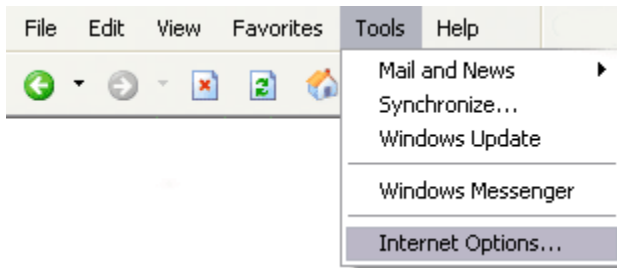


Cleaning up cookie files

Cookie files are small text documents that web sites store on your PC to save information about you. Web sites want to store this information on your machine for a few reasons. The main reason is so that they know if you have already been to their site or not. Sites can also keep track of the last time you were at their page, whether or not you purchased something at the site, and what links you clicked on. Cookies are a valuable tool to web developers. The main drawback to cookies is that by default, any web site can leave a cookie file on your PC and view any cookies on you PC when you go to their web page. It is important to note that when you are viewing a web page, the web developer is gathering information about you at the same time. At Consolidated, we recommend that cookies be cleaned periodically from your PC.

To clean your cookie files, open internet explorer and click on tools at the top of the page.

Then select internet options.



Click on the delete cookies button on the window that appears. In some cases you will be asked if you want to delete the cookies in the temporary internet files folder, select yes there.





Occasionally cleaning your cookies helps prevent web developers from having too much information about you and can actually cut down on unwanted junk mail.