

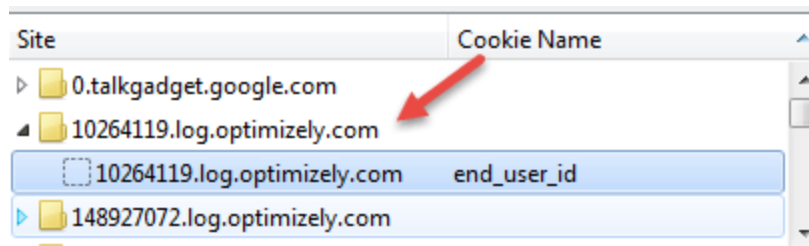
Cookie Testing: Example Test Cases for Website



What is Cookie Testing?

Cookie Testing is defined as a Software Testing type that checks Cookie created in your web browser. A cookie is a small piece of information that is stored in a text file on user's (client) hard drive by the web server. This piece of information is then sent back to the server each time the browser requests a page from the server. Usually, cookie contains personalized user data or information that is used to

communicate between different web pages. The screen-shot below shows cookies for different websites.



../images/6-

2015/052515_0916 CookieTest1.png)

In other words, cookies are nothing but a user's identity and used to track where the user navigated throughout the pages of the website. The purpose of a cookie is to make rapid interaction between users and websites. Applications, where cookies can be used, is to implement a shopping cart, personalized web experience, user tracking, marketing, user sessions etc.

In this tutorial, we will learn

- What is the Content of Cookie?
- Types of Cookies
- Where Cookies are stored?
- How to test Cookies – Sample Test Cases
- Plugins to Test Cookies
- Cookie Modification in Action

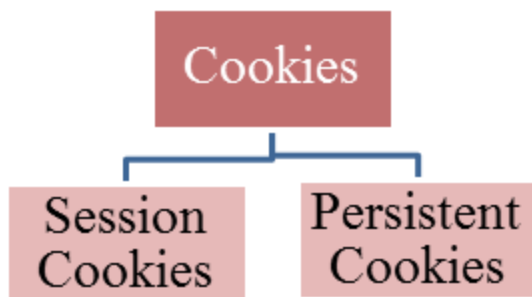
- Difference between Cookie and Session

What is the Content of Cookie?

The cookie consists of mainly three things

1. The name of the server the cookie was sent from
2. Cookies Lifetime
3. A value. This is usually a randomly generated unique number

Types of Cookies



[./images/6-2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti2.png](#)

