What is Private Browsing?

Private browsing refers to privacy features in some web browsers. Web browsers usually store information. Using private browsing on your web browser generally prevents the browser from storing this information, and usually disables the storage of data in cookies or Flash cookies.

When you log into a website, that login “session” creates a cookie. For security purposes, or just to make sure that you are fully logged out of a website, you can use a private browser and, once you’ve closed the browser window, be sure that you’ve logged out and all session data has been removed from the computer.

Remember that private browsing only protects you from other computer users accessing stored browser information on the computer itself. Private browsing does not hide your website browsing information from the network.

Internet Explorer

1. Open your Internet Explorer web browser
2. Click the Settings button (it looks like a gear)
3. Hover over the Safety option to display the sub-menu, and then select the InPrivate Browsing option
Firefox

1. Open your Firefox browser
2. Click on the Firefox menu
3. Click the Start Private Browsing option
Chrome

1. Open your Chrome browser
2. Click on the Customize and Control button (3 lines stacked on top of each other)
3. Select the New incognito window option