Business and Consumer Interactions: Communicating Business Practices and Consumer Preferences

Lorrie Faith Cranor lorrie.cranor.org @lorrietweet

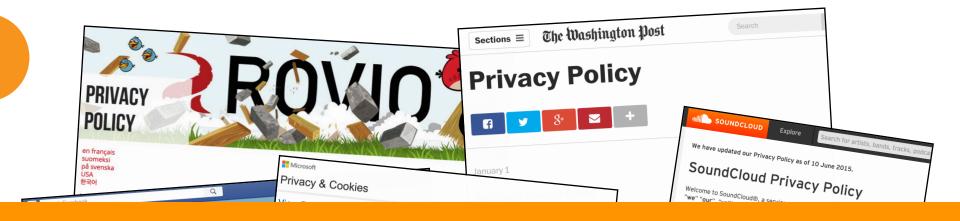




Agenda

- Privacy policies and alternatives
- Privacy icons
- Privacy nutrition labels and tools
- Privacy choice interfaces
- Takeaways

Privacy policies and alternatives

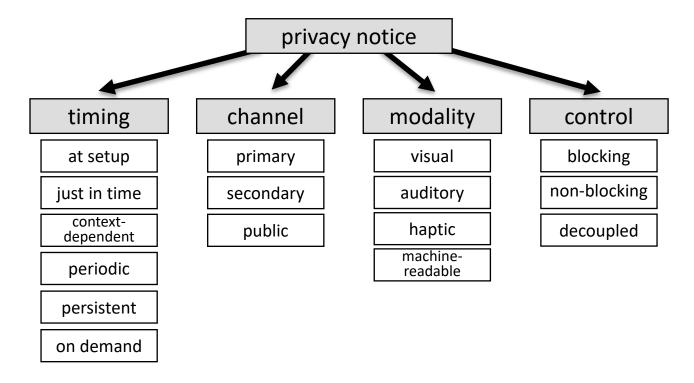


244 HOURS PER YEAR



A. McDonald & L. Cranor, The Cost of Reading Privacy Policies, *I/S: A Journal of Law and Policy for the Information Society,* 2008.

Privacy notice design space





Privacy icons

Icons may need accompanying words when conveying abstract privacy concepts



Your Data is Used Only for the Intended Use



Your Data May be Used for Purposes You Do Not Intend



Your data is never given to advertisers.



Site gives your data to advertisers.



Your data is neve bartered or sold.



Your data may be bartered or sold.



Data is given to law enforcement only when legal process is followed.



Data may be given to law enforcement even when legal process is not



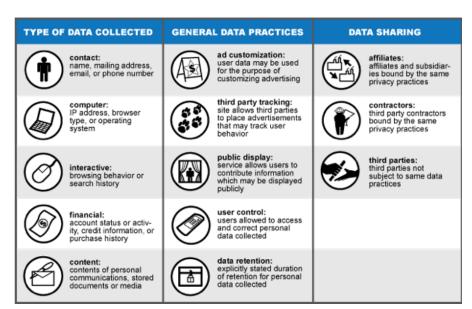
Your data is kept for less than 1 month.







Your data may be kept indefinitely.



KnowPrivacy icons designed by Joshua Gomez, Travis Pinnick, and Ashkan Soltani

AdChoices icon is misunderstood, and "AdChoices" tagline doesn't seem to help

- Recruited 1,505 participants through Amazon Mechanical Turk
- Between subjects online survey, varying taglines







What would happen if you clicked on the icon?



- **56%** More ads will pop up
- **45%** Will take you to a page where you can buy advertisements on this website
- 27% Will take you to a page where you can opt out of tailored ads



What would happen if you clicked on the icon?

Configure Ad Preferences AdChoices

- 42% 56% More ads will pop up
- 15% 45% Will take you to a page where you can buy advertisements on this website
- 50% 27% Will take you to a page where you can opt out of tailored ads

CHAPTER 20. CALIFORNIA CONSUMER PRIVACY ACT REGULATIONS PROPOSED TEXT OF REGULATIONS

§ 999.315. Requests to Opt-Out

(a) A business shall provide two or more designated methods for submitting requests to opt-out, including, at a minimum, an interactive webform accessible via a clear and conspicuous link titled "Do Not Sell My Personal Information," or "Do Not Sell My Info," on the business's website or mobile application. Other acceptable methods for submitting these requests include but are not limited to a tall free phone number a designated amail address a form

(e) Opt-Out Button or Logo

(1) The following opt-out button or logo may be used in addition to posting the notice of right to opt-out, but not in lieu of any posting of the notice. [BUTTON OR LOGO TO BE ADDED IN A MODIFIED VERSION OF THE REGULATIONS AND MADE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.]

Icon development and evaluation

- Icon ideation
- 2. Preliminary icon evaluation
- 3. Refinement of most promising icons
- 4. Testing of refined icons
- 5. Link text ideation
- 6. Link text evaluation
- 7. Combined icon and link text evaluation

(all done before the end of 90-day comment period)

Icon ideation focused on 3 concepts

- Choice/consent
- Opting out
- Do-not-sell











Opting out







Do not sell (personal info)