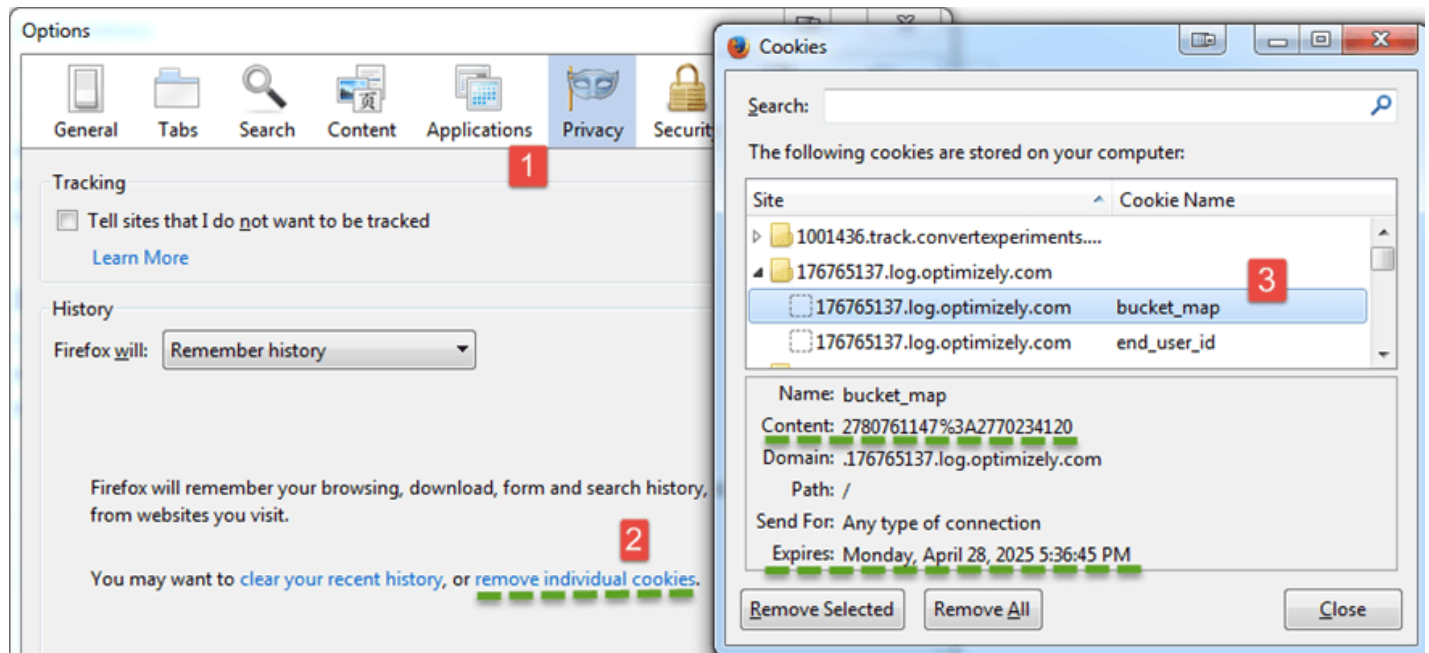
Usually, there are two types of cookies written on user machines

- **Session Cookies:** These cookies are active till the browser that triggers the cookie is open. When we close the browser this session cookie gets deleted
- **Persistent Cookies:** These cookies are written permanently on the user machine and it lasts for months or years

Where Cookies are stored?

When any web page application writes a cookie, it is stored in a text file on user hard disk drive. The path where the cookies are saved depends on the browser. **Different browsers store cookie in different paths.**

For example, in **Mozilla Firefox** browser you can see the cookies in browser options. To view this click on Tools -> Options -> Privacy and then click on "Remove Individual Cookies".



(./images/6-2015/052515_0916 CookieTesti3.png)

While in **Internet Explorer** browser it stores cookies on path "C:\Documents and Settings\Default User\Cookies"

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How to test Cookies – Sample Test Cases

