
Subject: \$this syntax

Posted by [jmangin](#) on Tue, 20 Oct 2009 15:21:16 GMT

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I've inherited some code that I need to adapt for another purpose. There's a syntax using \$this with which I am not familiar. I've seen it before, but I never been taught that style of coding.

e.g.:

```
function getError($name) {
    if($this->isError($name)) {
        return $this->errors[$name];
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

I tried to google "\$this", but I can't find it because the search engine ignores the dollar sign and I get every post with the word "this" in it!

So, what is the function of \$this? What is the type of syntax called, so I can find the documentation and read more about it.

Thanks,

Julie

Subject: Re: \$this syntax

Posted by [lorna](#) on Wed, 21 Oct 2009 10:42:04 GMT

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Julie,

This is Object Oriented Programming - you should be able to find some introductory tutorials showing how "\$this" is used. Basically \$this is an object and the arrow notation -> shows that something is a property of that object. A property is just a variable but it belongs to an object.

So instead of setting \$error = 'gone wrong' and returning \$error, you set \$this->error = 'message of failure' and then you can get that value back again from that object.

Hope that makes some sense - find a tutorial, have a read, and post again if you have any questions, we're always happy to help!

Lorna

Subject: Re: \$this syntax
Posted by [jmangin](#) on Wed, 21 Oct 2009 12:13:33 GMT
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Thank you, Lorna! I work at a library, and I can get my hands on some books about object-oriented PHP.

Subject: Re: \$this syntax
Posted by [Amanda](#) on Mon, 08 Mar 2010 00:38:25 GMT
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I still have trouble with \$this myself. If you find a helpful tutorial online in your search do you mind posting the link?

I work a lot with code that uses it but when I try and write a new code block that implements it I know I use it sometimes when I don't need to, or incorrectly, or all over the place randomly. Kind of like a comma in Flowers for Algernon. LOL

Subject: Re: \$this syntax
Posted by [nurshah](#) on Mon, 08 Mar 2010 09:54:37 GMT
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Hi all i hope this site helps..

<http://devzone.zend.com/node/view/id/638>