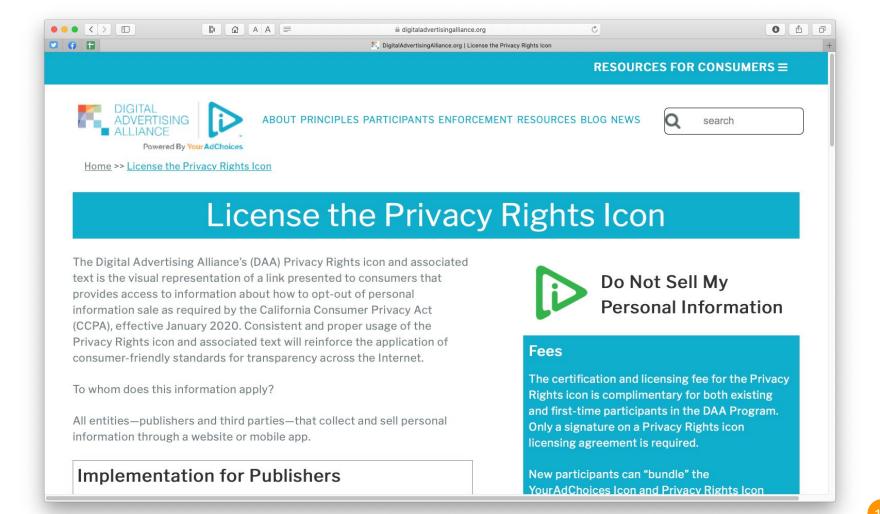








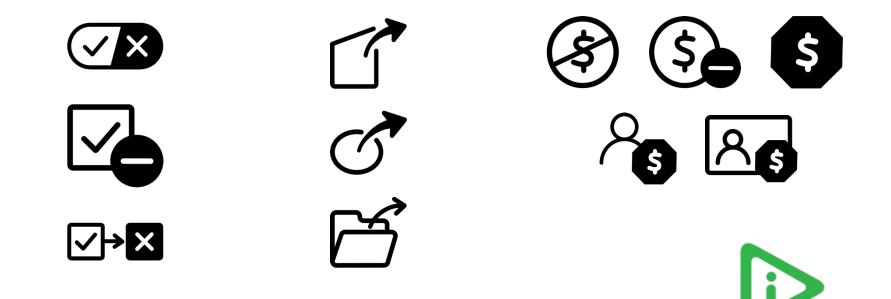


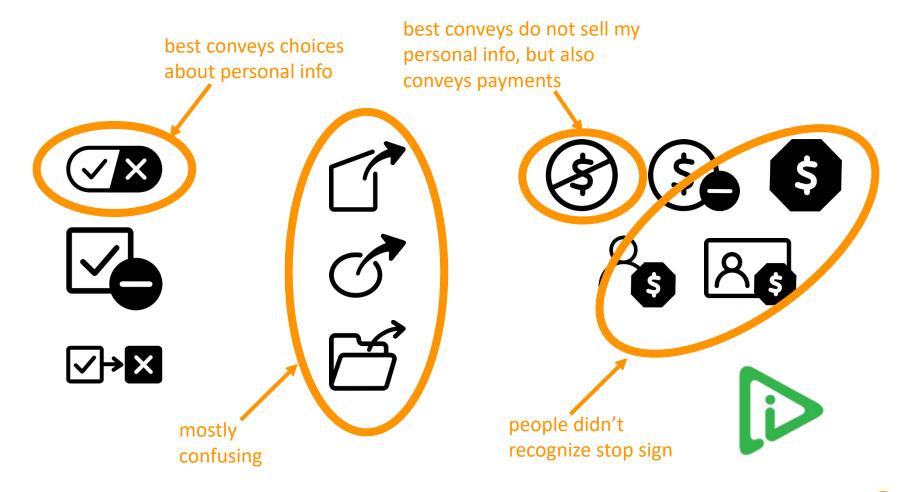


First icon evaluation

- 240 Mturk participants
- Tested 12 icons with and without "Do Not Sell My Personal Information" tagline
- Displayed 1 icon
 - Asked what the icon means and what would happen if you click on it
- Displayed all 12 icons
 - Asked which best conveyed Do Not Sell and Privacy Choices concepts

Icons difficult to interpret without words





Refined icons for evaluation

ID-Card

Slash-Dollar

Stop-Dollar

Toggle

DAA

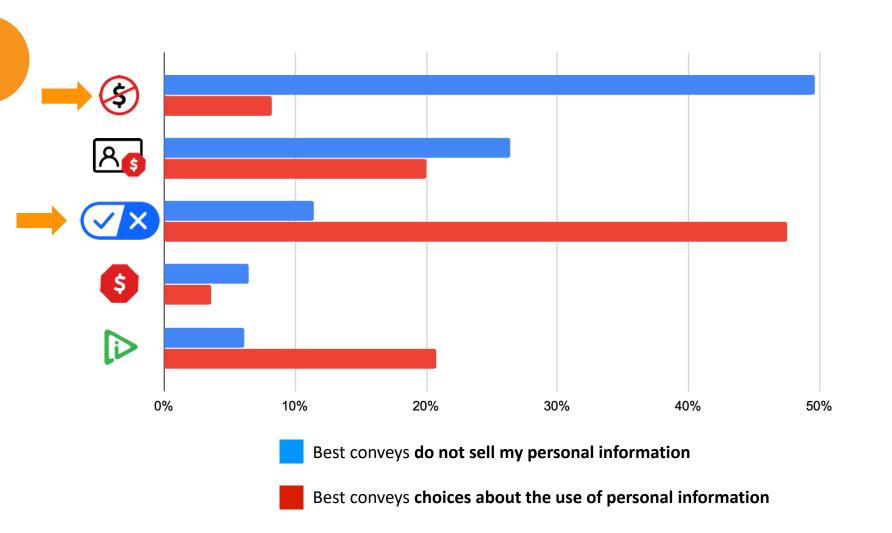












Icon	Common Interpretations without tagline (# of participants)
Toggle	 ✓ accept/decline something (11) ✓ activate/deactivate something (5) • okay/exit options (4) • mark as true/false (4)
DAA	 get more information (15) start audio/video content (7) denotes website is safe or private (3) move forward or next (2)
Slash-dollar	 something is free or requires no money (12) cash/dollars not accepted (7) money (4) ✓ selling is not allowed (1)

- - misconception

Tagline ideation and testing

- Do Not Sell My Personal Information
- Do Not Sell My Info
- Don't Sell My Info
- Do Not Sell
- Don't Sell
- Do-Not-Sell Choices
- Do-Not-Sell Options
- Do-Not-Sell Opt-Outs

- Privacy Choices
- Privacy Options
- Privacy Opt-Outs
- Personal Info Choices
- Personal Info Options
- Personal Info Opt-Outs
- Do Not Sell My Info Choices
- Do Not Sell My Info Options

Combo testing

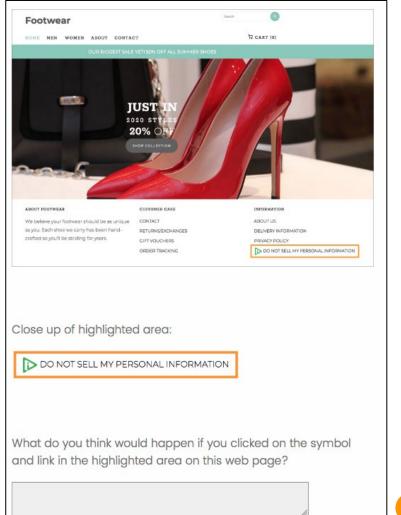
- Mturk study with 1,416 participants
- Tested 3 icons + no icon







- Tested 5 taglines + no tagline
 - Do not sell my personal information
 - Do not sell my info
 - Privacy choices
 - Privacy options
 - Personal info choices
- 23 combinations tested



Combo testing results

- Misconceptions
 - "Personal info choices" conveyed info about shoe sizes, site settings, payment methods, etc.
 - Slash-dollar icon sometimes suggested payment options and encrypted payments (42 participants)
 - Toggle icon occasionally suggested it was a real toggle (6 participants)
- None of the icons were very good without a tagline
 - Slash-dollar was especially bad
- Icons didn't have much impact on interpretation of taglines

Recommendations to OAG

Privacy Options

- This allows consumers to look for one button for all privacy-related choices
- Prevent the proliferation of buttons as other privacy regulations emerge

Do Not Sell My Personal Information

Complies with CCPA as written

Our recommended icon



iOS toggle switch





OAG's revised proposed regulations

(1) The following opt-out button or logo may be used in addition to posting the notice of right to opt-out, but not in lieu of any posting of the notice of right to opt-out.



