



# PHP htmlentities() Function

Topics : [PHP Functions](#)

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PHP htmlentities() Function converts some characters to HTML entities. Function htmlentities() is php in built function.

**Syntax :**

```
htmlentities(string,flags,character-set,double_encode);
```

**Parameter,**

PHP htmlentities() Function

Parameter	Description
<i>string</i>	Required. It is input string.
<i>flags</i>	Optional. It specifies how to handle quotes, invalid encoding and the used document type. The default is ENT_COMPAT   ENT_HTML401. Flags for quotes are as below, 1. ENT_COMPAT - Encodes only double quotes 2. ENT_QUOTES - Encodes double and single quotes 3. ENT_NOQUOTES - Does not encode any quotes Flags for invalid encoding are as below, 1. ENT_IGNORE - It ignores invalid encoding 2. ENT_SUBSTITUTE - It replaces invalid code unit sequences with a Unicode Replacement Character U+FFFD (UTF-8) or &#FFFD; 3. ENT_DISALLOWED - It replaces code points that are invalid in the specified doctype with a Unicode Replacement Character U+FFFD (UTF-8) or &#FFFD; Flags for used doctype as below, 1. ENT_HTML401 - Default. It handles code as HTML 4.01 2. ENT_HTML5 - It handles code as HTML 5 3. ENT_XML1 - It handles code as XML 1 4. ENT_XHTML - It handles code as XHTML
<i>character-set</i>	Optional. It specifies which character-set to use for string. Allowed character-set are as below. 1. UTF-8 2. ISO-8859-1 3. ISO-8859-15 4. GB2312 5. cp1251 6. cp1252

<i>double_encode</i>	Optional. A boolean value that specifies whether to encode existing html entities or not. 1. TRUE - Default. It Will convert everything. 2. FALSE - It Will not encode existing html entities.
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Let's see below example to understand php htmlentities() Function in details.

**HTML Output for below example in view source as below,**

```
<br>Maths &lt;b>equation&lt;/b> =&gt; '(a+b)*c' ='ac+bc'<br>
Using ENT_COMPAT flag :Maths &lt;b>equation&lt;/b> =&gt; '(a+b)*c' ='ac+bc'<br>
Using ENT_QUOTES flag :Maths &lt;b>equation&lt;/b> =&gt; '&#039;(a+b)*c&#039;
=&#039;ac+bc&#039;<br>
Using ENT_NOQUOTES flag :Maths &lt;b>equation&lt;/b> =&gt; '(a+b)*c' ='ac+bc'
Using UTF-8 character-set : Maths &lt;b>equation&lt;/b> =&gt; '&#039;(a+b)*c&#039;
=&#039;ac+bc&#039;
```

**Example :**

```
<br><b>The browser output of the above code as below.</b>
<?php
$str = "Maths <b>equation</b> => '(a+b)*c' ='ac+bc'";
echo "<br>".htmlentities($str); // It will convert characters to HTML entities.
echo "<br>Using ENT_COMPAT flag :".htmlentities($str, ENT_COMPAT); // It will only convert
double quotes.
echo "<br>Using ENT_QUOTES flag :".htmlentities($str, ENT_QUOTES); // It will convert
double and single quotes .
echo "<br>Using ENT_NOQUOTES flag :".htmlentities($str, ENT_NOQUOTES); // It will not
convert any quotes.
echo "<br> Using UTF-8 character-set : ".htmlentities($str, ENT_QUOTES | ENT_IGNORE,
"UTF-8");
?>
```