



The Handbook

Codex

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

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Template Tags/the category

Description

Displays a link to the category or categories a post belongs to. This tag must be used within [The Loop](#).

Usage

```
<?php the_category('separator', 'parents' ); ?>
```

Examples

Default Usage

The default usage lists categories with no separator other than a space.

```
<p>Categories: <?php the_category() ?></p>
```

Categories: [WordPress](#) [Computers](#) [Blogging](#)

Separated by Comma

Displays links to categories, each category separated by a comma (if more than one).

```
<p>This post is in: <?php the_category(',', ' '); ?></p>
```

This post is in: [WordPress](#), [Computers](#), [Blogging](#)

Separated by Arrow

Displays links to categories with an arrow (>) separating the categories. (**Note:** Take care when using this, since some viewers may interpret a category following a > as a subcategory of the one preceding it.)

```
<p>Categories: <?php the_category(' > '); ?></p>
```

Categories: [WordPress](#) > [Computers](#) > [Blogging](#)

Separated by a Bullet

Displays links to categories with a bullet (•) separating the categories.

```
<p>Post Categories: <?php the_category(' &bull; '); ?></p>
```

Post Categories: [WordPress](#) • [Computers](#) • [Blogging](#)

Parameters

separator

(*string*) Text or character to display between each category link. The default is to place the links in an unordered list.

parents

(*string*) How to display links that reside in child (sub) categories. Options are:

- 'multiple' - Display separate links to parent and child categories, exhibiting "parent/child" relationship.
- 'single' - Display link to child category only, with link text exhibiting "parent/child" relationship.

Note: Default is a link to the child category, with no relationship exhibited.

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](#)