(2) When the opt-out button is used, it shall appear to the left of the "Do Not Sell My Personal Information" or "Do Not Sell My Info" link, as demonstrated below, and shall be approximately the same size as other buttons on the business's webpage.

[BUTTON OR LOGO TO BE ADDED IN A MODIFIED VERSION OF THE REGULATIONS AND MADE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.]





Twitter responds





Quick, tell me what that button indicates in its current state. Are you opted into your data being used or out? Red X next to "Do Not", so does that cancel out the not?

The California AG's office is now mandating really bad interaction design.

Gratish warehade



Aaron Alva @aalvatar · 2h

This is terribly confusing. Was this disclosure user tested to make make sure users' expectations align with what you're trying to convey? (Likely not)

We expect companies to do user testing; we should expect governments to do same.

one resource: ftc.gov/news-events/ev... #CCPA

So, we ran another study

Stylized toggle CalAG toggle CalAG-X toggle







+ swapped colors

- Insignificant difference between icons with the big and small X
- But big differences between the CalAG icon and our stylized toggle
- CalAG icon more likely to be misinterpreted as actual toggle
- Small differences based on color
- Some small changes can sometimes make a big difference and you won't know unless you test with users

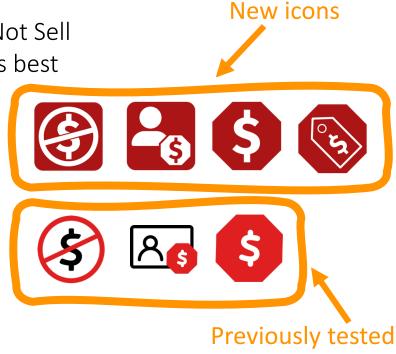
Then the OAG removed the button

- Button completely removed from regulation
- OAG will design a uniform and recognizable opt-out button in the future

Former subsection (f), regarding the proposed opt-out button, has been deleted in response to the various comments received during the public comment period. The OAG has removed this subsection in order to further develop and evaluate a uniform opt-out logo or button for use by all businesses to promote consumer awareness of how to easily opt-out of the sale of personal information.

Then we tested more icons with new criteria

- Which of these icons, paired with the "Do Not Sell My Personal Information" link text performs best
 - communicating do-not-sell choice?
 - standing out to users on a website?
 - motivating users to click?
- This time all participants were from CA
- Results
 - Best communication: No icon!
 - Adding any icon made users more likely to notice link but did not create a significantly higher motivation to click







Search







Translate Website | Traducir Sitio Web

HOME

ABOUT

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Attorney General Becerra Announces Approval of Additional Regulations That Empower Data **Privacy Under the California Consumer Privacy** Act

Press Release / Attorney General Becerra Announces Approval of Additional Re...

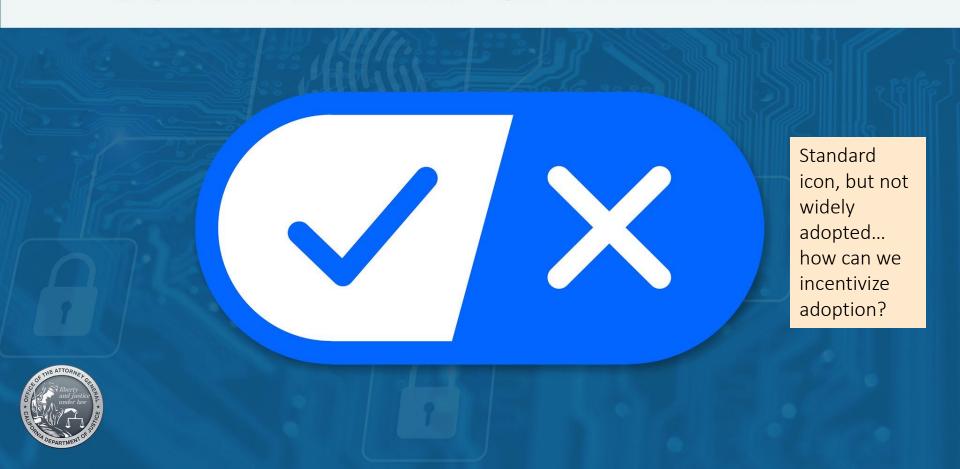
Monday, March 15, 2021

Contact: (916) 210-6000, agpressoffice@doj.ca.gov

Includes new Privacy Options icon that businesses are encouraged to use to help build consumer awareness of Californians' privacy rights

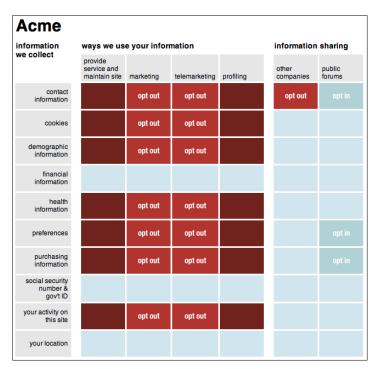
SACRAMENTO - California Attorney General Xavier Becerra today announced additional regulations approved by the Office of Administrative Law that advance protections for Californians seeking to control the sale of their personal information. The California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) gives consumers new tools and rights for protecting their data privacy. These newly-approved rules strengthen the language of the CCPA regulations approved by OAL in August 2020, including protecting consumers from unlawful business practices that may be deceptive or misleading.

