

### Abstract

This is "PHP mode Help", help file for the PHP mode in Alpha. For Alpha to find it, you must move this file to the "Help" folder located at the same level as the Alpha application itself.

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## 1 Introduction

This mode implements very basic mode-specific settings to write and edit PHP files in Alpha. It currently provides the following features:

- syntax coloring
- comments handling
- function definitions marking
- basic completion namely : keywords completion and electrics for conditional structures

PHP mode will be developed further in the future when AlphaX (a carbonized version of Alpha running on OSX) is available. Any contributions are welcome.

## 2 Installation

### 2.1 Automatic installation

Open the "OPEN TO INSTALL" file. Opening this file tells Alpha that a new package has to be installed : the procedure is automatic. Alpha knows where to store the different elements of your PHP Mode package.

### 2.2 Manual installation

- put the "PHPMode.tcl" file in the "Modes" subfolder of the "Tcl" folder which is located at the same level as your Alpha application
- put the "PHP Mode Help" file in the "Help" folder located at the same level as your Alpha application. Next time you launch Alpha, you will have a "PHP Mode Help" item in the Help menu to edit this file.
- launch Alpha. You have to rebuild the package indices and the Tcl ones. "Rebuild Package Indices" is in the "Config-Packages" menu, and "Rebuild Tcl Indices" is in the Tcl menu.
- quit Alpha and relaunch it : that's all there is to it.

## 3 Electrics

PHP mode defines electric expansions for the following keywords :

```
if, ifelse, ifelseif, elseif, while, do, for,
foreach, foreachkey, switch, php
```

This means that you just have to type one of them and then hit the completion key (the Electric Completions package must be active) and they will expand to a complete structure which you can fill very easily : it contains electric tabs, ie bullet symbols, and you can jump from one to the following using the Tab key. For instance, typing 'do' (without the quotes) and completing yields :

```
do {
    } while ( );
```

Typing 'for' (without the quotes) and completing yields :

```
for ( ; ; ) {
    }
```

Typing 'switch' (without the quotes) and completing yields :

```
switch ( ) {
    case :

    default:

}
```

## 4 Words completion

PHP mode also have a system of language keywords completion. Type the first letters of a keyword and Alpha will complete. If there are several choices, you'll be prompted to choose one of them. For instance, type 'sh' (without the quotes) and hit the completion key to get 'shuffle'.

If you type imaget and hit the completion key, a list will be displayed with the possible choices which are in this case : imagettfbbox, imagettftext, imagetypes.

## 5 File marking

All the functions defined in the document with the following scheme

```
function foo ($arg_1, $arg_2, ..., $arg_n) {  
    Instructions here...  
}
```

can be marked and made accessible via the "M" popup menu in the top-right corner of the document's window.

## 6 Preferences

A few preferences can be set in the PHP Mode Preferences which you access from the "Config – Mode Prefs – Preferences..." menu item. Among other choices you can set :

- the prefix string (Default is // )
- the syntax coloring
  - Color for comments (Default is red)
  - Color for keywords (Default is blue)
  - Color for strings (Default is green)
  - Color for delimiters (Default is magenta)

## 7 Version History

- 0.1.1 01/05/08 First release.

## 8 Known problems

Please e-mail any problem or bug you encounter :

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