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Cookie Policy

What are cookies in computers?

Also known as browser cookies or tracking cookies, cookies are small, often encrypted text files, located in browser directories. They are used by web developers to help users navigate their websites efficiently and perform certain functions. Due to their core role of enhancing and enabling usability or site processes, disabling cookies may prevent users from using certain websites.

Cookies are created when a user's browser loads a particular website. The website sends information to the browser which then creates a text file. Every time the user goes back to the same website, the browser retrieves and sends this file to the website's server.

Computer Cookies are created not just by the website the user is browsing but also by other websites that run ads, widgets, or other elements on the page being loaded. These cookies regulate how the ads appear or how the widgets and other elements function on the page.

Standard uses for browser cookies

Website servers set cookies to help authenticate the user if the user logs in to a secure area of the website. Login information is stored in a cookie so the user can enter and leave the website without having to re-enter the same authentication information over and over.

Session Cookies are also used by the server to store information about user page activities so users can easily pick up where they left off on the server's pages. By default, web pages really don't have any 'memory'. Cookies tell the server what pages to show the user so the user doesn't have to remember or start navigating the site all over again. Cookies act as a sort of 'bookmark' within the site.

Persistent or tracking Cookies are also employed to store user preferences. Many websites allow the user to customise how information is presented through site layouts or themes. These changes make the site easier to navigate and/or lets the user leave a part of the user's 'personality' at the site. For Information on session and persistent and tracking cookies, see here [Cookie security and privacy issues](#).

Cookies are NOT viruses. Cookies use a plain text format. They are not compiled pieces of code so they cannot be executed nor are they self-executing. Accordingly, they cannot



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make copies of themselves and spread to other networks to execute and replicate again. Since they cannot perform these functions, they fall outside the standard virus definition.

Cookies CAN be used for malicious purposes though. Since they store information about a user's browsing preferences and history, both on a specific site and browsing among several sites, cookies can be used to act as a form of spyware. Many anti-spyware products are well aware of this problem and routinely flag cookies as candidates for deletion after standard virus and/or spyware scans.

Most browsers have built in privacy settings that provide differing levels of cookie acceptance, expiration time, and disposal after a user has visited a particular site. Backing up your computer can give you the peace of mind that your files are safe.

How we use cookies

A cookie is a small file which asks permission to be placed on your computer's hard drive. Once you agree, the file is added and the cookie helps analyse web traffic or lets you know when you visit a particular site. Cookies allow web applications to respond to you as an individual. The web application can tailor its operations to your needs, likes and dislikes by gathering and remembering information about your preferences.

We use traffic log cookies to identify which pages are being used. This helps us analyse data about webpage traffic and improve our website in order to tailor it to customer needs. We only use this information for statistical analysis purposes and then the data is removed from the system.

General website cookies

This website is built using standard HTML and open source PHP web technologies, as part of this we use the built-in session cookie to manage your session. When you navigate to the site, the server establishes a unique session that last for the duration of your visit.

Measuring website usage - Google Analytics

Google Analytics uses cookies to define user sessions, as well as to provide a number of key features in the Google Analytics reports. Google Analytics sets or updates cookies only to collect data required for the reports. Additionally, Google Analytics uses only first-party cookies. This means that all cookies set by Google Analytics for our domain send data only to the servers for our domain. This effectively makes Google Analytics cookies the



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personal property of this website domain, and the data cannot be altered or retrieved by any service on another domain.

For further information about the Cookies Google uses please visit this [Cookie Information page](#).

How do I Control or Delete Cookies?

If cookies are not enabled on your computer this could mean that your experience with our website will be impacted. However, if you want to control or delete cookies you can do so.

Information on deleting cookies and controlling cookies is available at www.aboutCookies.org. However, by deleting our cookies or disabling future cookies you may not be able to access certain areas or features of our site.



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