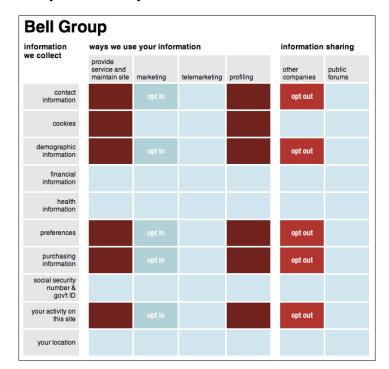
CCPA PRIVACY OPTIONS ICON



Privacy nutrition labels and tools

Standardized privacy "nutrition labels" make it easier to find info and compare policies

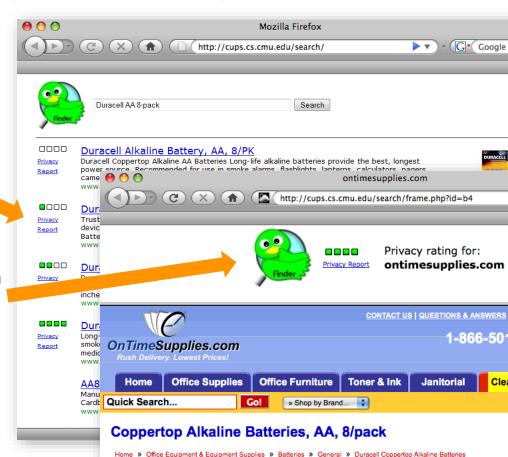




Saliant privacy info in search engines influences purchases

Studies with privacy meters in search engines demonstrated that saliant privacy information influences purchases

- Many participants paid more to purchase from sites with better privacy
- But when participants weren't shown the privacy meter until after they clicked through to the website, they tended to ignore it
- S. Egelman, J. Tsai, L. Cranor, A. Acquisti. Timing is Everything? The Effects of Timing and Placement of Online Privacy Indicators. CHI 2019.



	WHAT DOES BANK OF AMERICA DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?
FACTS	information. Under leading to the pot all
Why?	sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you maderstand what we do.
	information with a service you have with
What?	Information. Please read this news. The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us.
	- include:
	This information can include: Social Security number and employment information account balances, transaction history and credit information
	d lavortment experience
	- Unformation to run their everyday ronal
How?	All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyou' occur. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons Bank of America chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

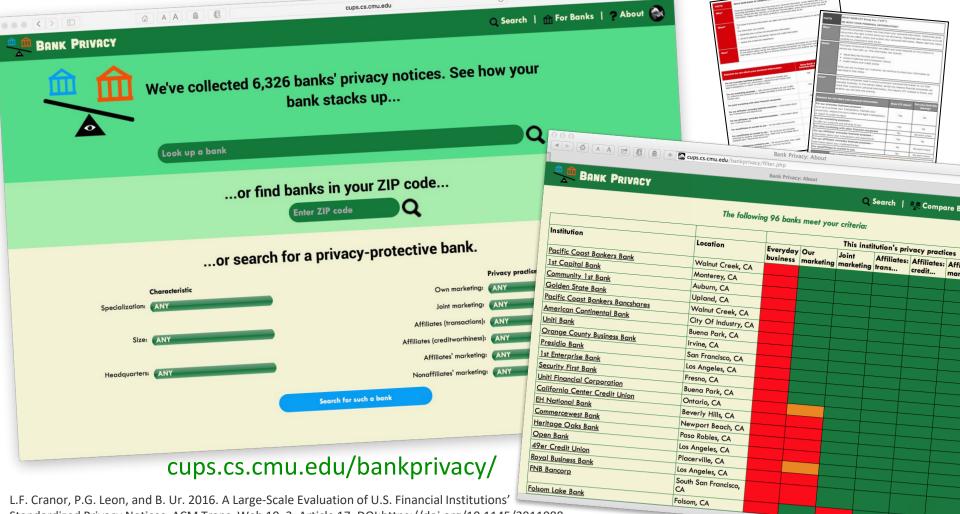
Bank privacy policies are standardized! Can we leverage this to help consumers find banks that meet their privacy needs?

teasons we can share your personal information	Does Bank of America share?	Can you limit this sharing?
NOVE STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF	Yes	No
For our everyday business purposes — such as to process your ransactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus		No
legal investigations, or repetitions and investigations, or repetition of the service providers we use to offer For our marketing purposes — with service providers we use to offer our products and services to you (please see below to limit the ways we our products and services to you (please see below to limit the ways we	Yes	
contact you)	Yes	No
For joint marketing with other financial companies	Yes	No
For our affiliates' everyday business purposes — Information about your transactions and experiences	Yes	Yes
For our affiliates' everyday business purposes — Information about your creditworthiness	Yes	Yes
For nonaffiliates to market to you — for all credit card accounts	Yes	Yes
For nonaffiliates to market to you — for accounts and services endorsed by another organization (e.g., debit card co-branded with a endorsed by another organization for the property songsored Accounts"		We don't sha
endorsed by another orgalization baseball team) "Sponsored Accounts" For nonaffiliates to market to you — for accounts other than credit card accounts and Sponsored Accounts, such as insurance, investments, deposit and lending	No	We don't sho

What? What Does cit Group Inc. ("CIT") DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION? Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice The types of personal information we collect and share depends on the product or service you have with us. This information can include: Social Security Number and income account balances and transaction history credit history and credit scores When you are no longer our customer, we continue to share your information as How? All financial companies

All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons CIT chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

our everyday business purposes – as to process your transactions, maintain your unt(s), respond to court orders and least to	Does CIT sha	
- Tall Dureaus	Yes	sharing?
our products and seem	res	No
with other	Yes	—
of about your transactions purposes -	No	No Wo day is
filiates' everyday business purposes – n about your creditworthiness	Yes	We don't share
iliates to market to you	No	
Call: 1-800-681-0740 or go to: http://www.	No	We don't share We don't share



Standardized Privacy Notices. ACM Trans. Web 10, 3, Article 17. DOI:https://doi.org/10.1145/2911988

iotsecurityprivacy.org



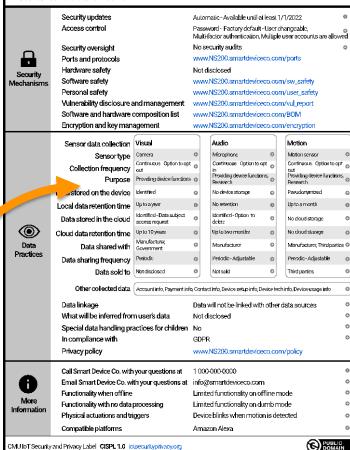
Pardis Emami-Naeini, Janarth Dheenadhayalan, Yuvraj Agarwal, Lorrie Cranor. Which Privacy and Security Attributes Most Impact Consumers' Risk Perception and Willingness to Purchase IoT Devices?. IEEE S&P'21.

Security & Privacy Details

Smart Device Co.

