

Privacy, Anonymity

CSCI283-172 Fall 2006

GWU

Cookies

- Post-it notes for the web (typically 4KB)
- Small files maintained on user's hard disk, readable only by the site that created them (up to 20 per site)
- Used to
 - Preserve state information about a transaction
 - identify you when you return to a web site so you don't have to remember a password
 - help web sites understand how people use them
- Cookies can be harmful
 - used to profile users and track their activities without their knowledge, especially across web sites
- Can be disabled
- To learn about cookies, see [Cookie Central](#)

How DoubleClick Works

