

Re: question about GMT and UTC

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2006-08/msg00853.html>

- *From:* Marcus <JumpMan222@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 31 Jul 2006 17:36:30 -0500
-

Marcus wrote:

Hello,

I need a timezone to store timestamps in that is independent of daylight saving. From everything I've read, it seems I want either GMT or UTC. The only problem is I can't figure out from any documentation I've read if there is any difference (practically speaking, not scientifically and taking into account the earth's orbit etc).

I can set my server timezone to GMT, but if I want UTC I will have to use `putenv('TZ=UTC')`. Could someone please confirm if they are in fact the same or if one is better, and if I am correct in stating that neither is affected by daylight saving? Lastly, if I set my server to GMT (or UTC for that matter), am I also correct in saying that in that case `gmmktime()` and `gmdate()` are the exact same as `mktime()` and `date()`? Thank you very much in advance for your help.

I should elaborate on my first point and ask additionally if a call to:

```
mktime(12, 0, 0, 5, 10, 2007);
```

for example, will always return the exact same timestamp in either GMT or UTC timezone and vice versa, i.e. 1 timestamp resulting in the exact same 12:00:00 readout via `date()` whether GMT or UTC. Thanks.

.