

### Why Do We Need Cookies?

Cookies are wonderful if used correctly. They have gotten such a negative response because of web sites that stored personal information in them.

Homeschool-life.com, just like many other well-coded web sites, uses them to keep track of 2 #s, an ID and a Token. The combination of the two tell the ColdFusion server who the person is. For example, when you type myfamily as your username and 12345 as your password, it first goes to the web database and checks for a match. If it finds a match, it sets what's called a Session variable to the value of myfamily. At that point, an ID and Token cookie are created that point back to the web server. The web server stores the value "myfamily".

So, as you can see, no personal information, not even your username, are stored in the cookies. It's a very easy and convenient way to let ColdFusion do the work of handling session management in a safe way.