

ToS: Tips on not selling yourself out...

March 27, 2024

What companies expect from you

The purpose of the Terms of Service on a website is to provide information on what the website can do. These websites let you know how their service works, different information they can collect, consequences for violating the terms of service, and more. The sad part is that most people usually skip past this document, and it may be harmful! Companies may know that you will not take a look, and may take advantage of that fact, and they may just screw you over because you “agreed” to their terms, and that is what no one wants!

How can you protect yourself

Companies hope for you to not read their terms, and that is not safe for your privacy. The first way you can protect yourself is actually taking the time to take a look. This may be annoying, but it can save you if there is something sketchy going on in the ToS. If you can't read all that, you can use an **AI summarizer**. There are a couple of websites, paid and free, that can summarize these long documents for you, but you need to be careful. These AI summaries can delete some information originally included, so you want to move at your own risk. The last way is to see if they give you partial options. What this means is that they may ask you what data they can collect about you. You can choose what you want collected, and most of the time, they usually give the option for you to not give any data away to them.

When online, you need to make sure that you know what you are doing when going onto a new website, you do not want to have your information taken by the website because you said “I agree”.