



# DEFENSIVE PHP

## Code that refuses to fail silently





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Code that refuses to fail silently

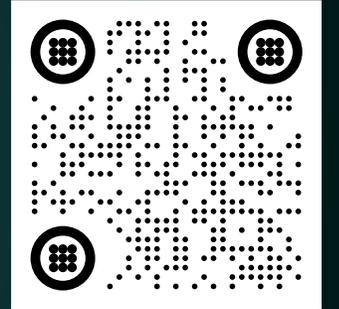


Ayesh Karunaratne | <https://aye.sh/talk/dpc2026-defensive-php>









# Tickets



Koop tickets

Mijn tickets

## Reisproducten

[Hoe werkt het?](#)

Met een GVB ticket reis je onbeperkt met alle GVB trams, (nacht)bussen en metro's voor een aantal uren naar keuze.



**1 uur reizen**

GVB 1 uur

€ 3,20



**24 uur reizen**

GVB 1 dag

€ 8,50



**48 uur reizen**

GVB 2 dagen

€ 13,50



Reisadvies



Storingen



Vertrektijden



Tickets



Meer

# Tickets



## 1 uur reizen

Met dit ticket reis je 1 uur onbeperkt met alle GVB trams, bussen en metro's. Dit ticket is niet geldig in de GVB nachtbussen.

Verloopt op

**30**  
maart 2021 **17:18**

Servicenummer

**GVB-7672-7103-0829**

toon  
barcode



Reisadvies



Storingen



Vertrektijden



Tickets



Meer

# Tickets



Reisadvies



Storingen



Vertrektijden



Tickets



Meer



apples

apples

oranges

"10 apples" + "20 oranges"

"10 apples" + "20 oranges"

= 30

"10 apples" + "20 oranges"

= 30

"10 apples" + "20 oranges"  
= 30

**PHP 4, PHP 5, PHP 7.0**

No warnings, no errors

**PHP 7.1 – PHP 7.4**

**Notice** A non well formed numeric value encountered

**PHP 8.0+**

**Warning** A non-numeric value encountered

"apples 10" + "oranges 20"  
= 0

**PHP 4, PHP 5, PHP 7.0**

No warnings, no errors

**PHP 7.1 – PHP 7.4**

**Notice** A non well formed numeric value encountered

"apples 10" + "oranges 20"

**PHP 4, PHP 5, PHP 7.0**

No warnings, no errors

**PHP 7.1 – PHP 7.4**

**Notice** A non well formed numeric value encountered

**PHP 8.0+**

**Fatal Error** Unsupported operand types: string + string

$\$a + \$b$

`(int) $a + (int) $b`

```
function add($a, $b) {  
    return (int) $a + (int) $b  
}
```

```
function add(int $a, int $b) {  
    return $a + $b;  
}
```

```
declare(strict_types=1);
```

```
function add(int $a, int $b) {  
    return $a + $b;  
}
```

- add("10 apples", "20 oranges");
- add("10", "20");

**TypeError** Argument 1 (\$a) must be of type int, string given

```
function add(int|float $a, int|float $b) {  
    return $a + $b;  
}
```

```
function add(int|float $a, int|float $b): int|float {  
    return $a + $b;  
}
```

```
function foo(int|float $a, int|float $b): int|float {  
    is_int($a) || is_float($a);  
    is_int($b) || is_float($b);  
  
}
```

```
function foo(int|float $a, int|float $b): int|float {  
    is_int($a) || is_float($a);  
    is_int($b) || is_float($b);  
  
    return false;  
  
}
```

```
function foo(int|float $a, int|float $b): int|float {  
    is_int($a) || is_float($a);  
    is_int($b) || is_float($b);  
    return false;  
}
```

```
function foo(int|float $a, int|float $b): int|float {  
}
```

```
function foo(int ...$numbers): int|float
```

```
foo(12, 3.14, 45.9);
```

```
function foo(int ...$numbers): int|float
```

```
foo(12, 3.14, 45.9);
```

**PHP 8.1+**

**Deprecated** Implicit conversion from float 3.14 to int loses precision



**Bug Fixes**

**Improvements**

**Deprecations**

**Removals**

**New Features**

**Prioritize Convenience**  
**Polite**  
**Forgiving**

**Lean & Composable**  
**Accurate**  
**Fail loudly**

Namespaces  
Autoloading  
Traits  
Interfaces  
Visibility  
Final classes



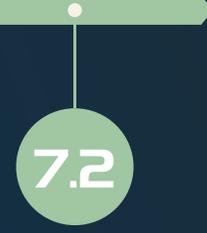
Scalar types  
Return types  
Strict types