Smart Video Doorbell NS200 Firmware version: 2.5.1 - updated on: 11/12/2020 The device was manufactured in: China

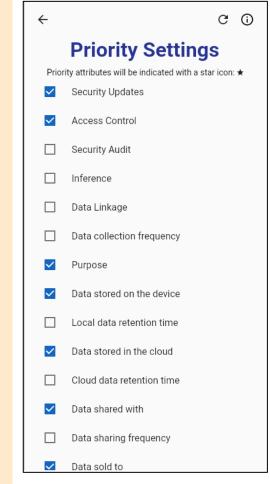
CMU IoT Security and Privacy Label CISPL 1.0 iotsecurity privacy.org

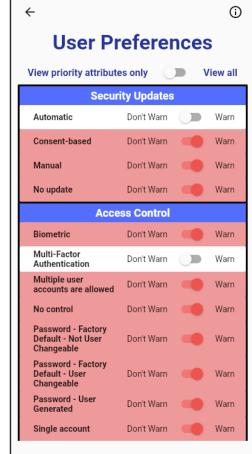


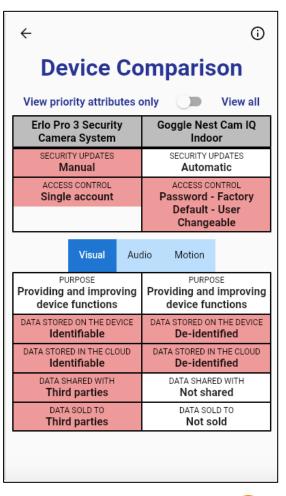
User studies suggest users mostly accurately understand risk from labels and labels have some influence on willingness to purchase devices

Prototype IoT device comparison shopping app that leverages IoT label and allows users to set priorities for and preferences for factors of greatest interest

Could be even more useful with search engine integration

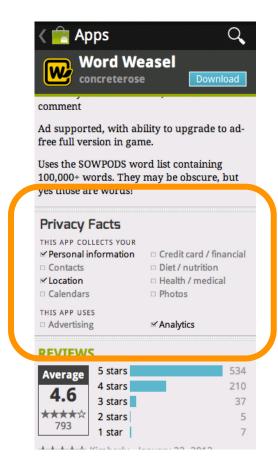






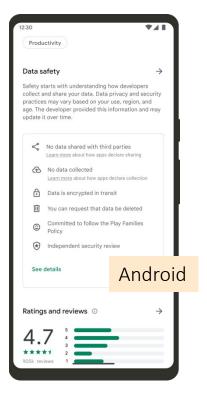
Android Privacy Facts prototype also showed influence of salient privacy info

- Task: select apps for friend with new smartphone
 - Choose from 2 similar apps w/ different permission requests
- Participants who saw Privacy Facts more likely to select apps with fewer permissions
 - Brand and rating reduce effect



Privacy nutrition labels in major app stores!





- IoS privacy labels since December 2020; Google privacy labels expected in April 2022
- Studies suggest iOS labels are confusing for developers and users
- Confusing definitions, a lot of information, and not saliant to users
- With some improvements plus tools for developers and end users, could be quite useful



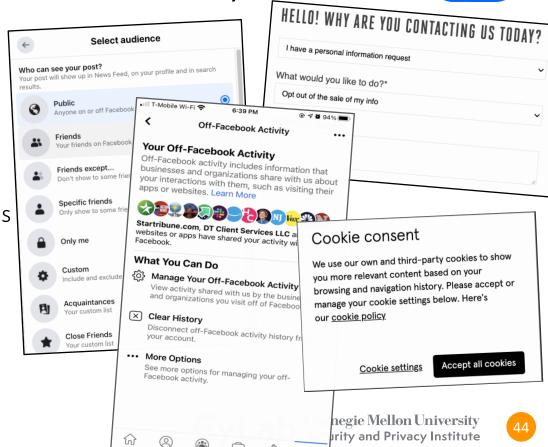
Privacy choice interfaces



Privacy choice interfaces are everywhere



- Cookie banners
- Audience controls on social media
- App permissions interfaces
- Third-party advertising controls
- Marketing opt-outs
- CCPA do not sell my personal information interfaces
- GDPR privacy rights interfaces



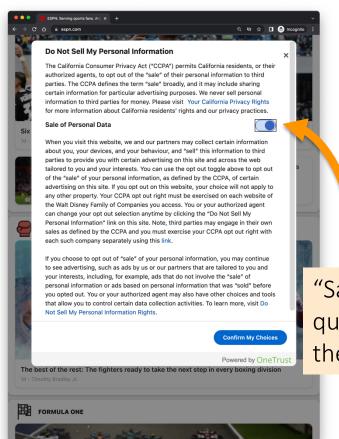
What makes a privacy choice interface useable?

- Addresses user needs
- Requires minimal user effort
- Makes users aware of what choices exist and where to find them

Many privacy choices are difficult to find and use!

- Conveys choices and their implications so users understand them easily (comprehension)
- Users are are satisfied with interface and choice options, trust their choices will be honored (sentiment)
- Allows users to change their decision due to errors or changing their mind (decision reversal)
- Doesn't nudge users towards less privacy-protective options

CCPA opt-out interfaces are not standardized

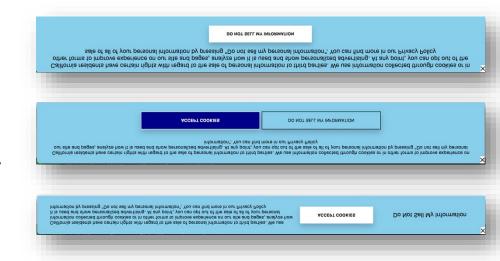


- Many have links buried at the very bottom of a long website
- Once you find the link the interfaces vary considerably
- Even when they use standard platforms they can be confusing

"Sale of Personal Data" is not a question or a statement: What does the state of the blue toggle indicate?

Opt-out interface details impact opt-out rates

- Eleanor Birrell and her students at Pomona College have tested several CCPA opt-out user interface variations
- A simple one-click "Do Not Sell My Information" button results in much higher opt-out rates than fillable forms, multiple buttons (Accept Cookies + Do Not Sell), or inline links



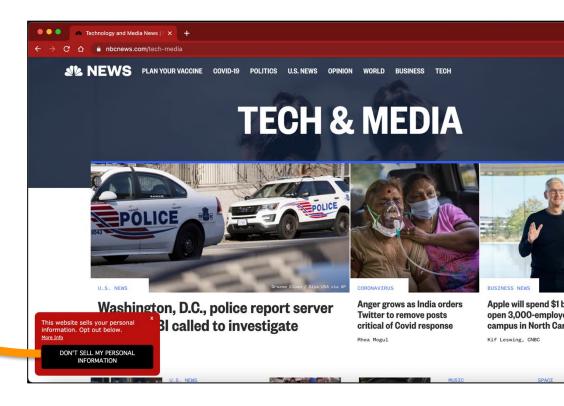


CCPA Opt-out Assistant

This website sells your personal information. Opt out below.

