Creating a Logout Page

Logout should remove server-side session data, expire the session cookie and return the user to a safe public page.

Logout script

Create `logout.php`:

```
<?php
session_start();

$_SESSION = [];

if (ini_get("session.use_cookies")) {
    $parameters = session_get_cookie_params();

    setcookie(
        session_name(),
        "",
        time() - 42000,
        $parameters["path"],
        $parameters["domain"],
        $parameters["secure"],
        $parameters["httponly"]
    );
}

session_destroy();

header("Location: login.php");
exit;
```

Clearing `$_SESSION` removes values in the current request. Expiring the cookie removes the browser’s session identifier. `session_destroy()` removes the stored session.

Logout control

For a basic local classroom project:

```
<a href="logout.php">Log out</a>
```

For a stronger design, use a POST form and a CSRF token so another website cannot trigger logout unexpectedly.

Test

1. Log in and open a protected page.
2. Log out.
3. use the Back button and refresh.
4. enter the protected URL directly.
5. confirm the application requires login again.

Check

- [ ] Session array is cleared.
- [ ] Session cookie is expired when cookies are used.
- [ ] Stored session is destroyed.
- [ ] Redirect is followed by `exit`.
- [ ] Protected content is unavailable after logout.

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