Nullable types  
void return type  
Iterable type  
Multi catch



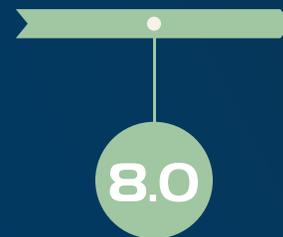
LSP



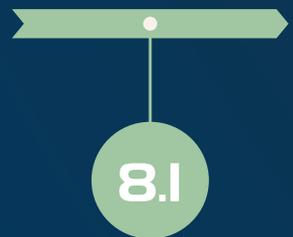
Typed Properties  
Arrow functions



Union Types  
Named args  
Const. properties  
match  
Throw exp.  
Mixed type



readonly props  
Intersection types  
never return type  
Enums  
FCC



readonly classes  
True type  
DNF  
Dynamic props deprecated



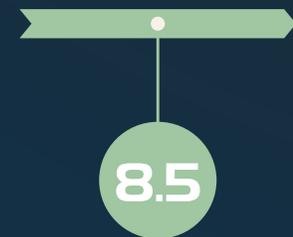
Typed class constants  
#[Override] Attribute



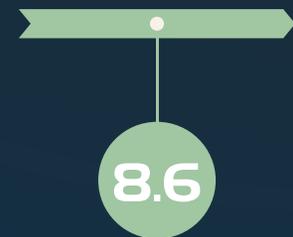
Property hooks  
Asymmetric Visibility  
#[Deprecated] Attribute



#[NoDiscard] Attribute  
Clone-with  
Fatal error backtraces



Filter exceptions  
More ValueError





# Ayesh Karunaratne

---

PHP Core team, Full-time traveler, Author of PHP.Watch

**linkorb**

 Sri Lanka > Vietnam > Netherlands

 <https://aye.sh>    <https://php.watch>

 @Ayesh

 [ayesh@aye.sh](mailto:ayesh@aye.sh)

**Defensive Programming**  
**is ...**

**Defensive Programming**  
is **not** about  
writing more checks.

**Defensive Programming**  
is not about  
writing more checks.

It's about  
designing systems where  
**mistakes are impossible.**

# Containers

A large container ship is docked at a port, with several cranes visible in the background. The ship's deck is covered with stacks of colorful shipping containers from various companies, including APL, DFDS, CMA COM, MSC, MAERSK SEALAND, HAMBURG SÜD, COSCO, and EVERGREEN. The ship's name 'TAMPA' is visible on the side. The text 'Shipping Containers' is overlaid in the center of the image.

# Shipping Containers

# Shipping Containers

- ISO 668 and ISO 1496
- Standardized dimensions: 20ft, 40ft
- Standardized corner fittings
- Structural strength
- Twist locks, attach to trucks, ships, rail cars
- Electrical inputs: standardized sockets, voltage, and current

# Shipping Containers

- ISO 668 and ISO 1496
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- Standardized corner fittings
- Structural strength
- Twist locks, attach to trucks, ships, rail cars
- Electrical inputs: standardized sockets, voltage, and current

php

```
class Application implements ResetInterface
{
    private array $commands = [];
    private bool $wantHelps = false;
    private ?Command $runningCommand = null;
    private ?CommandLoaderInterface $commandLoader = null;
    private bool $catchExceptions = true;
    private bool $catchErrors = false;
    private bool $autoExit = true;
    private InputDefinition $definition;
    private HelperSet $helperSet;
    private ?EventDispatcherInterface $dispatcher = null;
    private ?ArgumentDefinitionInterface $argumentDefinition = null;
    private Terminal $terminal;
    private string $defaultCommand = 'list';
    private bool $singleCommand = false;
    private bool $useColor = false;
    private ?SignalRegistry $signalRegistry = null;
    private array $signalsToDispatchEvent = [];
    private ?int $alarmInterval = null;

    public function __construct(
        private string $name = 'UNKNOWN',
        private string $version = 'UNKNOWN',
    ) {
        $this->terminal = new Terminal();
        $this->defaultCommand = 'list';
        if (\defined('SIGINT') && SignalRegistry::isSupported()) {
            $this->signalRegistry = new SignalRegistry();
            $this->signalsToDispatchEvent = [SIGINT, SIGQUIT, SIGTERM];
        }
    }
}
```

# php

- Validate at system boundaries
- Use type system aggressively
- Invalid state impossible by design
- Immutability and Integrity
- Make behavior explicit
- Interface-defined behavior
- Small, focused, and predictable components

A photograph of a security checkpoint in a dimly lit room. In the foreground, a metal conveyor belt with rollers is visible, leading towards a large metal detector. In the background, a person wearing a uniform and a face mask is seated at a workstation with multiple computer monitors. The overall scene is dark, with the primary light source coming from the workstation area.

# Validate at System Boundaries

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Reject invalid data as early as possible,  
at the point where it enters your system.

# Validate at System Boundaries

Reject invalid data as **early as possible**, at the point **where it enters your system**.

