



Australian Government

Australia's  
**Digital ID  
System**

# Digital ID benefits

## An easier way to verify my ID

### Easier and more convenient

We're all familiar with handing over copies of our ID documents. It can be for a rental, registering for a new phone plan, or simply proving your age. We're regularly sharing or showing copies of our ID documents.

A Digital ID is an online method of confirming your ID that does not require physical documents after it is setup.

With your consent, Digital ID allows you to verify your existing ID documents online against the official record. This means that after you setup your Digital ID, you will no longer need to post, upload or email certified copies of your ID documents to prove who you are.

## Enabling more online services

### Anywhere, anytime

Once your Digital ID has been setup, you will be able to access services without the need to upload and send copies of your physical ID documents. This means if your physical documents are lost or damaged you can still verify your ID using your device.

Being able to verify your ID wherever you are, at any time will provide greater flexibility for accessing services after hours from any location.

## Safeguarding privacy

### Stronger privacy governance for Digital IDs

You can be confident about how your information is held.

Privacy and security protection is built into the Australia's Digital ID System. Accredited Digital ID providers must follow strict privacy safeguards:

- A Digital ID cannot be used to track individuals or their activities across different services or for general surveillance of people via their Digital ID.
- Consent is required for the collection and disclosure of personal information.
- Providers must ensure any other data is stored, transmitted and disposed of securely.

## Secure

### Comparing instead of oversharing

Currently, when you hand your ID documents over to an organisation, they may store that information. The more times you hand over your ID, the more your information is at risk of data theft.

By using a Digital ID, your ID provider will confirm your information against the official record held separately by government agencies.

The current secure, tightly protected and dispersed locations where original ID information is issued by state, territory and commonwealth agencies, will remain.

# Digital ID facts

## Not oversharing data

### Stay in control of your information

Digital ID works by verifying your existing ID documents against the official record held by separate government agencies.

Digital ID works by comparing, verifying and not oversharing data. This approach reduces the number of places your personal ID information is stored. The less places your ID information is stored, the less risk there is that your information is caught up in a breach.

When you use your Digital ID, in most cases the business or service will get nothing more than your name, date of birth and email address.

## Not a new ID

### Digital ID is not a physical card, ID number or document

Digital IDs are created by verifying your ID online using existing government issued ID documents, such as a passport or driver licence.

No new physical card, ID number or document is created.

### Digital ID is not the Australia Card

The Australia Card was an idea in 1985, and a lot of things have changed since then. We've moved on from bad perms, neon lycra and the notion of an Australia Card. It lived and died in the past.

## Not a social credit system

There are no similarities between Australia's Digital ID System and social credit systems.

To start with, Digital ID is voluntary and requires your consent to hand over ID information.

A Digital ID cannot be used to track individuals through their activity, such as shopping, online activities or their activities across different services.

A Digital ID cannot be used for general surveillance of people.

## Not mandatory or compulsory

Setting up and using a **Digital ID is voluntary for individuals** – it's up to you. You can also deactivate your Digital ID at any time.

### Control over your ID

Your express consent is required create a Digital ID. It is also required for disclosure of core information to services relying on your Digital ID.

### Accessing Commonwealth services

For individuals, access to Commonwealth government services does not need to change. You will be able to continue to access these services without a Digital ID.

### Access to private business and services

Businesses that join the Australian Government Digital ID System in future will be expected to offer individuals other reasonably accessible ways to access their service.

Under the Digital ID Act, there is scope for the Digital ID Regulator to grant exemptions for businesses. For example, an exemption could be granted where the business operates solely online, and it would be unreasonable to require the business to establish a shopfront or call centre.