

# ONE way to strict-validate a PHP document

last modified: 2024-03-18

Assume that you have a PHP document that uses a postback approach in either creating an HTML page with a form within it or creating an HTML page summarizing the form's submitted contents, depending on how it is called.

If you put `php-form-handling.php`'s URL into the validator at <https://validator.w3.org/nu/> or <https://html5.validator.nu/>, you will get "weaker" HTML validation of just its form page result.

Here is one approach to strict-validating its resulting HTML documents. Based on my experience, it works in the Chrome browser as of March 2024.

- Request the PHP document in a browser, and view source of the result. Copy and paste this source into a file with the suffix `.xhtml` (I like to add `-1.xhtml` to this source's file, for example `php-form-handling-1.xhtml`.)
- Go back to your PHP form, fill it in with example information, and submit it. View source of this result, and copy and paste this source into a file with the suffix `.xhtml` (I like to add `-2.xhtml` to this source's file, for example `php-form-handling-2.xhtml`.)
- (When sessions are involved, if possible just continue this analogously. We'll see if further kluges are needed when we get to sessions.)
- Enter the URLs for your resulting `.xhtml` files (in my case, for `php-form-handling-1.xhtml` and `php-form-handling-2.xhtml`) into the validator at <https://validator.w3.org/nu/> or <https://html5.validator.nu/>, and see if they strict-validate.