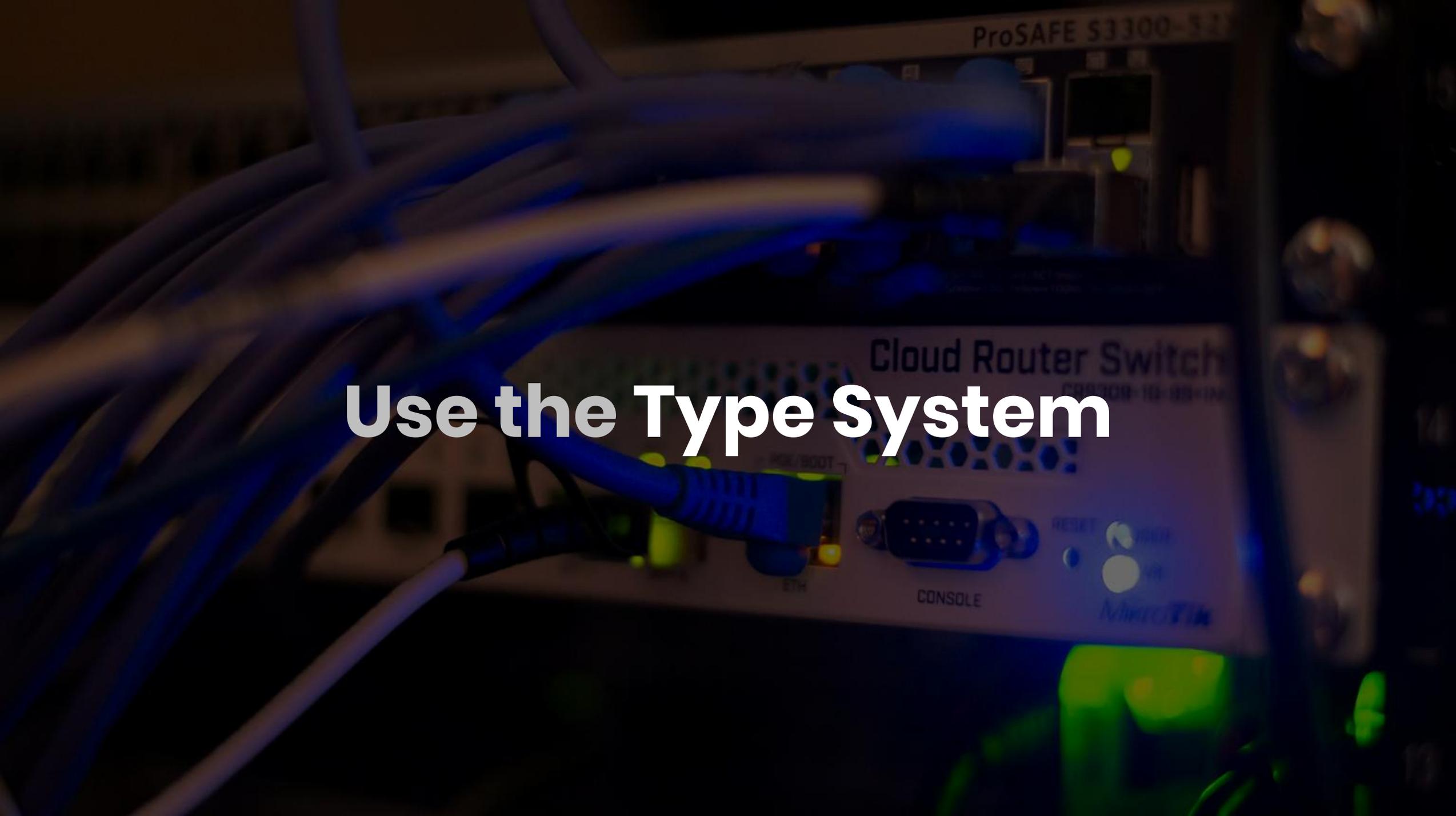
The goal is to prevent **bad input from propagating** through your domain model.

```
$user = new User();  
$user->username = $_POST['username'];  
$user->email = $_POST['email'];  
// ...  
$user->group = 'admin';
```

```
$user = new User();  
$user->username = $_POST['username'];  
$user->email = $_POST['email'];  
// ...  
$user->group = 'admin';
```

```
$user = new User();  
$user->username = $_POST['username'];  
$user->email = $_POST['email'];  
// ...  
$user->group = 'admin';
```

- HTTP requests (controllers)
- CLI commands
- API endpoints
- Database queries / import scripts
- Message queues

A close-up photograph of a network switch panel. The panel is white with a perforated metal grille. At the top, the text "ProSAFE S3300-52" is visible. Below that, the text "Cloud Router Switch" and "CR8009-10-09-10" is printed. The panel features several ports, including a "CONSOLE" port with a blue RJ45 connector and a "RESET" button. A blue Ethernet cable is plugged into one of the ports. The background is dark, and the scene is lit with a blue and green glow. The text "Use the Type System" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white font.

