

## Re: Feedback?

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2007-10/msg01216.html>

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- *From:* "Kye" <[descardo@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:descardo@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sat, 20 Oct 2007 00:09:20 GMT
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Thankyou for the critique. I have replied throughout.

OK Kye, you asked for it....

There are no comments – I shouldn't have to reverse engineer you're code to work out what its supposed to do and neither should you – the very first line after <?php should be a comment explaining what the program is supposed to do. Most folk also keep some rough versioning info here too.

This is a very good point. I will have to make sure that I get into the habit of using commenting to ensure that processes are remembered. Thankyou.

```
$category = "SELECT * FROM `links_categories` ORDER BY category  
ASC  
LIMIT  
0 , 30" or die('Error, query failed');
```

Variable assignments always work – why are you planning for a scenario where it doesn't? (or die...). Most serious programmers would work to a style guide which cover SQL as well as PHP. Your variable names seem sensible-ish so far – personally I usually insist on database name prefixing and using some formatting with SQL statements, e.g.

```
$get_categories = "SELECT *  
FROM maindb.links_categories  
ORDER BY category  
LIMIT 0,30";
```

This makes it easier to read and (for example) insert things like  
"WHERE user="" . \$\_SESSION['current\_user'] . ""

You've used no modularity at all within your code – you haven't even divided it into modes of operation, although it does seem to have sort of a preparation stage and sort of a presentation stage. It's much too long – learn how to use functions (and classes) also think about

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putting common code into 'include' files.

```
$catlist = mysql_query($category) or die('Error, query failed');
```

By line 2 your code has failed – did you really write the rest of the code above without even testing this? The reason it failed is because you did not issue a `mysql_connect()`

Its actually line 87, but you were only provided with the above information so I understand that you can only comment on this information. The database connection etc are all defined in the earlier portions of the page. This chunk is my work so I was interested in learning what to fix in this chunk.

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