

# PHP: How do I set PHP includepath?

There are at least 2 ways you can set your PHP includepath.

1. Edit your [PHP configuration file](#). Inside that file is a directive section for "Paths and Directories." You can change that value to whatever you like or add to (or eliminate) the default like this:

```
include_path          = ./usr/local/lib/php:./include
```

The above must be entered all on one line, with no linebreaks. The above will cause php scripts to search for a directory named "include", and will look for it under the current directory of the running script in addition to the default, which is to first search the current directory and then search the /usr/local/lib/php directory (which is a system directory that is not writeable by you and is reserved for things like PEAR).

The format of the includepath variable is a list of directories separated with a colon. A "." (a period) in the include path means the current directory, and allows for relative includes. More information is available [here](#).

2. Use the function [ini\\_set\(\)](#). For example if you wanted to set your PHP includepath to ".:./include:include" then you would do this in your PHP code:

```
ini_set("include_path", ".:./include:include");
```

You can also use [ini\\_set\(\)](#) to affect other PHP settings like [autoprependfile](#), [autoappendfile](#), [errorreporting](#), etc.

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