**Use the Type System**

# Use the Type System

Types turn assumptions into **guarantees**.

# Use the **Type System**

Types turn assumptions into **guarantees**.

Let the compiler and run-time **defend the system for you**

```
$user = new User();  
$user->id = 42;  
$user->username = 'lam';  
$user->email = 'liam@abc.nl';
```

```
$user = new User();  
$user->id = 42;  
$user->username = 'lam';  
$user->email = 'liam@abc.nl';
```

What **types** are these properties supposed to be?

```
class User {  
    public $id;  
    public $username;  
    public $email;  
    public $status;  
}
```

What **types** are these properties supposed to be?

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

What **types** are these properties supposed to be?

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

What **types** are these properties supposed to be?

```
$user →id = '10 apples'; TypeError
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

Avoid stringly-types

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

Avoid stringly-types

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

Avoid stringly-types

```
$user->status = "active";
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

Avoid stringly-types

```
$user->status = "active";  
$user->status = "blocked";
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public string $status;  
}
```

## Avoid stringly-types

```
$user->status = "active";  
$user->status = "blocked";  
$user->status = "banana";
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

## Use Enums (>= PHP 8.1)

```
enum UserStatus {  
    case PENDING;  
    case ACTIVE;  
    case BLOCKED;  
}
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

```
enum UserStatus {  
    case PENDING;  
    case ACTIVE;  
    case BLOCKED;  
}
```

```
$user->status = UserStatus::ACTIVE;  
$user->status = UserStatus::BLOCKED;  
$user->status = UserStatus::PENDING;
```

Use Enums (>= PHP 8.1)

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

Extend with Value Objects

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

```
$user->email = 'hi@example.com';
```

Extend with Value Objects

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

```
$user->email = 'hi@example.com';  
$user->email = 'hi@localhost';
```

Extend with Value Objects

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public string $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

## Extend with Value Objects

```
$user->email = 'hi@example.com';  
$user->email = 'hi@localhost';  
$user->email = '#DPC26';
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

## Extend with Value Objects

```
class EmailAddress {  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {  
        filter_var(  
            $value,  
            FILTER_VALIDATE_EMAIL,  
            FILTER_THROW_ON_FAILURE  
        );  
    }  
  
    public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
}
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

## Extend with Value Objects

```
class EmailAddress {  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {  
        filter_var(  
            $value,  
            FILTER_VALIDATE_EMAIL,  
            FILTER_THROW_ON_FAILURE  
        );  
    }  
  
    public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
}
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

## Extend with Value Objects

```
class EmailAddress {  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {  
        filter_var(  
            $value,  
            FILTER_VALIDATE_EMAIL,  
            FILTER_THROW_ON_FAILURE  
        );  
    }  
  
    public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
}
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

## Extend with Value Objects

```
$user->email = new EmailAddress('hi@example.com');
```

```
$user->email = new EmailAddress('hi@localhost');
```

Filter\FilterFailedException

```
$user->email = new EmailAddress('#DPC26');
```

Filter\FilterFailedException



**Invalid State  
Impossible by Design**

# Invalid State Impossible by Design

The best validation is the design that  
makes **invalid state impossible**.

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status;  
}
```

**Which of these properties must exist?**

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status = UserStatus::ACTIVE;  
  
    public function __construct(  
        int $id,  
        string $username,  
        EmailAddress $email,  
    ) {  
  
    }  
}
```

**Which of these properties must exist?**

They must be initialized at the constructor

Invalid State  
Impossible by Design

**Make state transitions explicit**

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    public UserStatus $status = UserStatus::ACTIVE;  
  
    public function __construct(...) {}  
  
    public function block(): void {  
        $this->status = UserStatus::BLOCKED;  
    }  
}
```

Make state transitions explicit

```
class User {  
    public int $id;  
    public string $username;  
    public EmailAddress $email;  
    private UserStatus $status = UserStatus::ACTIVE;  
  
    public function __construct(...) {}  
  
    public function block(): void {  
        $this->status = UserStatus::BLOCKED;  
    }  
}
```

Make state transitions explicit

**Invalid State**  
**Impossible by Design**

**No optional dependencies**



```
class HTTPClient {  
    public function __construct(?Logger $logger = null) {  
        $this->logger = $logger;  
    }  
  
    public function get(string $url): string {  
        if ($this->logger) {  
            $this->logger->info("GET $url");  
        }  
    }  
}
```

**No optional dependencies**

```
class HTTPClient {  
    public function __construct(?Logger $logger = null) {  
        $this->logger = $logger;  
    }  
  
    public function get(string $url): string {  
        if ($this->logger) {  
            $this->logger->info("GET $url");  
        }  
    }  
}
```

**No optional dependencies**

