

# RIGHT TO DATA PORTABILITY

**THE RIGHT TO DATA PORTABILITY** is one of 8 rights in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The GDPR comes into force in the UK on the 25th May 2018. Along with the new Data Protection Bill, the GDPR is the biggest shake up of data protection law in the UK since 1998.

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## What is the right to data portability?

**The right to data portability** means you can request and receive any personal data you have given to an organisation, so you can move, copy or transfer it from one organisation to another, or keep it for yourself. **The right only applies** to your digital data.

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## Why would you want to request your personal data?

**Accessing your personal data** enables you to see what data an organisation holds on you. **This may affect** whether you continue to use that organisation as a service. **Using data portability** will help you if you want to change from one service provider to another such as:

- Banks
- Pensions
- Energy suppliers
- Insurance companies
- Retail loyalty cards

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## How to request your personal data

**Some organisations** already offer a data portability service, for example transferring your contacts, calendar, music etc from one service to another. **It is likely** that organisations will offer advice and guidance on how to request and receive your personal data on their website.

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## How quickly will you receive your data?

**A straightforward** request should be responded to within one month of receipt. **A complex request** could be extended by up to two more months.

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## What format will you receive your data?

**The GDPR** insists that personal data must be provided in a “commonly used and machine readable form”. **This means** you will most likely receive your data in an email or as an attached file which can be downloaded. **Always** be sure before opening an attachment that the email has come from a trusted source.

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## If there is an error on my data can it still be shared?

**If you find** an error you can use the right to rectification to correct the error. **It is probably** best to correct errors before using your right to portability. **If the error** is discovered after you have received your data you can amend it and then share with the new organisation.

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## Don't forget

- Organisations must hand over all the personal data they hold about you if you request it.
- You can use the right to data portability to help you see your data or share it with a different organisation.