

Cookies we use

When someone visits this site, certain standard Internet information and details of visitor behavior are collected to help determine things — for example, how many people visit this site. This is done by using cookies, small text files placed on your computer via your web browser. These types of cookies are widely used by nearly all online services to help systems remember visitors and their preferences. They can be very useful at making your online experience more customized and personalized when you return to visit. The table below briefly explains the cookies used and why.

Cookie	Name	Purpose
Share This cookie	__unam	This cookie is set by the third-party Share This service, which makes it easy to share content. The cookie tracks click-stream activity. This cookie expires after 6 months.
Migration dialog dismissed cookie	_mLdK ²	This cookie records the number of times that the user closed the dialog box showing payment options. This is shown only on very old networks. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Google Analytics cookies	_utma, _utmb, _utmc, _utmv, _utmz	These cookies, from Google Analytics, gather data about how visitors use the network. This information is used to improve the network. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Authentication-type cookie	auth-type ¹	This cookie remembers the name of the third-party provider that the user used to sign in, e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Google. The next time they sign in, this provider is presented to them as their initial choice. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Authentication-username cookie	auth-user-name ¹	This cookie remembers the username for the third-party provider that the user used to sign in. The sign-in page

		will greet them using this name. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Performance logger cookie	bzplcm	This cookie records the current time. It is used to measure page-load speed, for performance analysis. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Chat local-storage update cookie	chatWriteTimestamp	This cookie stores the time of the last write to browser local storage. It is used to keep browser tabs in sync, when chat is open in multiple browser tabs. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Convertro Analytics cookies	cvo_sid1, cvo_tid1	These cookies, from Convertro Analytics, gather data about how visitors use the network. This information is used to improve the network.
Gift message cookie	giftMessage	This cookie is temporary storage for a message that the user sent with their gift. This cookie expires after 10 seconds.
Invite tab cookie	inviteTab ²	This cookie stores the user's preference for the currently selected tab on the Invitations page. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Last visit cookie	lastVisit ¹	This cookie stores the time of the user's last visit to the site. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Like cookie	like ²	This cookie is temporary storage for data that identifies what the user is liking. It is stored in the cookie temporarily if the user is signed out and needs to go to the sign-in page. After the user signs in, we read the cookie and complete the like action.

		This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Mobile header size cookie	mobile-h1-size	This cookie stores the optimum font size for the header on mobile pages. This cookie expires after 3 years.
Mobile v2 redirection override cookie	mobileRedirectsEnabled ¹	This cookie records whether the user has chosen to view desktop pages instead of mobile v2 pages, even when browsing using a mobile device. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Commission Junction cookie	ning_cj	This cookie indicates that the network creator was referred to Ning via Commission Junction. This cookie expires after 2 months.
First touch cookie	ning_ft	This cookie contains a copy of the information in one of the Google Analytics cookies (_utmz). It contains information about how the network creator arrived at Ning (e.g., via a search engine). This cookie expires after 4 months.
Ning session cookie	ning_session	This cookie identifies page views belonging to the same session. This "session ID" is logged and is used for debugging purposes. This cookie expires after 1 hour.
Ning visitor cookie	ning_visitor	This cookie identifies page views belonging to the same web browser. This "visitor cookie" is logged and is used for debugging purposes.
Chat sound lock cookie	soundLockTimestamp	This cookie stores the current time every couple of seconds. It is used to ensure that, when chat is open in multiple tabs, only one of the tabs will make a sound when a new chat message comes in. This cookie is

		deleted when the user closes the browser.
Media uploader cookie	using_bulk_uploader_...	This cookie stores the user's preference for whether to upload files using the simple uploader or the Flash uploader.
Chat volume cookie	volumeSetting	This cookie stores the user's preference for the volume level for chat. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Cookies-enabled test cookie	xg_cookie_check	This cookie is used to test whether the browser accepts cookies. It is used on the sign-in and sign-up pages. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
External profile cookie	xg_ep	This cookie stores data from a sign-up provider (e.g., Facebook) which is then used to prepopulate some fields on our sign-up form. This cookie expires after 1 day.
External profile initialization vector cookie	xg_ep_iv	This cookie contains data that is used to decrypt the external profile cookie. This cookie expires after 1 day.
Paid access signup cookie	xg_pas	This cookie indicates that the user is in the middle of signing up, and heading to PayPal. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Paywall email sent cookie	xg_paywallContact	This cookie indicates that the user just sent an email to the network administrators with a question about paywall membership. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Combined persistent cookie	xg_pc	This cookie is a combination of other cookie values that need to remain

		after the user's browser is closed. The values are documented in this table. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Sign-in-problem email sent cookie	xg_psi	This cookie indicates that the user just sent an email reporting that they had a problem signing in. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Mobile v1 redirection override cookie	xg_redirect_override	This cookie records whether the user has chosen to view desktop pages instead of mobile v1 pages, even when browsing using a mobile device. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Combined session cookie	xg_sc	This cookie is a combination of other cookie values that are automatically cleared after the user's browser is closed. The values are documented in this table. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Gift cookie	xg_sgi	This cookie temporarily stores information about a gift that the user is purchasing from the site. It is used for the success message shown after the purchase. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Profile attribute cookie	xg_sip	This cookie is a temporary storage for data from the sign-up form. This cookie expires after 1 day.
Profile attribute initialization vector cookie	xg_sip_iv	This cookie contains data that is used to decrypt the profile attribute cookie. This cookie expires after 1 day.
Sign-up cookie	xg_su	This cookie indicates that the user successfully completed the sign-up form. This cookie expires after 1 day.

Sign-up initialization vector cookie	xg_su_iv	This cookie contains data that is used to decrypt the sign-up cookie. This cookie expires after 1 day.
Tweet cookie	xg_tw	This cookie is temporary storage for the user's Twitter tweet while they go off to twitter.com to authorize that this network can post the tweet for them. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
User info cookie	xgdi	This cookie contains basic user demographic information. This cookie expires after 1 year.
Sign-out cookie	xgl	This cookie indicates that the user just signed out. It is used to display a message to the user after they sign out. This cookie is deleted when the user closes the browser.
Page-size cookie	xn_approval_page_size	This cookie stores the user's preference for number of items per page on pages in which they approve or reject moderated content.
Ning ID cookie	xn_id_	This cookie is set during sign-in, and serves as your identity on the network, and indicates that you are signed in. This cookie expires after 30 days.
Flow-tracking cookie	xn_track	This cookie records completed and incomplete attempts at going through a sequence of pages (a "flow"), to help us to improve the pages. This cookie expires after 30 minutes.