```
class HTTPClient {  
    public function __construct(Logger $logger) {  
        $this->logger = $logger;  
    }  
  
    public function get(string $url): string {  
        $this->logger->info("GET $url");  
    }  
}  
  
$client = new HTTPClient(new NullLogger());
```

**No optional dependencies**



**Immutability and Integrity**



# Immutability and Integrity

**Validation at creation is not enough  
if the object can be corrupted later.**

# Immutability and Integrity

**Validation at creation is not enough  
if the object can be corrupted later.**

**Once created, its core properties  
should not be freely mutable.**

**readonly classes and properties**



## readonly classes and properties

```
class EmailAddress {  
    private readonly string $email;  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {}  
    public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
}
```

## readonly classes and properties

```
class EmailAddress {  
    11 private readonly string $email;  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {}  
    12 public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
    13 }  
    14 }  
    15 }
```

## readonly classes and properties

```
class EmailAddress {  
    private readonly string $email;  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {}  
    public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
}
```

## readonly classes and properties

```
readonly class EmailAddress {  
    11 private string $email;  
    public function __construct(private string $value) {}  
    12 public function __toString(): string {  
        return $this->value;  
    }  
    13 }  
    14 }  
    15 }
```

**Asymmetric Visibility**



## Asymmetric Visibility

```
class Event {  
    public private(set) int $name;  
  
    public function __construct(string $name) {  
        $this->name = 'DPC26';  
    }  
}
```

## Asymmetric Visibility

```
class Event {  
    public private(set) int $name;  
  
    public function __construct(string $name) {  
        $this->name = 'DPC26';  
    }  
}
```

Read as if it is a public property

## Asymmetric Visibility

```
class Event {  
    public private(set) int $name;  
  
    public function __construct(string $name) {  
        $this->name = 'DPC26';  
    }  
}
```

Read as if it is a public property  
Prevent writing from outside

## Asymmetric Visibility

```
class Event {  
    public private(set) int $name;  
  
    public function __construct(string $name) {  
        $this->name = 'DPC26';  
    }  
}
```

Read as if it is a public property  
Prevent writing from outside

```
$event = new Event();  
echo $event->name; "DPC26"
```

## Asymmetric Visibility

```
class Event {  
    public private(set) int $name;  
  
    public function __construct(string $name) {  
        $this->name = 'DPC26';  
    }  
}
```

Read as if it is a public property  
Prevent writing from outside

```
$event = new Event();
```

```
echo $event->name;
```

```
$event->name = 'DPC26';
```

**Error:** :: Cannot modify private(set) property Event::\$name from global scope

## Property Hooks



## Property Hooks

- Add additional logic when setting and getting properties
- Virtual property support
- Retroactively add validation to existing classes

## Property Hooks

```
class User {
    public string $email {
        set {
            filter_var($value, FILTER_VALIDATE_EMAIL, FILTER_THROW_ON_FAILURE);
            $this->email = $value;
        }
    }
}

$user = new User();
$user->email = 'DPC26';
```

## Property Hooks

```
class User {  
    public string $email {  
        set {  
            filter_var($value, FILTER_VALIDATE_EMAIL, FILTER_THROW_ON_FAILURE);  
            $this->email = $value;  
        }  
    }  
}  
  
$user = new User();  
$user->email = 'DPC26';
```

A dark, high-contrast photograph of a railway track. The tracks run from the bottom center towards the top, flanked by overhead power lines and support structures. The scene is dimly lit, with a person visible in the distance on the right side. The overall mood is industrial and somewhat somber.

**Make Behavior Explicit**

```
sendEmail($event, true);
```

```
sendEmail($event, true);
```

What does true do here?

```
sendEmail($event, true);
```

Every Boolean parameter doubles the tests needed

```
sendEmail($event, true);
```

```
sendEmail($event);  
sendEmailAndPushNotification($event);
```

```
sendEmail($event, true);
```

```
sendEmail($event);
```

```
sendEmailAndPushNotification($event);
```

```
enum NotificationChannel {  
    case EMAIL;  
    case PUSH_NOTIFICATION;  
    case SMS;
```

```
}
```

```
sendNotification(NotificationChannel::EMAIL);
```

## Avoid Global State

```
global $db;
```

```
function createUser($email) {  
    global $db;  
    $db →insert($email);  
}
```

```
function generateInvoiceNumber(): int {  
    static $counter = 0;  
    $counter++;  
    return $counter;  
}
```

## Avoid Global State

```
global $db;
```

```
function createUser($email) {  
    global $db;  
    $db →insert($email);  
}
```

```
function generateInvoiceNumber(): int {  
    static $counter = 0;  
    $counter++;  
    return $counter;  
}
```

## Avoid Global State

