



Architectural Association School of Architecture Cookie Policy

The UK government has updated the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations in response to the EU Privacy Directive. In light of this the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) has provided guidance on the EU Cookie Law which came into effect in May 2012.

Information on the types of cookies the Architectural Association uses is listed below, along with options for deleting and/or disabling cookies on your computer.

What are cookies?

Cookies are small text files that the web sites you visit place on your computer to store information about your visit. Cookies are 'passive' in that they contain information your browser can retrieve, but do not contain programmes, viruses or malicious software. Cookies normally expire after a certain length of time, although that time can be anywhere from a few minutes to more than a year.

Cookies can be divided into two categories: 'session' and 'persistent'. Session cookies are temporary and are deleted when you close your browser or after a period of inactivity. Persistent cookies remain on your computer until the expiration date/time set by the cookie creator.

What do cookies do?

Cookies can contain many types of information about your visit to a particular web site, but most commonly are used to store the preferences you've selected, such as language, shopping cart contents, privacy settings and login state. Cookies do not contain personal or private data about you, but can compile information about your browsing habits. For the most part, cookies enhance your browsing experience by keeping you from having to select the same options each time you visit a site.

However, cookies can also be used by web sites to serve you advertising targeted to your particular interests based on the preferences you've selected or the content of the pages you have visited. For this reason, some web users choose to delete or reject cookies of certain types or from certain sites.

Can I delete cookies?

Yes, you can both view the cookies stored on your computer and delete some or all of them. However, each browser has a slightly different procedure for doing so.

Note that in some cases, deleting cookies will impact your experience in revisiting a site. For example, you may be forced to log in again, or items added to your shopping cart will have disappeared.

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Can I set my browser to block cookies?

Yes, most browsers allow you to specify which types of cookies you will accept or to reject all cookies.

Which cookies does the AA use?

Google Analytics

Google Analytics sets eight cookies, _utma, _utmb, _utmc, _utmt, _utmz, _ga, _git, _gat and they are used to collect information about how visitors use our site. We use the information to compile reports and to help us improve the website. The cookies collect information in an anonymous form, including the number of visitors to the website, where visitors have come to the site from and the pages they visited.

Overview of Google Analytics Cookie Usage -

<https://developers.google.com/analytics/devguides/collection/analyticsjs/cookie-usage>

Google Maps

These cookies are used by Google to track how many people are using their maps. Using google map on our Membership and Visiting School pages sets tree cookies, NID, PREF, khcookie.

AddThis

We use AddThis across the site to allow sharing of content between different services. Using this feature sets the cookies __atuvc, __atssc and __atuvs which expire after one yearsand is set in accordance with [AddThis's Privacy Policy](#).

Issuu

We use the Issuu digital publishing platform for regular publications. This may set cookies on your computer once you click on an embedded digital publication from one of our webpages. For example, they may use cookies or Flash objects to count the number of unique computers accessing their website. This cookie does not identify you personally unless you are logged into Issuu, in which case it is linked to your Issuu and/or Facebook account. The cookie will expire 5 years after your last visit to an Issuu embedded publication.

Please see [Issuu's privacy policy](#) for more information.

Youtube

We embed videos from YouTube on our website. This may set cookies on your computer once you click on the YouTube video player, but YouTube will not store personally identifiable cookie information for playbacks of embedded videos.

Please see [Google's privacy policy](#) for more information.

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Cookie Policy

HotJar

We use the hotjar.com system to understand how well our website works for our visitors, using de-identified recording of journeys through the site and 'heatmapping' of which areas of pages get more and less interaction. HotJar sets up to 6 cookies: _hjAbsoluteSessionInProgress, _hjFirstSeen, _hjSession_*, _hjSessionUser_*, _hjIncludedInPageviewSample and _hjIncludedInSessionSample. The cookies expire after a maximum of one year.

Please see HotJar's cookies info page for more details on the role of each cookie, and HotJar's privacy policy for more privacy information.

Vimeo

We may from time to time embed videos from different Vimeo channels. This may set cookies on your computer once you click on the Vimeo video player, but Vimeo will not store personally identifiable cookie information for playbacks of embedded videos.

Please see [Vimeo's privacy policy](#) for more information - this page also contains information on how to opt out.

Session Cookies

These cookies store temporary information to enable site functionality. They are automatically deleted when you close your browser. These type of cookies are used in Online application and Membership section of the site and named as PHPSESSION