



## Template: Data Minimisation Checklist

*Only collect what you need, keep it only as long as necessary, & use it responsibly.*

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### Change Log

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## Template: Data Minimisation Checklist

*This checklist helps small teams and organisations review what data they collect, why they collect it, and whether it's truly necessary.*

*It supports the Privacy by Default principle: collect only what you need, keep it only as long as necessary, and use it responsibly*

**.Tips for Use:** The easiest way to minimise data is to **start small and stay curious** – always ask, “do we really need this?”

### Step 1 - Define the Purpose

✓ Clearly describe why you're collecting each type of data.

Data Type	Purpose / Use	Is this purpose clearly documented? (Y/N)	Can the purpose be achieved without collecting this data?
e.g., Email address	Account setup	Yes	No

### Step 2 - Assess Necessity

✓ Review every field, form, and database.

- Do we need each item for the stated purpose?
- Could we use less identifying information (e.g., postcode instead of full address)?
- Are optional fields clearly marked as optional?
- Are we avoiding “just in case” collection?

## Step 3 - Limit Retention

✓ Review how long you keep each data type.

Data Type	Retention Period	Is this period justified?	Disposal Method
e.g., Contact form submissions	90 days	Y	Secure deletion

## Step 4 - Limit Access

✓ Confirm who has access and why.

- Are access levels appropriate and reviewed regularly?
- Do temporary staff or volunteers have restricted access?
- Is data encrypted or pseudonymised where possible?

## Step 5 - Communicate Clearly

✓ Make your data practices easy to understand.

- Is the collection explained in your privacy notice/policy?
- Are users informed about retention and deletion timelines?
- Do you provide contact details for data access or correction requests?

## Step 6 - Review & Improve

✓ Schedule regular reviews.

Review Date	Reviewer	Summary of Findings	Actions Required