```
global $db;  
  
function createUser($email) {  
    global $db;  
    $db →insert($email);  
}
```

```
function generateInvoiceNumber(): int {  
    static $counter = 0;  
    $counter++;  
    return $counter;  
}
```

- Hard to test
- Not deterministic
- State is shared globally
- Difficult to reset

## Go *extra* on Exceptions

Many PHP APIs still fail silently unless you opt into exceptions

```
$pdo = new PDO($dsn, $user, $password);  
  
$pdo->setAttribute(  
    PDO::ATTR_ERRMODE,  
    PDO::ERRMODE_EXCEPTION  
);
```

## Go *extra* on Exceptions

Many PHP APIs still fail silently unless you opt into exceptions

```
$data = json_decode(  
    $json,  
    true,  
    flags: JSON_THROW_ON_ERROR  
);
```

# Make Behavior Explicit

- `#[Deprecated]` Attribute for deprecated functionality
- `#[Override]` to ensure the parent method exists
- `#[NoDiscard]` to make sure the return value is not discarded
- `match` expression over `switch`
- Named parameters for ambiguous parameters
- Meaningful parameter names
- Strongly typed parameter, return values, and properties
- static lambda functions: `static fn() => 42`
- Unset `for/foreach/while` loop variables

A red Swiss Army knife is shown with several tools extended, including a large blade, a pair of scissors, a corkscrew, and a saw. The knife is positioned diagonally across the frame. The background is dark and textured.

**Small, focused, and  
predictable components**

A red Swiss Army knife is the central focus, with several tools extended. The background is dark and slightly blurred, emphasizing the knife. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

# **Small, focused, and predictable components**

**Complexity and hidden behavior are the enemy of defensive code**

A red Swiss Army knife is the central focus, with several tools extended. The background is dark, making the red handle and the metallic tools stand out. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

# **Small, focused, and predictable components**

**Complexity and hidden behavior are the enemy of defensive code**

**Small components make bugs easier to find — and harder to create**

```
class UserService {  
  public function registerUser($email) {}  
  public function sendWelcomeEmail($user) {}  
  public function generateReport() {}  
  public function exportUsers() {}  
  public function deleteInactiveUsers() {}  
}
```

```
class UserService {  
  public function registerUser($email) {}  
  public function sendWelcomeEmail($user) {}  
  public function generateReport() {}  
  public function exportUsers() {}  
  public function deleteInactiveUsers() {}  
}
```

**Does too many things**

```
class UserService {  
  public function registerUser($email) {}  
  public function sendWelcomeEmail($user) {}  
  public function generateReport() {}  
  public function exportUsers() {}  
  public function deleteInactiveUsers() {}  
}
```

**Hidden dependencies**

```
class UserService {  
  public function registerUser($email) {}  
  public function sendWelcomeEmail($user) {}  
  public function generateReport() {}  
  public function exportUsers() {}  
  public function deleteInactiveUsers() {}  
}
```

**Difficult to test**

```
class UserService {  
  public function registerUser($email) {}  
  public function sendWelcomeEmail($user) {}  
  public function generateReport() {}  
  public function exportUsers() {}  
  public function deleteInactiveUsers() {}  
}
```

**Grows endlessly**

```
final class UserRegistrar {  
    public function __construct(private UserRepository $users) {}  
  
    public function register(Email $email): User {  
        $user = new User($email);  
        $this->users->save($user);  
        return $user;  
    }  
}
```

```
final class WelcomeEmailSender {  
    public function __construct(private Mailer $mailer) {}  
  
    public function send(User $user): void {  
        $this->mailer->send($user->email);  
    }  
}
```

```
final class UserRegistrar {  
    public function __construct(private UserRepository $users) {}  
  
    public function register(Email $email): User {  
        $user = new User($email);  
        $this->users->save($user);  
        return $user;  
    }  
}
```

## Single Responsibility

```
final class WelcomeEmailSender {  
    public function __construct(private Mailer $mailer) {}  
  
    public function send(User $user): void {  
        $this->mailer->send($user->email);  
    }  
}
```

```
final class UserRegistrar {  
    public function __construct(private UserRepository $users) {}  
  