Following is an important checklist to test cookies in Software Engineering

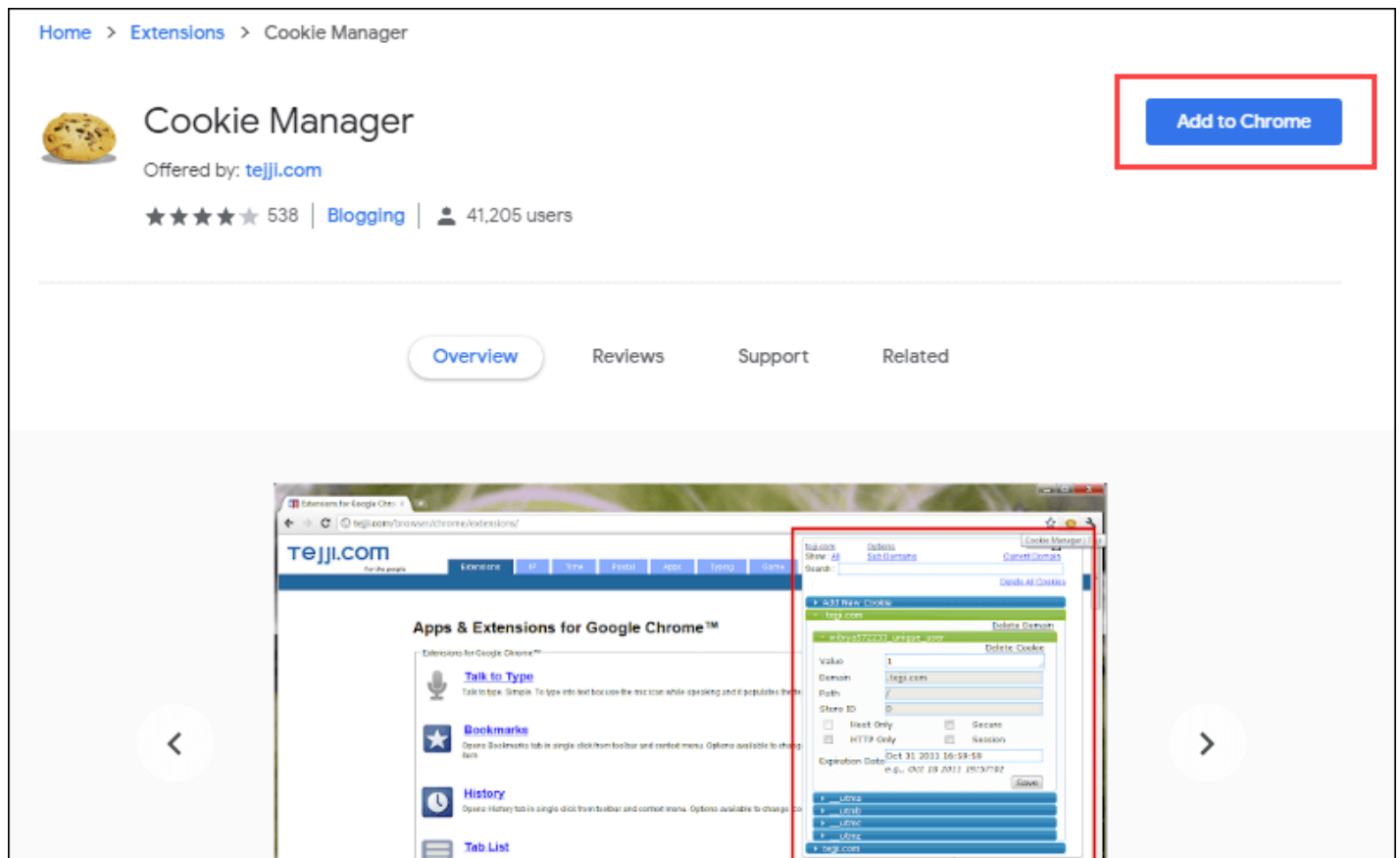
1. **Disabling cookies:** Disable all cookies and attempt to use the site's major functions

2. **Corrupting cookies:** Manually edit the cookie in notepad and change the parameters with some random values
3. **Cookies encryption:** Sensitive information like passwords and usernames should be encrypted before it is sent to our computer
4. **Cookie testing with multiple browsers:** Check your website page is writing the cookies properly on a different browser as expected
5. **Checking the deletion from your web application page:**
6. **Selectively rejecting cookies:** Delete all the cookies for the websites and see how the website reacts to it
7. **Access to cookies:** Cookies written by one website should not be accessible by others
8. **No overuse of cookies:** If the application under test is a public website, there should not be overuse of cookies
9. **Testing with the different setting:** Testing should be done properly to check that website is working well with different cookie setting
10. **Categorize cookies separately:** Cookies should not be kept in the same category of the viruses, spam or spyware

Plugins for Cookie Test

Modern browsers allow viewing/editing of the cookies in the browser itself. There are cookie tester plugins in Mozilla and Google Chrome both.

1. **Chrome Cookie Manager** (<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/cookie-manager/bjdaiadcbbcomhnlhpnbmnnfcnhkiibj?hl=en>)



(./images/1/cookie_manager.png).

2. For Google Chrome browser: Edit This Cookie (<http://www.editthiscookie.com/>)



(./images/6-

2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti5.png).

Cookie Modification in Action

We will use edit the cookie plugin for Chrome.

Step 1)

Enter the userID & password to login into the Guru99 bank. (<http://demo.guru99.com/V4/>).

