PHP Command-line interpreter

CONCEPTS

The CLI is its own build with its own php.ini: settings you change for FPM or Apache may not apply to php on the command line.

php.ini main config
↓ scan_dir
conf.d/*.ini per extension
↓ -d
-d key=value this run only

Later sources win: a -d flag overrides conf.d files, which override php.ini.

RUN CODE

`php <file> [args]`
Run a script, args land in $argv

`php -r '<code>'`
Run code without <?php tags

`php -r '<code>' -- -x`
Pass args that look like options

`php -f <file>`
Parse and execute a file

`php < <file>`
Run a script from stdin

`php -d <key>=<value> <file>`
Override an ini setting for this run

`php -d memory_limit=-1 <file>`
Lift the memory cap for one run

`php -c <path> <file>`
Use another php.ini file or dir

`php -n <file>`
Ignore php.ini entirely

CHECK AND INSPECT

`php -l <file>`
Lint: parse only, do not run

`php -v`
Show PHP version and SAPI

`php -m`
List loaded modules

`php -i`
Print phpinfo()

`php --ini`
Show loaded ini files

CHECK AND INSPECT (cont.)

`php --ri <ext>`
Show one extension's settings

BUILT-IN SERVER

`php -S localhost:8000`
Serve the current directory

`php -S localhost:8000 -t <dir>`
Serve a given docroot

`php -S 0.0.0.0:8000`
Reachable from other machines

`php -S localhost:8000 <router.php>`
Run a router script per request

The built-in server is for development and demos only; use nginx with php-fpm in production.

CONFIGURATION

`display_errors=1`
Show errors on screen (dev)

`error_reporting=E_ALL`
Report every error level

`memory_limit=512M`
Raise the memory cap

Put these lines in php.ini or a conf.d/*.ini file, or pass them as -d key=value on the command line.

REFLECTION

`php --rf <function>`
Show a function's signature

`php --rc <class>`
Show a class's methods and constants

PROCESS INPUT LINES

`php -R '<code>'`
Run code per stdin line ($argn)

INTERACTIVE

`php -a`
Open the interactive shell

In the shell write code without <?php, end each statement with ; and press Tab twice to list completions.