    public function register(Email $email): User {  
        $user = new User($email);  
        $this->users->save($user);  
        return $user;  
    }  
}
```

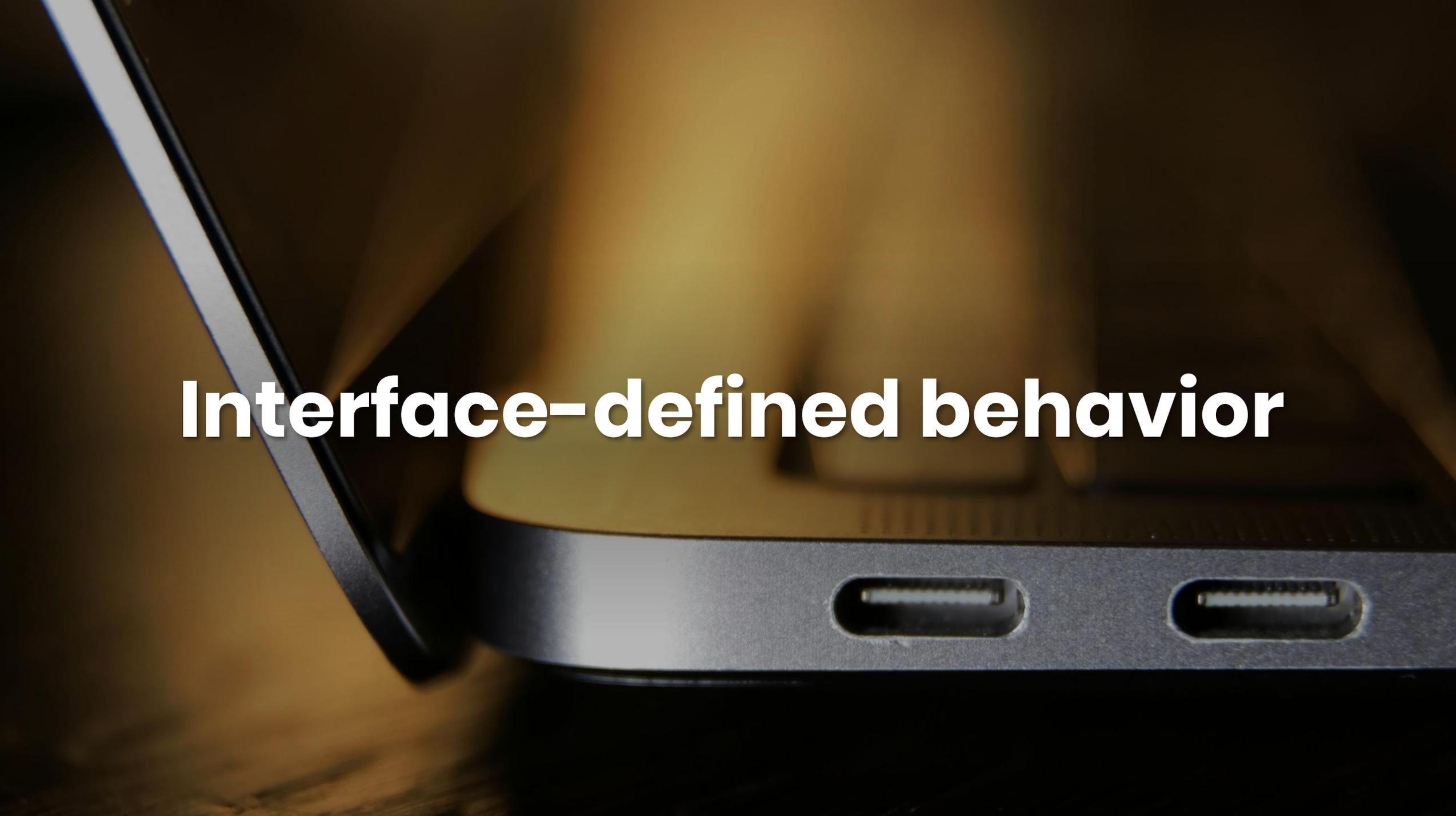
**Clear, intuitive behavior**

```
final class WelcomeEmailSender {  
    public function __construct(private Mailer $mailer) {}  
  
    public function send(User $user): void {  
        $this->mailer->send($user->email);  
    }  
}
```

```
final class UserRegistrar {  
    public function __construct(private UserRepository $users) {}  
  
    public function register(Email $email): User {  
        $user = new User($email);  
        $this->users->save($user);  
        return $user;  
    }  
}
```

**Minimal dependencies**

```
final class WelcomeEmailSender {  
    public function __construct(private Mailer $mailer) {}  
  
    public function send(User $user): void {  
        $this->mailer->send($user->email);  
    }  
}
```

A close-up photograph of the bottom edge of a silver laptop. Two USB-C ports are visible, set into a dark grey or black metal casing. The background is a warm, out-of-focus yellowish-brown. The text "Interface-defined behavior" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

**Interface-defined behavior**

# Interface-defined behavior

Interfaces define **what**, *not how*

# Interface-defined behavior

Interfaces define **what**, *not how*  
Standards enable **interoperability**

# Interface-defined behavior

Interfaces define **what**, *not how*

Standards enable **interoperability**

Expose **behaviors**, *not data structures*

# Interface-defined behavior

```
interface PaymentGateway {  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult;  
}
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# Interface-defined behavior

```
interface PaymentGateway {  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult;  
}
```

```
class AdyenPaymentGateway implements PaymentGateway {  
    public function __construct(  
        private readonly string $apiKey,  
        private readonly string $apiSecret  
    ) {}  
  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult {  
        // Adyen-specific API calls  
    }  
}
```

