

Real names

While serious contributors are encouraged to use their real names, this is not required; a user account may be created using a pseudonym.

E-mail

You may optionally provide your e-mail address when [creating a user account](#), or update it in your [preferences](#). This is *not* required, but if you do choose to submit your e-mail address:

- Other signed-in contributors may send you direct e-mail via your user page and vice-versa; your address will be revealed only if you respond
- If you lose your password, you can have it reassigned through the [login page](#) and a temporary password sent to you.

IP addresses

Depending on how you are connected to the Internet, your IP address may generally identify your Internet service provider, or uniquely identify the computer from which you are connecting.

The IP addresses of anonymous contributors are permanently recorded in the publicly viewable page histories. If you do not wish to publicly reveal your IP address, you should [create a user account](#); your user name (which may be a pseudonym) will then be recorded in place of the IP address.