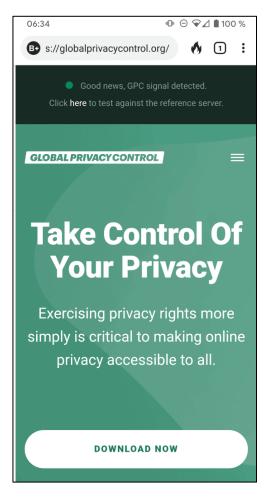
More Info

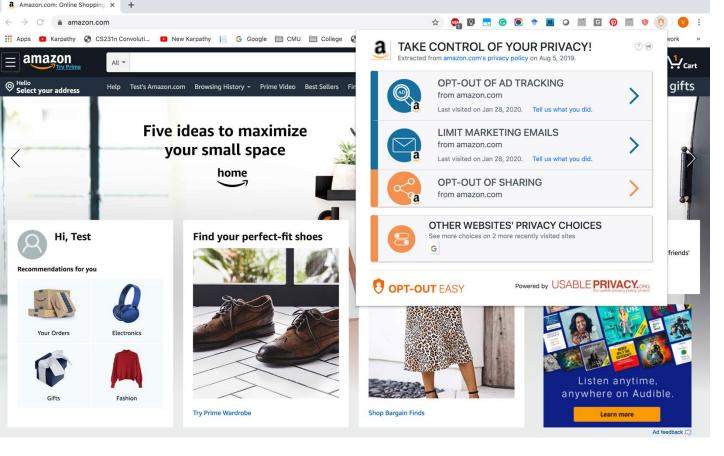
DON'T SELL MY PERSONAL INFORMATION



Global Privacy Control

- Let your browser be your privacy user agent
- With Global Privacy Control users can set their browsers to opt-out of having their information sold at all compatible websites
- But status indicator is needed so users know whether GPC has successfully opted them out





Opt-Out Easy browser pluggin makes it easy for users to find optouts on websites, but opting out still requires more effort

Download from optouteasy.isr.cmu.edu

V.B. Kumar, R. Iyengar, N. Nisal, Y. Feng, H. Habib, P. Story, S. Cherivirala, M. Hagan, L.F. Cranor, S. Wilson, F. Schaub, N. Sadeh, Finding a Choice in a Haystack: Automatic Extraction of Opt-Out Statements from Privacy Policy Text, WWW 2020.



Common usability problems with cookie banners

- Nudge users to accept all cookies by presenting that option as a big button
- Require extra steps to make other choices – first you have to click through to cookie settings
- It's not even clear what the other choices are without clicking through

Cookie consent

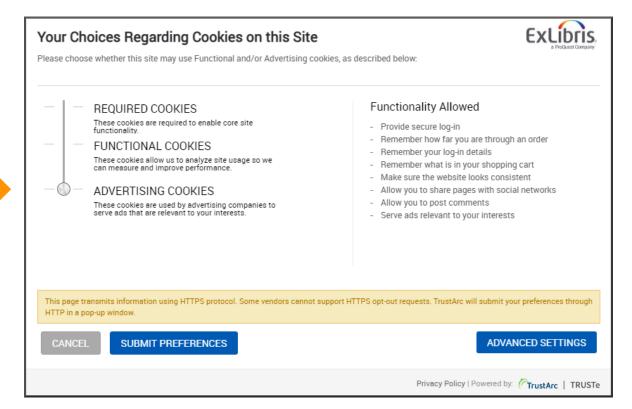
We use our own and third-party cookies to show you more relevant content based on your browsing and navigation history. Please accept or manage your cookie settings below. Here's our cookie policy

Cookie settings

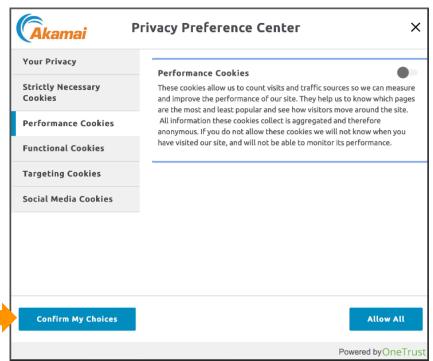
Accept all cookies



Default is least privacy protective option



Confusing buttons, requires checking multiple tabs to know what you are confirming





No choices

This site uses cookies

X

By proceeding, you are agreeing to our <u>Privacy Policy</u>, including the use of cookies and other tracking technologies.

Confirmshaming

You don't want to miss out on the highest quality organic experience! Why are you worried?

We want to give you the very best service during your search for the highest quality foods.

By clicking "Accept All Cookies", you agree to the storing of cookies on your device to enhance site navigation, analyse site usage, and assist in our marketing efforts.

Don't worry, all of our cookies are made from the best quality organic ingredients!

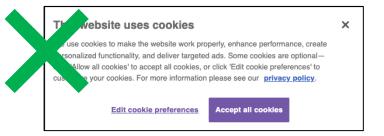
Cookies Settings

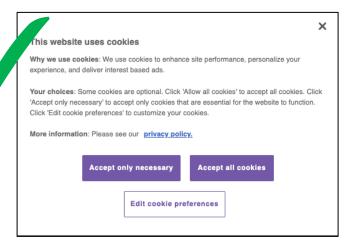
Accept All Cookies



CMPs standardize cookie banners

- Cookie banners all look generally similar since they are created using a small number of Consent Management Platforms (CMPs)
- But most CMPs provide developers with MANY options
- How can we nudge developers to choose options that result in more usable cookie consent banners?





Hana Habib, Megan Li, Ellie Young, Lorrie Faith Cranor

Paper to be presented at CHI 2022

"Okay, whatever": An Evaluation of Cookie Consent Interfaces



Evaluating the impact of design parameters on the usability of cookie consent interfaces

- Inspection evaluation
 - Reviewed ~200 cookie consent banners from 5 CMPs
 - Identified key design parameters
- User study
 - Tested 12 cookie consent design variants with users, evaluating 6 usability factors

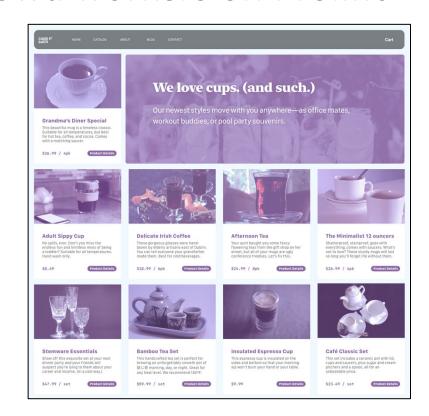
Inspection evaluation procedure

- Compiled a diverse set of 810 websites with consent interfaces implemented through 5 CMPs
 - OneTrust, Quantcast, CookieBot, TrustArc, CrownPeak
- 2. Identified 5 dark pattern heuristics based on prior work
 - Unequal paths, "bad" defaults, confusing buttons, no choices, confirmshaming
- 3. Manually inspected consent interfaces on 191 websites using a standardized procedure to evaluate against these heuristics and note other usability barriers

88% of consent interfaces we reviewed exhibited dark patterns!