# Interface-defined behavior

```
interface PaymentGateway {  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult;  
}
```

```
class AdyenPaymentGateway implements PaymentGateway {  
    public function __construct(  
        private readonly string $apiKey,  
        private readonly string $apiSecret  
    ) {}  
  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult {  
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    }  
}
```

# Interface-defined behavior

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interface PaymentGateway {  
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    public function __construct(  
        private readonly string $apiKey,  
        private readonly string $apiSecret  
    ) {}  
  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult {  
        // Adyen-specific API calls  
    }  
}
```

# Interface-defined behavior

```
interface PaymentGateway {  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult;  
}
```

```
class AdyenPaymentGateway implements PaymentGateway {  
  
}
```

```
class ShoppingCart {  
    public function __construct(  
        private PaymentGateway $paymentGateway  
    ) {}  
}
```

# Interface-defined behavior

```
interface PaymentGateway {  
    public function charge(Money $amount): PaymentResult;  
}
```

```
class AdyenPaymentGateway implements PaymentGateway {  
  
}
```

```
class ShoppingCart {  
    public function __construct(  
        private PaymentGateway $paymentGateway  
    ) {}  
}
```

# Interface-defined behavior: Code smells

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Is a class doing **too many things**?

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Is a class doing **too many things**?  
Do you have a **long inheritance chain**?

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Multiple **unrelated** properties and methods

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Multiple **unrelated** properties and methods

Does a bug fix involve **multiple diffs**?

# Interface-defined behavior: Code smells

Is a class doing **too many things**?

Do you have a **long inheritance chain**?

Multiple **unrelated** properties and methods

Does a bug fix involve **multiple diffs**?

Do you have too many files **open at the same time**?

# Further Resources

- <https://aye.sh/talk/dpc2026-defensive-php>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8d2AtAGJPno> | Extremely Defensive PHP – Marco Pivetta
- [https://phpdelusions.net/articles/error\\_reporting](https://phpdelusions.net/articles/error_reporting)
- <https://getrector.com/>
- <https://phpstan.org/>
- <https://php.watch/versions>

# Questions?

No question is too small



**#DPC26 ayesh@php.watch**

<https://aye.sh/talk/dpc2026-defensive-php>

arigatô paldies dziękuję Ďakujem tak  
diolch dankie děkuji mahalo kop khun  
cảm ơn bạn хвала شڪرا لك köszönöm  
a dank gràcies ngiyabonga tänan Баярлалаа dhanyavād  
Дякую ευχαριστώ **THANK YOU** Благодарам  
спасибо takk благодаря  
grazie Mh'gōi Dank u Благодаря ти gracias  
mulțumesc 多謝 takk ačiū நன்றி הודת.  
danke choukrane faleminderit 谢谢  
teşekkür ederim obrigado kiitos  
Հնրհապալությո՞ւնս terima kasih hvala grazzi

# THANK YOU

arigatô      paldies      dziękuję      Ďakujem      tak  
diolch      dankie      хвала      Баярлалаа      شكرا لك      kop khun  
cảm ơn bạn      ngiyabonga      tänan      köszönöm  
a dank      gràcies      dhanyavād  
Дякую      ευχαριστώ      Благодарам  
спасибо      Dank u wel      tack      благодаря  
grazie      Mh'gōi      Dank u      Благодаря ти      gracias  
mulțumesc      多謝      takk      ස්තූතියි      ačiū      நன்றி      תודה.  
danke      teşekkür ederim      choukrane      obrigado      kiitos      谢谢  
Հնորհակալությունս      terima kasih      hvala      grazzi

arigatô      paldies      děkuji      mahalo      شكرا لك      Ďakujem      tak  
dankie      dziękuje      Баярлалаа      kop khun  
diolch      хвала      tänan      tack      köszönöm  
cảm ơn bạn      ngiyabonga

a dank      gràcies

Дякую      ευχαριστώ  
спасибо

grazie      Mh'gōi      多謝

mulțumesc      Dank u

danke      takk      ස්තූතියි

teşekkür ederim

ՀնրհաԿալըԼթյո՛ւս

# THANK YOU

Dank u wel



Благодарам

благодаря

ačiū      הודת.

Благодаря ти

faleminderit      gracias

நன்றி

obrigado

choukrane

terima kasih

hvala

kiitos      grazzi

谢谢

# THANK YOU

**Sabrina Schipper** from **Travel Counsellors**  
for arranging me flights *four* times  
when pretty much all the flights got cancelled/

I wouldn't have made it without the miracles you pulled.





# DEFENSIVE PHP

## Code that refuses to fail silently



Defensive PHP: Code that refuses to fail silently

