

Cookie Compliance Checklist

Have a Cookies Policy in place

A Cookie Policy should include a list of cookies used on your website, together with their purposes and third-party policies - if applicable. Visitors need to access the Cookie Policy right away, before deciding if they agree to your use of cookies. Because of that, we recommend creating a separate page, rather than including it as a section in your Privacy Policy.

Ensure your consent mechanism uses positive opt-in

Visitors need to actively select cookie categories that they want to allow on your website. By default, the optional cookies should be turned off.

Eliminate suggestive design when asking for consent

Your consent prompt will use two or more buttons - users can “Accept” your cookies, “Reject” the optional ones, “Manage” their preferences, etc. In any case, you are required to use the same styling for all of the buttons to avoid suggestive design.

Ensure visitors have full access to the website without dismissing the consent mechanism

If the visitors can’t access your website before they communicate their preferences, the consent mechanism won’t be fully compliant.

❑ Make sure you're not pre-loading optional cookies

You can't store optional cookies on the visitors' devices before they actively consent to your use of cookies.

To check this, open your website in a private window and do not interact with your cookie consent mechanism.

Instead, for **Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge and Safari**, click on the padlock next to your website's address and select cookies. If you spot any cookies that aren't strictly necessary, this means they're preloaded before the user opts-in. This means your website is not compliant.

If you're using **Mozilla Firefox**, ensure you've disabled their Tracking Protection feature and then press F12 to open the Developer Tools. Navigate to Storage > Cookies and proceed as described above.

Disclaimer

Please note that passing this checklist does not guarantee full compliance with the cookie laws and Nerd Cow is not responsible for the misuse or incorrect conclusions drawn from the use of this checklist.

To ensure full compliance, please consider carrying out a professional audit or consulting the [extensive guide from the Information Commissioner's Office](#).