Tested 12 variants with crowd workers on Prolific

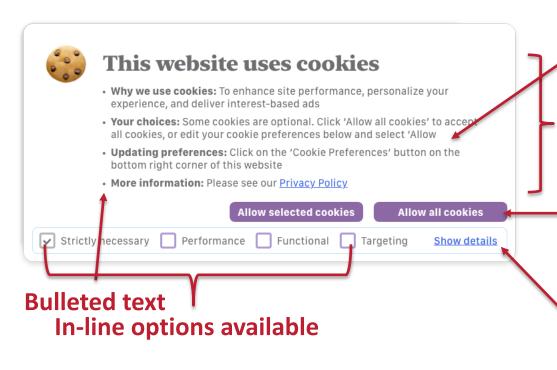
- Participants assigned website shopping task
 - Select item and put it in your shopping cart
- Exposed to 1 of 12 consent interface variants
- Asked to fill out survey
- Asked to review consent interface again and answer more survey questions
- Median completion time ~16 min, compensation \$5.00
- Analyzed interactions and surveys from 1,109 participants (mostly young women)
 - Where they clicked, consent choices made, time spent, etc.

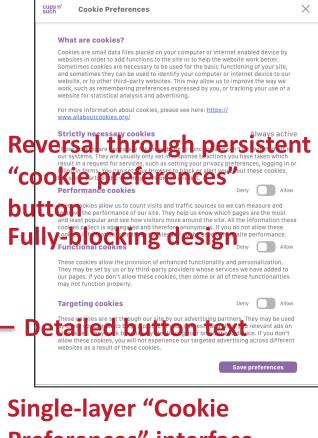




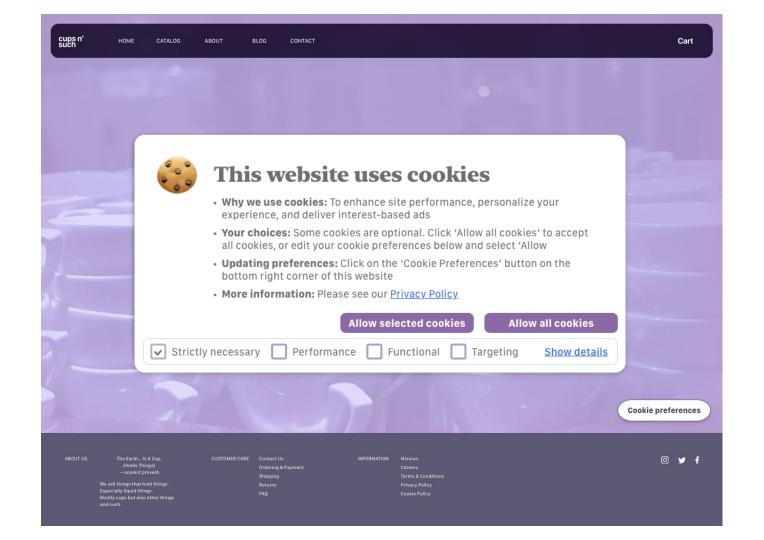
"Best-practices" variant

(Best of what we tested in this study, others could be better)

