Embedding PHP script

PHP script may be embedded within HTML documents – meaning PHP and HTML code can both happily co-exist in the same file. All embedded PHP code must be contained within **<?php** and **?>** tags so it can be readily recognized by the PHP engine for interpretation. Typically the PHP code will write content into the body section of the HTML document, which is then sent to the web browser.

PHP

hello.php

1 Launch a plain text editor and create this valid barebones HTML5 document with an empty body section

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML>
<html lang="en">
<head><meta charset="UTF-8">
<title>Getting Started With PHP</title>
</head>
<body>

</body>
</html>
```

2 Insert tags into the body section to contain PHP code

```
<?php

?>
```

3 Now insert between the PHP tags a descriptive comment and a line of code to write content into the body section

```
# Write the traditional greeting.
echo '<h1>Hello World!</h1>' ;
```
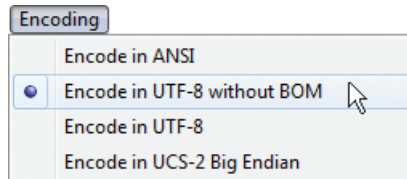
```
 1    <!DOCTYPE HTML>
 2    <html lang="en">
 3    <head>
 4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
 5     <title>Getting Started With PHP</title>
 6    </head>
 7    <body>
 8    <?php
 9     # Write the traditional greeting.
10     echo '<h1>Hello World!</h1>' ;
11    ?>
12    </body>
13    </html>
```
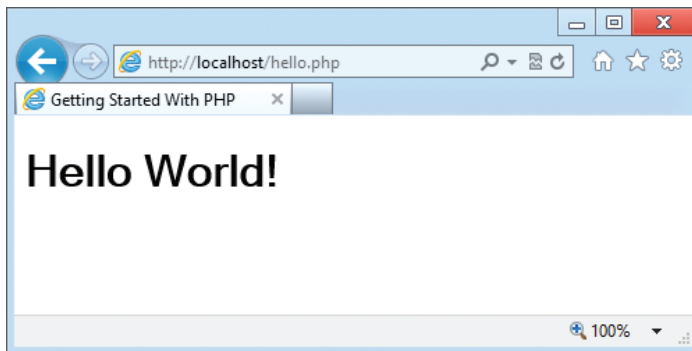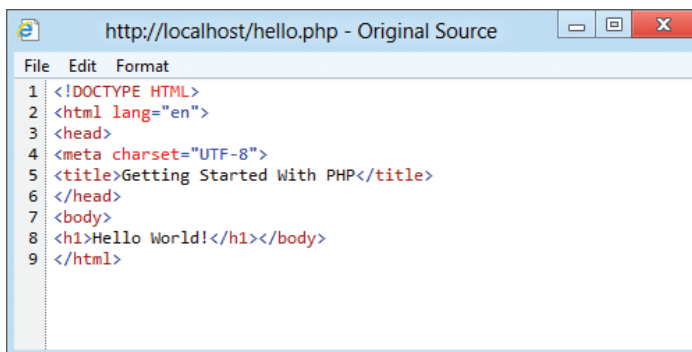
hello.php

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4 Set the document encoding to UTF-8 format then save it as **hello.php** in the Abyss server's **/htdocs** folder

Encoding	
	Encode in ANSI
●	Encode in UTF-8 without BOM
	Encode in UTF-8
	Encode in UCS-2 Big Endian

5 Next enter the location **http://localhost/hello.php** into your web browser's address field to see Abyss serve up a web page containing content written by embedded PHP code

Beware

Windows' Notepad automatically adds a hidden "Byte Order Mark" (BOM) to the file while other editors (such as Notepad++ shown here) allow this to be omitted. Notepad++ can be freely downloaded from **notepad-plus-plus.org**.

6 Now use your web browser's View Source facility to see that PHP has written the content into the body section, including the HTML **<h1></h1>** heading tags

```
1  <!DOCTYPE HTML>
2  <html lang="en">
3  <head>
4  <meta charset="UTF-8">
5  <title>Getting Started With PHP</title>
6  </head>
7  <body>
8  <h1>Hello World!</h1></body>
9  </html>
```

Don't forget

The PHP **echo** instruction statement literally writes the entire content contained within the pair of ' single quote marks. Like all other PHP statements it must be terminated by a ; semi-colon character.

PHP script can be embedded in earlier versions of HTML in just the same way. Other examples in this book demonstrate embedded PHP script but do not repeatedly list the HTML code.