

Cookies & Storage

Computing

Four places a browser can keep data, and which to use.

Persistence and access differ in ways that matter for security.

Store	Sent to server?	Use for
Cookie	Yes, every request	Sessions, auth
localStorage	No	Preferences, drafts
sessionStorage	No	Per-tab state
IndexedDB	No	Large structured data

HttpOnly stops JavaScript reading a cookie, which is why session tokens belong there and not in localStorage.