

The Dock Cookie Policy 2026

1. Introduction

This Cookie Policy explains how The Dock (“we”, “our”, “us”) uses cookies on www.thedock.ie. It outlines what cookies we use, why we use them, and how you can manage your preferences. Our use of cookies complies with [GDPR](#) and the [ePrivacy Directive](#), which require clear disclosure and opt-in consent for non-essential cookies.

2. What Are Cookies?

Cookies are small text files stored in your browser. They help websites function correctly, improve usability, and enable services such as analytics, personalisation, and security.

3. How We Use Cookies

The Dock’s website stores cookies to improve site performance and ensure you get the best user experience. These cookies **cannot be used to identify you personally**.

The Dock **does not use any cookies essential for website functionality**.

Third-party cookies used on the site include **Google Analytics, Facebook Pixel, Google Tag Manager, and a script for managing cookie consent**.

4. Types of Cookies Used on www.thedock.ie

A. Analytics Cookies

We use Google Analytics to measure website traffic, understand audience engagement, and improve our content and services. These cookies may collect IP addresses, device details, and usage patterns.

These analytics tools must not load until you opt in, per GDPR enforcement.

Name	Provider / Domain	Expiration	Description
_gat_UA-5142463-1	.thedock.ie	59 seconds	This is a pattern type cookie set by Google Analytics, where the pattern element on the name contains the unique identity number of the account or website it relates to. It is a variation of the _gat cookie which is used to limit the amount of data recorded by Google on high traffic volume websites.
__utmz	<u>Google LLC</u> .thedock.ie	6 months 2 days	This is one of the four main cookies set by the Google Analytics service which enables website owners to track visitor behaviour measure of site performance. This cookie identifies the source of traffic to the site - so Google Analytics can tell site owners where visitors came from when arriving on the site. The cookie has a life span of 6 months and is updated every time data is sent to Google Analytics.

Name	Provider / Domain	Expiration	Description
_gid	<u>Google LLC</u> .thedock.ie	1 day	This cookie name is associated with Google Analytics. It is used by gtag.js and analytics.js scripts and according to Google Analytics this cookie is used to distinguish users.
_ga	<u>Google LLC</u> .thedock.ie	1 year 1 month	This cookie name is associated with Google Universal Analytics - which is a significant update to Google's more commonly used analytics service. This cookie is used to distinguish unique users by assigning a randomly generated number as a client identifier. It is included in each page request in a site and used to calculate visitor, session and campaign data for the sites analytics reports. By default it is set to expire after 2 years, although this is customisable by website owners.
__utmb	<u>Google LLC</u> .thedock.ie	30 minutes	This is one of the four main cookies set by the Google Analytics service which enables website owners to track visitor behaviour and measure site performance. This cookie determines new sessions and visits and expires after 30 minutes. The cookie is updated every time data is sent to Google Analytics. Any activity by a user within the 30 minute life span will count as a single visit, even if the user leaves and then returns to the site. A

Name	Provider / Domain	Expiration	Description
			return after 30 minutes will count as a new visit, but a returning visitor.
_ga_ZONB8COT23	.thedock.ie	1 year 1 month	This cookie is used by Google Analytics to persist session state.
__utma	<u>Google LLC</u> .thedock.ie	1 year 1 month	This is one of the four main cookies set by the Google Analytics service which enables website owners to track visitor behaviour and measure site performance. This cookie lasts for 2 years by default and distinguishes between users and sessions. It is used to calculate new and returning visitor statistics. The cookie is updated every time data is sent to Google Analytics. The lifespan of the cookie can be customised by website owners.
__utmc	<u>Google LLC</u> .thedock.ie	Session	This is one of the four main cookies set by the Google Analytics service which enables website owners to track visitor behaviour and measure site performance. It is not used in most sites but is set to enable interoperability with the older version of Google Analytics code known as Urchin. In this older versions this was used in combination with the __utmb cookie to identify new sessions/visits for returning visitors. When used by Google Analytics this is always a

Name	Provider / Domain	Expiration	Description
			Session cookie which is destroyed when the user closes their browser. Where it is seen as a Persistent cookie it is therefore likely to be a different technology setting the cookie.
__utmt	Google LLC .thedock.ie	10 minutes	This cookie is set by Google Analytics. According to their documentation it is used to throttle the request rate for the service - limiting the collection of data on high traffic sites. It expires after 10 minutes

B. Advertising & Tracking Cookies

The Dock uses:

- Facebook Pixel
- Facebook Conversion Tracking

These cookies allow us to measure campaign performance and offer relevant content to visitors. They collect usage patterns and may track behavior across websites.

Tracking cookies are considered non-essential under GDPR and cannot load prior to explicit consent.

Name	Provider / Domain	Expiration	Description
_fbp	Meta Platform Inc. .thedock.ie	3 months	Used by Facebook to deliver a series of advertisement products such as real time bidding from third party advertisers

C. Functional Cookies

These cookies enhance the user experience, such as remembering language preferences or maintaining user interface settings.

These cookies are user-initiated, so website users that do not launch the accessibility toolbar will not see these cookies.

Name	Provider / Domain	Expiration	Description
Recite .Persist	ReciteMe	1 year	Used by the ReciteMe accessibility toolbar to remain active as users navigate between pages on the website after launching it.
Recite .Preferences	ReciteMe	1 year	Used by the ReciteMe accessibility toolbar to save user-selected preferences (translated language, colour contrast, font size) so they are maintained across subsequent pages.

5. Why We Use Cookies

We use cookies to:

- Improve performance and user experience
- Store non-identifying data for accessibility purposes
- Analyse usage patterns for events, exhibitions, and programme visibility
- Support marketing campaigns via analytics and social media platforms

6. Legal Basis

- Analytics, functional (non-essential), advertising cookies: Explicit opt-in consent under GDPR Art. 6(1)(a)

7. How We Obtain Consent

Our site uses **SilkTide** to present a compliant consent banner and manage your choices. SilkTide is a tool designed to help websites comply with European cookie laws.

To comply with GDPR, this website follows the following principles —

- No non-essential cookies load before consent
 - “Reject All” must be as easy as “Accept All”
 - Consent is stored securely and can be withdrawn at any time
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8. Withdrawing or Changing Consent

You can update or withdraw your cookie preferences anytime by clicking the Cookie Settings link available in the bottom-left corner of any page on the website, or by clearing cookies in your browser settings.

The EU is developing browser-level universal consent preferences, which we will integrate when available.

9. Third-Party Cookies

Third-party services (Google, Meta/Facebook, Mailchimp, etc.) may set their own cookies when enabled.

Before consent:

- No tracking or analytics scripts are executed (required by GDPR)
 - Third-party cookies load only after your explicit opt-in
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10. Data Retention

Each cookie we use has a defined duration (session-only or persistent). Persistent cookies associated with analytics and advertising remain active until their expiration date unless you delete them sooner through your browser.

11. Updates to This Policy

We may update this Cookie Policy to reflect regulatory changes, site functionality updates, or improvements in consent management. Revisions will be published on this page.

12. Contact Information

The Dock

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