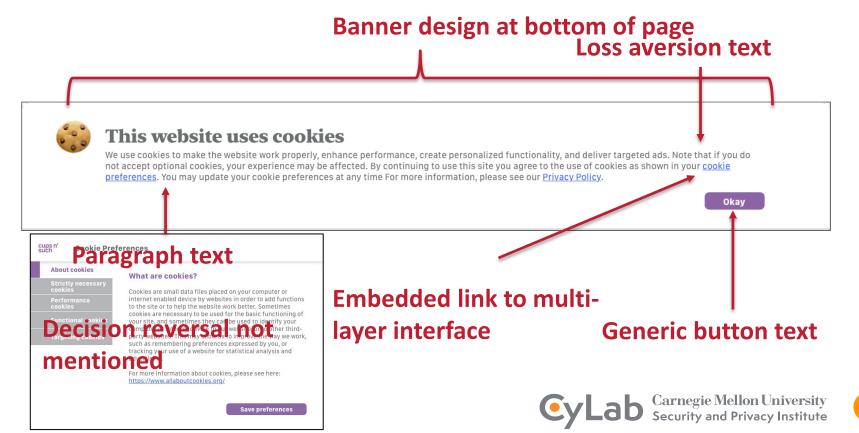


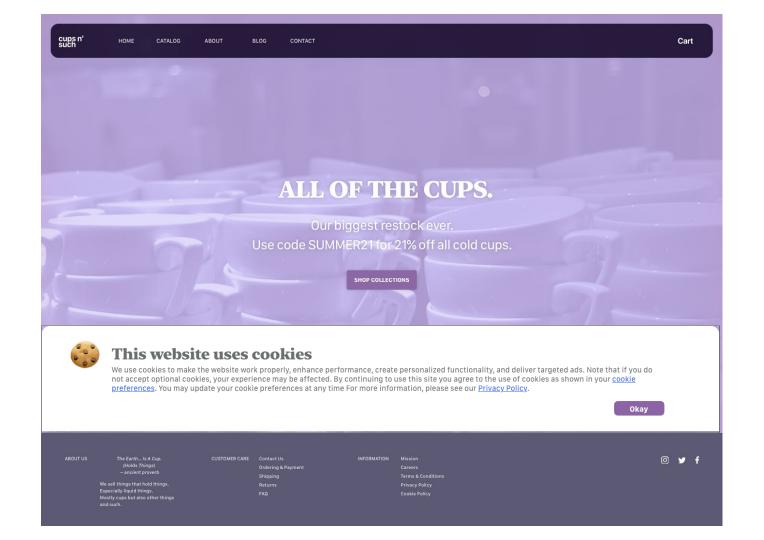


Preferences" interface



"Worst-practices" variant

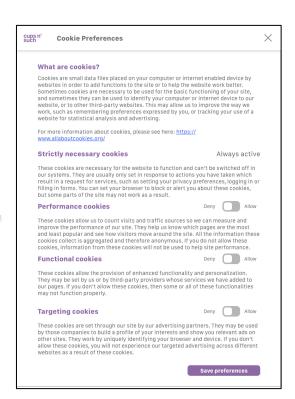


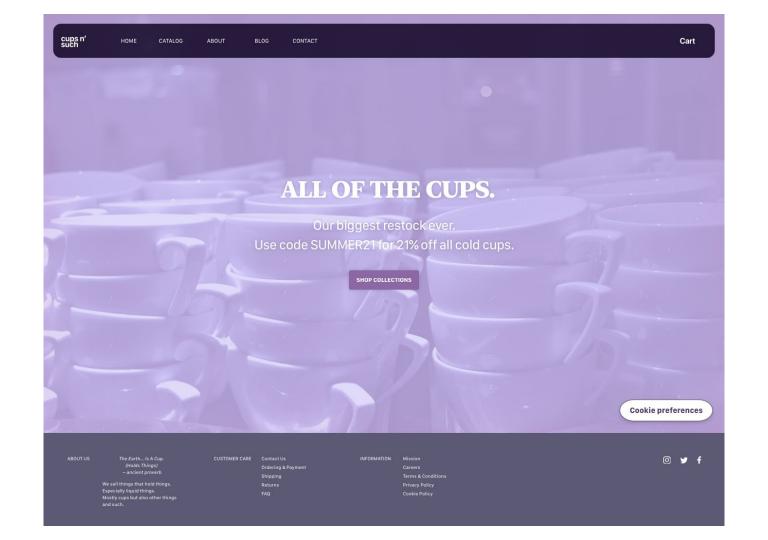


"Corner button" variant

Cookie preferences

Single-layer "Cookie Preferences" interface



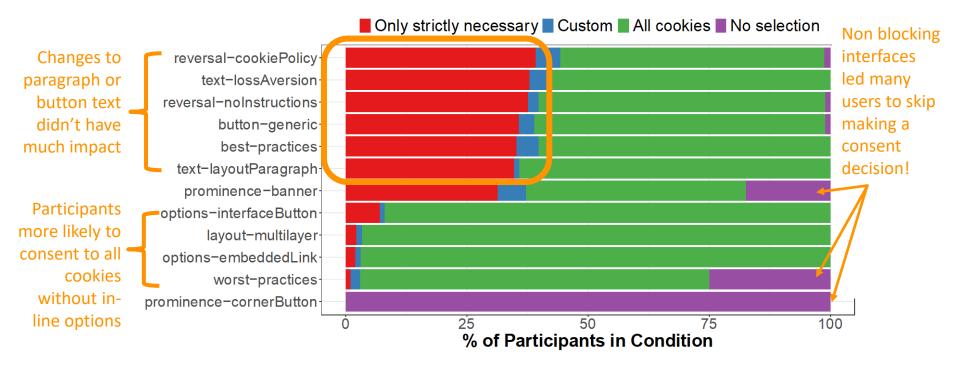


Other variants similar to best-practices w/ one change

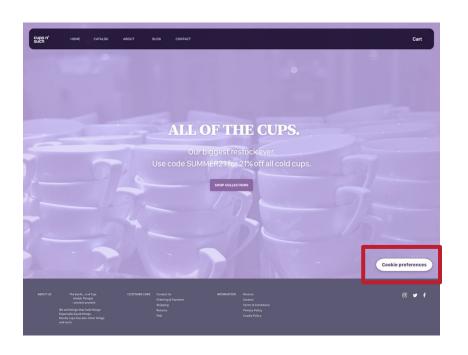
- Prominence-banner non-blocking banner at bottom of screen
- Options-embeddedLink no in-line options, link to preference interface
- Options-interfaceButton no in-line options, button to preference interface
- Text-lossAversion add loss-aversion text
- Text-layoutParagraph paragraph of text instead of bullets

- Button-generic buttons say "submit" and "ok"
- Layout-multilayer preference interface uses multiple tabs
- Reversal-noInstructions removed instructions for decision reversal but kept button
- Reversal-cookiePolicy removed cookie button (but reversal could be done from cookie policy)

Some variables impacted consent decisions, others not so much

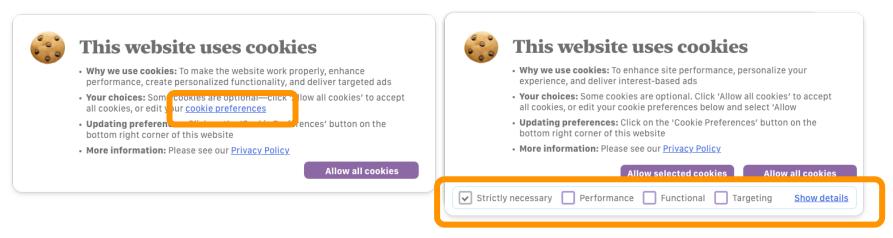


Absence of fully-blocking or banner notice led to poor awareness



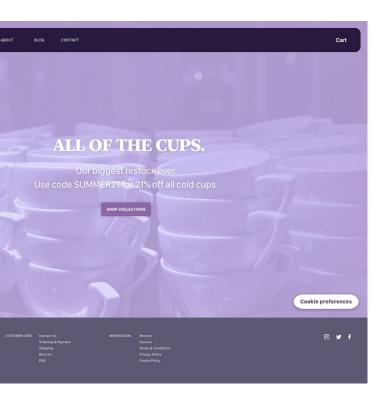
- No participants interacted with the Cookie Preferences button
- Less awareness of a privacy decision and available cookie options compared to bestpractices

Absence of in-line options led to lower investment in decision-making



- Few clicked through to "cookie preferences"
- Without in-line options, more likely to say they chose "easiest option" and made choice "not at all carefully"

Persistent "Cookie Preferences" button enabled decision reversal



- 82% of best-practices participants said they would use the button to change their decision
 - Only 45% of participants who saw a link to cookie policy but no button said they would visit cookie policy to change their decision
- It didn't matter whether we included reversal instructions in banner

Standard cookie categories cause confusion

Performance cookies

- Cookies that help measure and improve website features
- Only 48% of participants selected correct definition

Functional cookies

- Cookies that help personalize the website's services for you
- Only 16% of participants selected correct definition
- Can we come up with more intuitive terminology?

In this context, these terms don't mean what people think they mean!

Categories used by OneTrust and other CMPs are from ICC UK Cookie Guide https://www.cookielaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/icc_uk_cookiesguide_revnov.pdf

The burden of user consent

- Considerable cost to reading consent interfaces, comprehending available options, and making decisions at large numbers of websites
- Need to reduce user burden
 - Standardized interfaces
 - Search and comparison tools
 - User agents including browser-based consent management

Takeaways

- Alternatives to long privacy notices can help users obtain information they need quickly
- It is difficult to convey privacy concepts with icons, but accompanying words can help
- Reduce user burden with standardized interfaces, search engines, and user agents
- Need to incentivize adoption of privacy options button and other standardized interfaces



- Interface design has a large impact on the choices people make
 - "Accept only necessary cookies" should be just as easy as "accept all cookies"
- User testing is essential for evaluating usability consider user needs, sentiment, findability, effort to use, comprehension, decision reversal, and nudges