Guru99 Bank

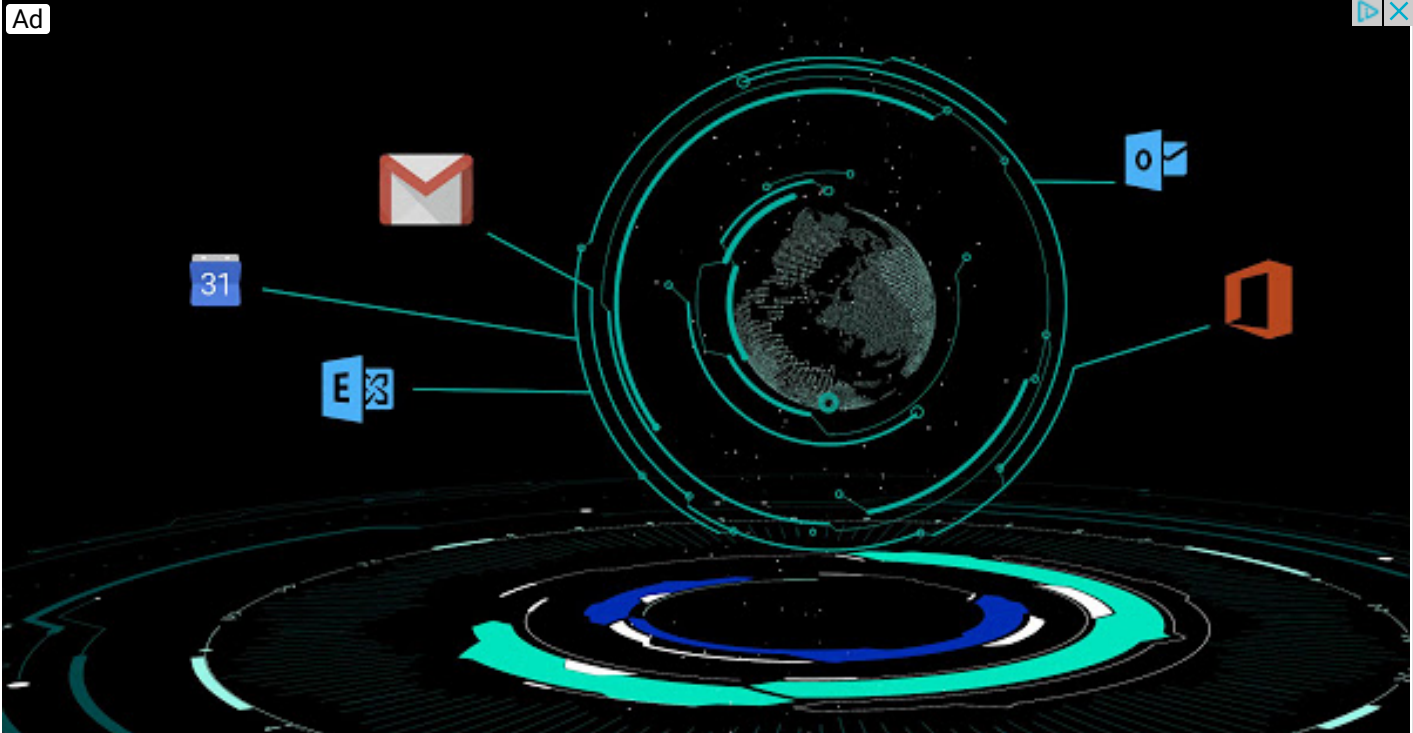


The login form consists of three main components: a UserID input field, a Password input field, and two buttons labeled 'LOGIN' and 'RESET'. Step 1 points to the UserID field containing 'mgr456'. Step 2 points to the Password field, which is masked with dots. Step 3 points to the 'LOGIN' button, which is circled in red.

