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Thread: [How to generate unique key of random numbers in PHP](#)

Ashish Bisht - October 17, 2016, 3:00 am

Hi, I am looking for some example code that can help me to generate unique random string of numeric numbers in PHP Applications. I am hoping to resolve this issue with the help of tech developers working around & for this I have researched for many php questions & answers in various forums, but didn't get any satisfactory response. Hoping to get answer here.

Squito - October 17, 2016, 5:09 am

Isn't mt_rand good enough or this haven't been suggested to you?

<http://php.net/manual/en/function.mt-rand.php>

Nibor - October 17, 2016, 7:06 am

Not sure what exactly you mean, but:

PHP Code

```
<?php
$length = 10;
$string = "";
for ($i=1; $i<$length; $i++)
{
    $string .= rand(0,9);
}
echo $string;
```

This is not a secure method, though, for really storing important things etc

Quad - October 17, 2016, 8:35 am

<http://php.net/manual/en/function.openssl-random-pseudo-bytes.php>

Strider64 - October 17, 2016, 11:07 am

PHP Code

```
<?php
private function generate_confirmation_number() {
    for ($i = -1; $i <= 16; $i++) {
        ? = openssl_random_pseudo_bytes($i, $strong);
        $hex = bin2hex(?);
    }

    return $hex;
}
```

is one way of doing it with OPENSSL.

There are true php random number generators libraries out there on the net, just Google and you should find some scripts or how to do it.

ASDA - October 18, 2016, 5:47 am

(Oct 17, 2016 11:07 AM)Strider64 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) There are true php random number generators libraries out there on the net, just Google and you should find some scripts or how to do it. lol good luck with that

Zotima - October 18, 2016, 11:18 pm

PHP Code

```
<?php
function generateRandomString($length = 10) {
    $characters = '0123456789';
    $charactersLength = strlen($characters);
    $randomString = '';
    for ($i = 0; $i < $length; $i++) {
        $randomString .= $characters[rand(0, $charactersLength - 1)];
    }
    return $randomString;
}
```

This usually generates random string of numbers . You can edit the length of numbers too @ \$length.

If you also want to add special chars and Alphabets just add each alphabet or char to the \$charecters variable.

For example:

PHP Code

```
<?php
$characters =
'0123456789abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ!@#$$%^&*()';
This is probably the easiest and secure way of doing it. Hope this helps ?
```

ASDA - October 19, 2016, 7:05 am

(Oct 18, 2016 12:31 PM)Yani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You could use [random_int\(\)](#) on PHP7 which is quite secure. It uses [CryptGenRandom\(\)](#) on Windows and [getrandom\(2\)](#) on Linux, both of which are cryptographically safe. An official [PHP5 userland implementation](#) also exists. cryptographically secure != true random though

F3nrir - October 23, 2016, 11:20 am

PHP Code

```
<?php
function randomName($length, $key = '') {
    $keys = array_merge(range(0, 9), range('a', 'z'));
    for ($i = 0; $i < $length; $i++) {
        $key .= $keys[array_rand($keys)];
    }

    return $key;
}
```

I used this function in all my projects and it never disappointed.