



## **The Handbook**

### **Codex**

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Template Tags/get the category](http://codex.wordpress.org/Template_Tags/get_the_category)

### **Version Date**

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# Template Tags/get the category

## ***Description***

Returns an array of objects, one object for each category assigned to the post. This tag must be used within [The Loop](#).

## ***Usage***

This function does not display anything; you should access the objects and then echo or otherwise use the desired member variables.

The following example displays the category name of each category assigned to the post (this is a like using [the\\_category\(\)](#), but without linking each category to the category view, and using spaces instead of commas):

```
<?php
foreach((get_the_category()) as $cat) {
echo $cat->cat_name . ' ';
} ?>
```

## ***Examples***

### **Show Category Images**

This outputs category images named after the `cat_ID` with the `alt` attribute set to `cat_name`. You can also use any of the other member variables instead.

```
<?php foreach((get_the_category()) as $cat)
{ echo 'cat_name . '" />'; } ?>
```

### **Show the First Category Name Only**

```
<?php
$cat = get_the_category(); $cat = $cat[0]; echo $cat->cat_name;
?>
```

## ***Member Variables***

`cat_ID`  
the category id  
`cat_name`  
the category name

category\_nicename  
a slug generated from the category name  
category\_description  
the category description  
category\_parent  
the category id of the current category's parent. '0' for no parents.

### ***Related***

[the\\_category](#), [the\\_category\\_rss](#), [the\\_category\\_ID](#) (Deprecated), [the\\_category\\_head](#) (Deprecated), [single\\_cat\\_title](#), [category\\_description](#), [dropdown\\_cats](#), [list\\_cats](#), [wp\\_list\\_cats](#)