

Warning: Trying to access array offset on value of type null in  
/var/www/vhosts/thecmsbcookbook.com/httpdocs/recipeDetail3.php on line 44

# The CMS Builder Cookbook

[Home](#)

[Read Excerpts](#)

[View the  
Table of  
Contents](#)

[All  
User Submitted  
CMS Plugins](#)

[CMSB Resources](#)

[Contact Us](#)

**ALLOWING ADMINS TO SET SORT ORDERBY VALUES BASED ON A LIST FIELD SELECTION - Sep 5th, 2022**

I needed to let an site admin decide whether a viewer would show the data on a list page with the newest record in the table 'studio\_art\_images' first, or show the oldest record first, show the records in a random order, or in the order

they appeared in the record list.

With a bit of help from Interactive Tools Guru Daryl Maximo, here's what we came up with.

1) set up a single value list field in a single record editor (in this example it's 'sort\_order' and the section is named 'common\_information')

2) enter the possible list values as:

Oldest First  
Newest First  
Show in Random Order  
None

At the top of the viewer use the code:

```
<?php
list($common_informationRecords, $common_informationMetaData) = getRecords(array(
    'tableName' => 'common_information',
    //debugSql => true,
    'limit' => '1',
));
$common_informationRecord = @$common_informationRecords[0]; // get first record
?>
<?php $orderBy = ""; ?>
<?php
if (strpos($common_informationRecord['sort_order'], 'Oldest') !== FALSE) { $orderBy = 'createdDate ASC'; };
if (strpos($common_informationRecord['sort_order'], 'Newest') !== FALSE) { $orderBy = 'createdDate DESC'; };
if (strpos($common_informationRecord['sort_order'], 'Rand') !== FALSE) { $orderBy = 'RAND()'; };
if (strpos($common_informationRecord['sort_order'], 'None') !== FALSE) { $orderBy = ""; };

?>
<?php list($studio_art_imagesRecords, $studio_art_imagesMetaData) = getRecords(array(
    'tableName' => 'studio_art_images',
    'orderBy' => $orderBy,
));
?>
```

Then display the record data in your viewer using standard foreach loop code.

According to Daryl,

Without the !== FALSE the strpos() function returns the position of the first occurrence of a substring in a string so it could be because it's returning position "0", which is a boolean false, that causes none of your if statements to be true.

You can use the !== or the === operator to check for "0" as a value and not a boolean false.

The materials on this web site have been created for use with CMS Builder content management software. CMS Builder software is published and licensed for use by InteractiveTools.com. Please contact [Interactive Tools](#) for information on the downloading of the software or the purchasing of licenses.

**Terms of Service**

