Online Privacy & Anonymity

Why you should care about online privacy?

- The open internet is subject to heavy surveillance some of which can be extremely invasive
- Sensitive information about you could be used against you
  - Banking info
  - Home address, phone number
  - Personal accounts

How do you achieve online privacy?

- Removing as many identifiers as possible from your online footprint
- Or spoofing identifiable properties of your browser footprint

Identifiable info like:

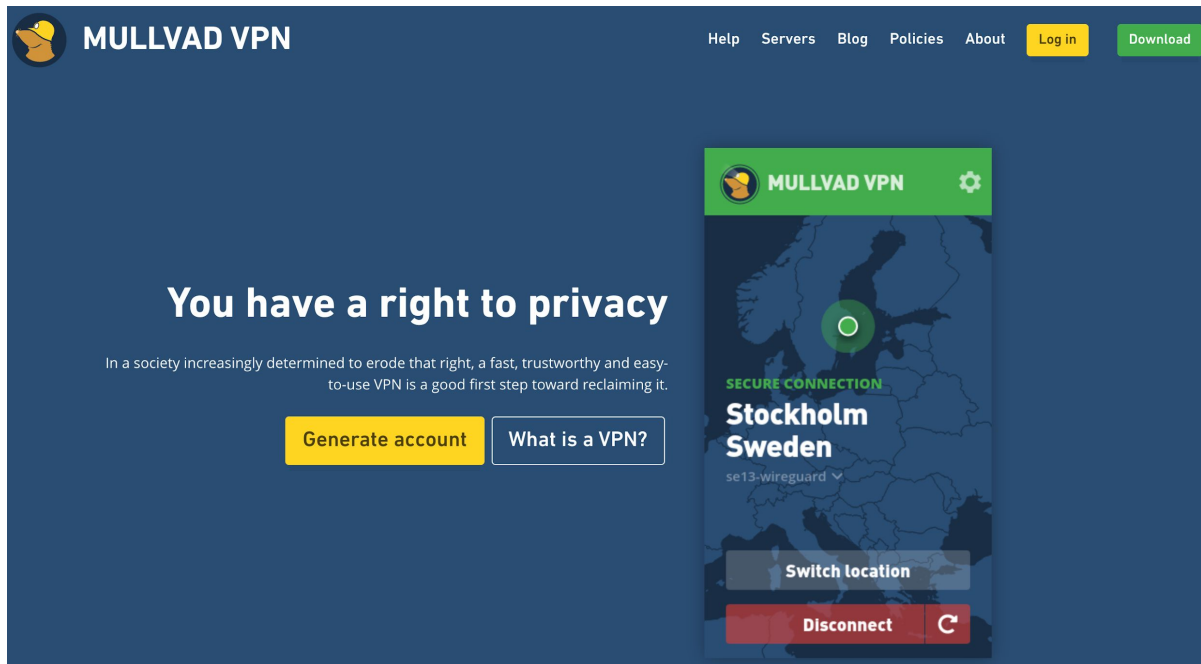- User agent, browser type, language, ip address, computer type, sometimes cpu/ gpu info

Using a VPN

Mullvad is based in Sweden, accepts cash, card, Bitcoin, and more!

It protects your location and prevents people on the same network from seeing or changing your traffic.

Allows you to essentially change your identity (as far as internet services are concerned)

Browser Extensions

- uBlock Origin
- Cookie Autodelete
- Decentraleyes
- Privacy Badger
- User-Agent Switcher

Browser extensions are great ways customize or otherwise alter the way your browsers

They also provide an advanced way to save forensic evidence you discover for future reference.

Browser Extensions

uBlock Origin: Ad blocker

Privacy Badger: blocks online trackers with ability to learn from tracker behavior

Decentraleyes: Limits interactions with large CDNs (Content Delivery Networks) by injecting locally available scripts

Cookie Autodelete: Deletes cookies commonly used to profile a user

User-Agent Switcher: Spoof/ alter common properties revealed by an online footprint

User Agents

Any software that retrieves and presents Web content for end users or is implemented using Web technologies. User agents include Web browsers, media players, and plug-ins that help in retrieving, rendering and interacting with Web content.

5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/114.0.0.0 Safari/537.36 Edg/114.0.1788.0

How do Canary Tokens Work?

- Canary tokens work like web bugs (the transparent images that track when someone opens up an email)
- They embed a unique URL in a page's image tag and by monitoring incoming GET requests
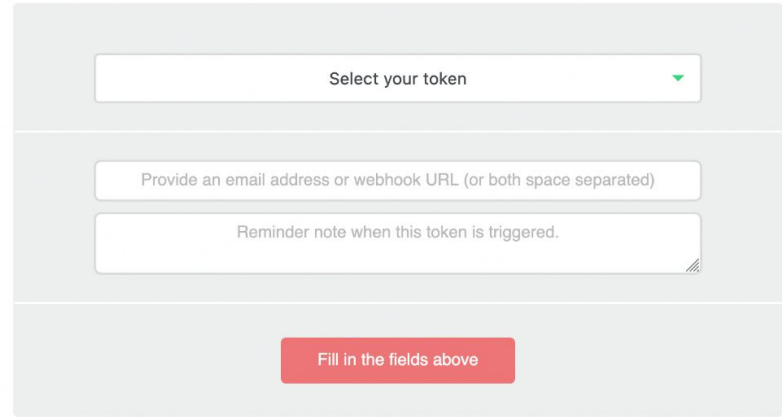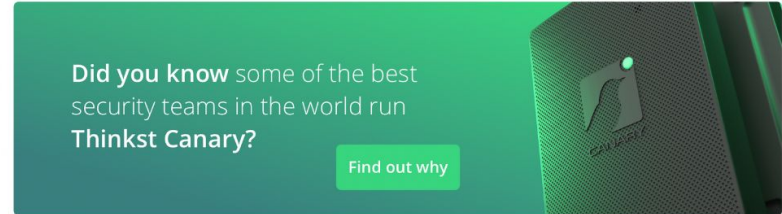

https://www.canarytokens.org/generate

Slow Redirect

Scrapes info about your browser and operating system and then redirects you to the specified web address (more info is gathered)

Will alert you when link has been visited

https://ffprofile.com

➔ **Automation**
FFProfile does all the hard work of modifying settings in Firefox for you

➔ **Customization**
Contains *tons* of settings

➔ **Privacy-Focused**
Has lots of enabled-by-default settings that increase privacy on the internet

Let's make a firefox profile with it!