1	UserID	<input type="text" value="mgr456"/>
2	Password	<input type="password" value="•••••"/>
3		<input type="button" value="LOGIN"/> <input type="button" value="RESET"/>

[./images/6-2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti6.png](#)


Ad

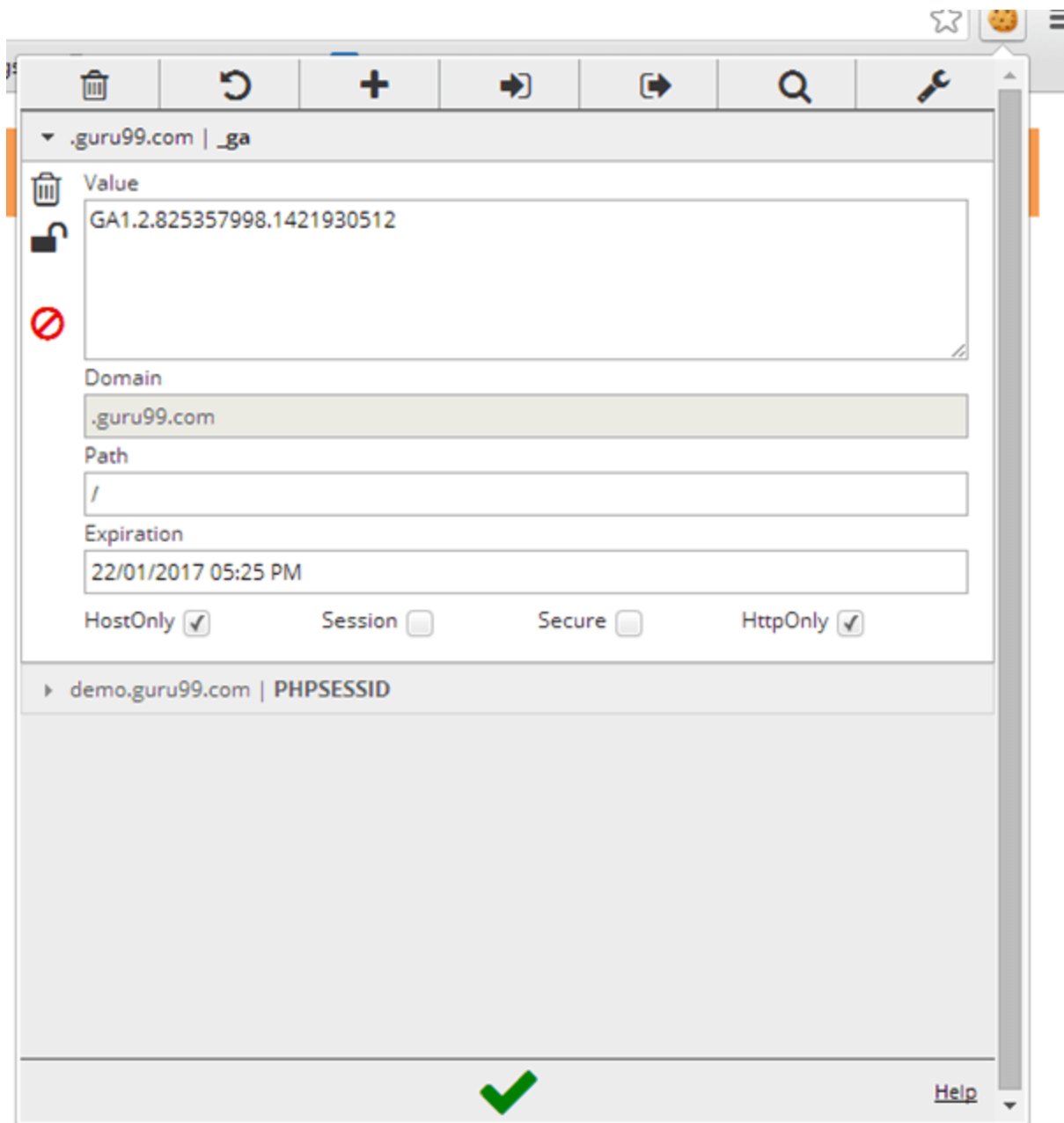
A futuristic graphic with a central globe surrounded by glowing teal lines and icons for Gmail, Outlook, and a calendar. Below the graphic, the text reads: "Build New Features 75% Faster", "Build communications with Email, Calendar and Contacts APIs. Try the Nylas APIs free.", and an "Open" button.

Build New Features 75% Faster
Build communications with Email, Calendar and Contacts APIs. Try the Nylas APIs free.

