between PHP and .NET is that **PHP is a server-side scripting language and .NET is a software framework build by Microsoft to run mainly in Windows**. A software framework provides a standard way to build and deploy applications.

## What is PHP?

PHP is an open source, and it is one of the most commonly used scripting languages that is mainly used for web application development. PHP scripts are embedded in [HTML](#). PHP executes on the server, so it is a server-side language. [Eclipse](#), [NetBeans](#) and Zend studio are some of the Integrated Development Environments(IDE) used for PHP development. There are PHP frameworks such as Zend, Yii, Symfony and Code Igniter. PHP is simple, flexible and users can create efficient and secure applications. PHP has content management systems such as Joomla, [WordPress](#) and Magento.



Figure 01: PHP

Server-side language such as PHP communicates with the database to store and manage data. That is done using Structured Query Language (SQL). PHP blocks starts with <?php and ends with ?>. PHP variables start with "\$". e.g. \$value = 5; User does not need to write the data type. PHP automatically converts the variable to the correct data type. PHP files ends with .php extension.

## What is .NET?

.NET is a framework developed by Microsoft. There are some related technologies. Some of them are ASP.NET, [Silverlight](#), Windows Presentation Foundation etc.

The .NET framework includes many components. Common Language Runtime(CLR) manages code execution at runtime and also does thread and memory management. Base class libraries provide object-oriented collections, I/O etc. ADO.NET is used in accessing relational databases and it also supports to work with XML..NET framework supports multiple languages such as [C#](#), [Visual Basic](#), Visual C++ and Python. The Common Language Specification provides basic rules for language integration because of this multi-programming language support. The programs (C#, VB etc.) are compiled into a managed module which consists of Microsoft Intermediate Language (MSIL). MSIL is a low-level set of instructions which is comprehensible by Common Language Runtime (CLR).



**Figure 02:** .NET

The Integrated Development Environment for .NET related software development is Visual Studio. It has different editions such as community, express and enterprise edition. The main reason for the .NET popularity is because of the development environment. Visual Studio improves productivity, and it is easier to do testing and debugging.

## What are the Similarities Between PHP and .NET?

- Both are consisting of features to build rich applications.
- Both have large community support and documentation.
- Both can use procedural and object-oriented programming concepts.

## What is the Difference Between PHP and .NET?

PHP vs .NET	
PHP is server-side scripting language which is mainly used for web development.	.NET is a software framework developed by Microsoft to build a variety of applications such as desktop, web and mobile to run mainly in Windows.
Language Support	
PHP is a simple scripting language.	.NET provides multi-language support. Can be used with C#, Visual Basic, Python etc.
Developer	
Zend technologies develop PHP.	Microsoft develops .net.
Language Features	
PHP is not advanced as C#.NET.	.NET common language C# is more advanced than PHP. It provides delegates, Lambda expressions and Language Integrated Query (LINQ). Other than C# it is also used by JavaScript, Visual Basic etc.
Commonly Used Database	
PHP is mostly using MySQL, but other databases can also be used.	.NET is mostly used with Microsoft SQL server, but other databases can also be used.
Design and Implementation	
PHP applications are not easy and efficient to design and implement as .NET applications.	.NET applications are easy and efficient for design and implementation. It also provides a good IDE which is Visual Studio IDE.
Platform Compatibility	
PHP applications are cross-platform and can be executed in <a href="#">Linux</a> , <a href="#">Unix</a> , Windows, Solaris.	.NET applications are related to windows but can run on Linux etc. using different installed components. e.g. ASP Apache is used to run

	ASP.NET applications in Linux.
<b>Web Development</b>	
PHP language is mainly using for web development. Frameworks can also be used to add new features and to increase robustness.	ASP.NET (Active Server Pages) is the web technology in .NET framework. Need Internet Information Server (IIS) to run ASP.NET applications.
<b>Learning and Comprehensibility</b>	
PHP is easier to learn than .NET technologies.	.NET technologies are harder than PHP.

## Summary - PHP and .NET

This article discussed the difference between PHP and .NET. The difference between PHP and .NET is that PHP is a server-side scripting language and .NET is a software framework build by Microsoft to run mainly in Windows. .NET applications are more fast and robust than PHP applications. Nevertheless, using PHP or .NET depends on the application to develop.

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APA: Difference Between PHP and .NET.(2018 January 02). Retrieved (date), from <http://differencebetween.com/difference-between-php-and-vs-net/>

MLA: "Difference Between PHP and .NET" Difference Between.Com. 02 January 2018. Web.

Chicago: "Difference Between PHP and .NET." Difference Between.Com. <http://differencebetween.com/difference-between-php-and-vs-net/> accessed (accessed [date]).

