

Create

Information on Cookies

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What are they?

Cookies are small pieces of data that are used to store information like passwords, usernames and recent activity on a website.

When you visit a site that uses cookies for the first time, a cookie is downloaded onto your PC. The next time you visit that site, your PC checks to see if it has a cookie that is relevant (that is, one containing the site name) and sends the information contained in that cookie back to the site.

The site then 'knows' that you have been there before, and in some cases, tailors what pops up on screen to take account of that fact. For instance, it can be helpful to vary content according to whether this is your first ever visit to a site - or your 71st.

Good or Bad?

Generally cookies are good if you have your own computer. They log you straight into your favourite websites making surfing the internet easier and they can make your shopping experience a lot more enjoyable by tracking what items you have looked at for example.

There are some concerns over cookies and the threat they can pose to your privacy online. Laws have been tightened up by governments all around the world because of the threat to consumers and trust in using websites. You can view how a website uses cookies in their Cookies Policy Statement.

Warning

Always remember to log out of your emails and other websites you have joined. Cookies can still keep you logged in even after closing down pages and switching your computer off. Someone could come along and access your personal information and important emails.

**Remember if you have logged in,
LOG OUT on public computers.**