[Open](#)

Step 2)


Click on the plugin icon  (/images/6-2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti7.png) and it will open another window as shown below

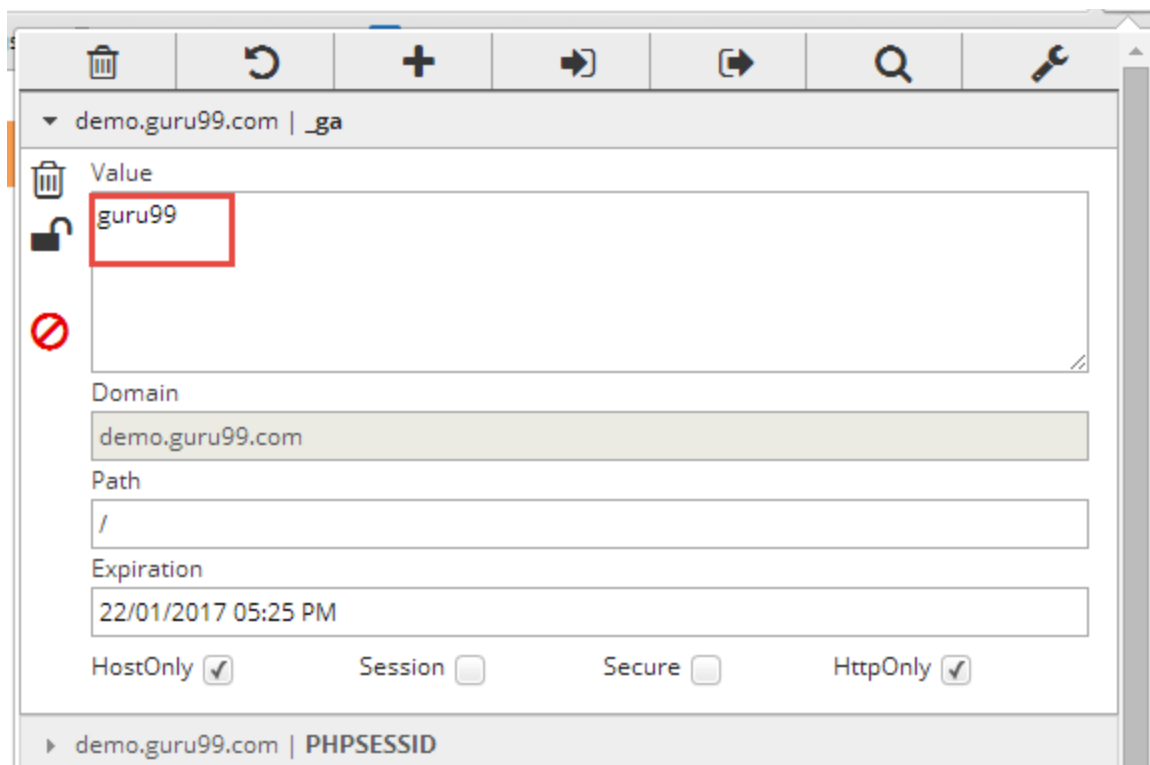


./images/6-

2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti8.png

Step 3)

Change the value of the cookie to "**guru99**" and then click on  ./images/6-
2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti9.png to save the changes



./images/6-

2015/052515_0916_CookieTesti10.png

Difference between Cookie and Session

Cookie	Session
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cookies are client-side files that contain user information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sessions are server-side files which contain user information
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cookie ends depending on the lifetime you set for it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A session ends when a user closes his browser
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You don't need to start cookie as it is stored in your local machine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In PHP, before using <code>\$_SESSION</code>, you have to write <code>session_start()</code>; Likewise for other languages

- The official maximum cookie size is 4KB
- Within-session you can store as much data as you like. The only limits you can reach is the maximum memory a script can consume at one time, which is 128MB by default
- A cookie is not dependent on Session
- A session is dependent on Cookie
- There is no function named unsetcookie()
- Session_destroy(); is used to destroy all registered data or to unset some

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