

Cookies



- [Cookies stored by Nextcloud](#)
- [Remember-me cookies](#)

Nextcloud only stores cookies that are necessary for it to function. All cookies are set by your Nextcloud server directly — no third-party cookies are involved.

Under GDPR, only cookies that store or transmit personal data require a legal basis or consent. Of the cookies listed below, only the remember-me cookies contain personal data (the username). All other cookies contain randomly generated tokens with no inherent personal information.



The `__Host-` prefix is applied to the same-site cookies only when Nextcloud is accessed over HTTPS. On plain HTTP the prefix is omitted and the cookies are named `nc_sameSiteCookiestrict` and `nc_sameSiteCookieIax`.

Cookies stored by Nextcloud

Type	Name	Purpose	Personal data	Lifetime
Session cookie	<code><instance_id></code>	Carries a random PHP session ID used to identify the user's session on the server.	No	Until browser is closed.
Session cookie	<code>oc_sessionPassphrase</code>	Carries a random token used to decrypt the session data stored on the server.	No	Until browser is closed.

Type	Name	Purpose	Personal data	Lifetime
Same-site cookie	<code>__Host-nc_sameSiteCookiestrict</code>	Used to detect whether a request originates from the same site (<code>SameSite=Strict</code>). Helps prevent CSRF attacks. Contains no user information.	No	Expires 2100-12-31 (effectively permanent).
Same-site cookie	<code>__Host-nc_sameSiteCookielax</code>	Used to detect cross-site navigation requests (<code>SameSite=Lax</code>). Helps prevent CSRF attacks. Contains no user information.	No	Expires 2100-12-31 (effectively permanent).
Remember-me cookie	<code>nc_username</code>	Stores the user's login name to enable persistent login across browser sessions.	Yes — contains the username.	Defaults to 15 days. Configurable via <code>remember_login_cookie_lifetime</code> .
Remember-me cookie	<code>nc_token</code>	A random token paired with <code>nc_username</code> to authenticate the persistent login without storing the password.	No	Same as <code>nc_username</code> .
Remember-me cookie	<code>nc_session_id</code>	The original session ID, retained to allow session continuity when the remember-me token is used.	No	Same as <code>nc_username</code> .
Download helper	<code>ocDownloadStarted</code>	A short-lived random token set when a file download begins, used to signal the browser that the download has started (e.g. to hide a loading indicator).	No	20 seconds.

Remember-me cookies

The remember-me cookies (`nc_username`, `nc_token`, `nc_session_id`) are only set when the user explicitly selects **Remember me** at login. They are cleared immediately when the user logs out.

Because `nc_username` contains the user's login name, it is personal data under GDPR. The legal basis for storing it is typically **legitimate interest** or **contract performance** (enabling the service the user has requested), provided the user has been informed of this in your privacy policy.

The lifetime defaults to 15 days and can be shortened in `config/config.php`:

```
'remember_login_cookie_lifetime' => 60 * 60 * 24 * 15,
```

[] #1	
[] cocobook-sync []	2026-10-28 16:25:59 UTC
[] cocobook-sync []	2026-10-28 16:25:59 UTC