Quicklaw for Microsoft Office: What Are Cookies?

To remember something about you, your browser stores small text files of information, or **cookies**, on your hard drive.

Typically, a cookie records your preferences when you use a particular site. Using the web's Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), each request for a web page is independent of all other requests. For this reason, the web page server has no memory of what pages it has sent to a user previously or anything about your previous visits.

You can view the cookies that have been stored on your hard disk. The location of the cookies depends on the browser. For example, Internet Explorer stores each cookie as a separate file under a Windows subdirectory.

