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Blog Post- Cookies

Web App

When the internet was first around it was a revolution for the modern era, however there were still flaws. For example, if I wanted to go on Facebook and casually look at cooking videos and then share them with the world I could. But then a few seconds later maybe I’m in the mood to share a dog video, well Facebook would log me out before I had the chance. The reason is because cookies weren’t invented yet, which is what allows us to stay logged into sites. The way that it works is that when a server receives an HTTP request from user it sends it with a Set-Cookie header. Additionally, an expiration delay can be added depending on how long you want the server to know you’re still using site so it doesn’t log you out. Also there can be specified domain and paths to further ensure the security of your information (make sure it doesn’t go to wrong place). Speaking of security, ever wonder how cookies can keep your info so secure? One way the server can keep a cookie secure is by encrypting the cookie. That way only the server can decrypt the information and if anyone else got a hold of it they wouldn’t be able to see your information so easily. The reason it is important to keep cookies safe is because if anyone gets a hold of your cookies they can gain access your private info. This is true to most forms of private info including: log-in, address, phone number, name, and even credit card info. The only difference with credit cards is that since it is of much more sensitive material it needs a higher form of security; so like I said earlier about cookie encryption, that is a time when it would be used because of the greater amount of sensitivity. Cookies help so much because imagine having to sign into everything every time you clicked on something, now that’s a world I would hate to live in.

Word Count: 337

SITES:

<http://www.cookiecentral.com/n_cookie_faq.htm>

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTTP/Cookies>

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/17769011/how-does-cookie-based-authentication-work>