

## Re: socket timeout being ignored

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2006-08/msg00341.html>

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- *From:* "yawnmoth" <[terra1024@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:terra1024@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 2 Aug 2006 14:56:37 -0700
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Jerry Stuckle wrote:

yawnmoth wrote:  
<snip>

What happens if the `fsockopen()` takes longer than 5 seconds?

See the note on `fsockopen()` – the timeout may not be available in all environments. So a delay due to routing, server load or whatever may cause the open to take longer than 5 seconds, putting a negative value in your `$timeout`. I don't know what PHP will do with a negative value – maybe convert it to a very large positive value?

That's a good point – it's been fixed :)

Additionally, the timeout restarts every time you go a `fgets()`. The server could be sending one line every 4 seconds, for instance. 10 lines would be 40 seconds with no errors.

So I guess I should just use `fread` with as big a number as possible?  
Like `pow(2,20)` or something?

The fact that `fgets` (and `fread`), though, can return empty lines, even when they're in blocking mode, makes me think that this wouldn't work?  
(I made another post about this)