

## Re: Where is SID?

**Source:** <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2005-02/1849.html>

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Michael Satterwhite <michael.XREMOVETHIS@weblore.com> wrote in news:02xSd.29075\$cW2.7823@fe2.texas.rr.com:

> *OK, I'll admit I've been doing it wrong (using session\_register()), so*  
> *I'm trying to correct my ways, but...*  
>  
> *My script starts with*  
> `<?php`  
> `session_start();`  
> `?>`  
>  
> *In the body of my page a link as follows:*  
>  
> *Target text*  
>  
> *Problem: SID is an empty string. I even tried*  
> `echo "SID: " . SID . '<br />';`  
>  
> *and SID echoes as an empty string. Why?*

Because you have cookies enabled, and are accepting a cookie from your domain with the PHP page, and using a browser that supports cookies ;-)

Do yourself a favour and use the Firefox browser, and get the LiveHTTPHeader extension. You can then see the 'HTTP conversation' between your browser and the server, and you'll see the session cookie being set, and returned.

<http://www.php.net/manual/en/ref.session.php>

Predefined Constants

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SID (string)

Constant containing either the session name and session ID in the form of "name=ID" or empty string if session ID was set in an appropriate session cookie.

Passing the Session ID

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Alternatively, you can use the constant `SID` which is always defined. If the client did not send an appropriate session cookie, it has the form `session_name=session_id`. Otherwise, it expands to an empty string. Thus, you can embed it unconditionally into URLs.

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