

Developer Survey: Challenges in Completing the DSS Form

In this document, we detail the developer survey questions. The anonymized answers are available in the artifacts.

1 Section 1: Experience and Demographics

1.1. What is your email address?

- Free-text field.
- Optional.

1.2. What is your age?

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional.
- Choices:
 - * Less than 25
 - * 25-34
 - * 35-44
 - * 45-54
 - * 55-64
 - * Greater 64

1.3. What is your gender?

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional.
- Choices:
 - * Male
 - * Female
 - * Non-binary person
 - * Prefer not to answer

1.4. How many years of experience do you have in Android app development?

- Multiple choice question.

- Mandatory.

- Choices:

- * No experience
- * Less than 1 year
- * 1-3 years
- * 4-6 years
- * 7-10 years
- * More than 10 years

1.5. Is your app published in the European Union? (This applies regardless of your location.)

- Multiple choice question.

- Mandatory.

- Choices:

- * Yes
- * No

2 Section 2: DSS Form and GDPR

2.1. How challenging is it to fill out the Data Collection part of the Data Safety Section (DSS)? If challenging, specify the difficult parts in the comment box.

- Multiple choice question.

- Optional text-field for comments.

- Mandatory.

- Choices:

- * Very easy
- * Easy
- * Neutral
- * Challenging
- * Very challenging
- * Never done that

- 2.2. How well do you understand Google’s definitions and categorizations of data types within the Data Safety Section (DSS)? If you answered *Poorly* or *Very poorly*, specify which parts you did not understand.
- Multiple choice question.
 - Optional text-field for comments.
 - Mandatory.
 - Choices:
 - * Very well
 - * Well
 - * Neutral
 - * Poorly
 - * Very poorly
 - * Never needed to understand
- 2.3. How familiar are you with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)? If you answered *Somewhat unfamiliar* or *Very unfamiliar*, specify which aspects are unclear.
- Multiple choice question.
 - Optional text-field for comments.
 - Mandatory.
 - Choices:
 - * Very familiar
 - * Somewhat familiar
 - * Neutral
 - * Somewhat unfamiliar
 - * Very unfamiliar
 - * Never heard of GDPR
- 2.4. How confident are you that your app’s data collection in the Data Safety Section (DSS) aligns with GDPR requirements? If you are not confident, specify the GDPR compliance challenges in the comment box.
- Multiple choice question.
 - Optional text-field for comments.
 - Mandatory.
 - Choices:
 - * Very confident
 - * Confident

- * Neutral
- * Not confident
- * Not confident at all

2.5. How well do you understand the privacy-related data your app collects (e.g., location, personal, financial) that must be disclosed in the Data Safety Section (DSS)? If you answered *Poorly* or *Very poorly*, specify which parts are unclear.

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional text-field for comments.
- Mandatory.
- Choices:

- * Very well
- * Well
- * Neutral
- * Poorly
- * Very poorly

2.6. How do you categorize the privacy-related data collected by your app for the Data Safety Section (DSS) of the Google Play Store?

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional text-field for comments.
- Mandatory.
- Choices:

- * Manually
- * Using an in-house tool
- * Using third-party software or tools (if selected, please specify in the comment box)
- * Not categorized
- * Other

2.7. How confident are you in categorizing the privacy-related data your app collects (e.g., precise vs. approximate location) for the Data Safety Section (DSS) of Google Play? If not confident, please specify the challenges.

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional text-field for comments.
- Mandatory.
- Choices:

- * Very confident
- * Confident
- * Neutral
- * Not confident
- * Not confident at all

2.8. Which aspects of the Data Safety Section (DSS) do you find challenging?
Select **all** that apply.

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional text-field for comments.
- Mandatory.
- Choices:
 - * Understanding the DSS requirements
 - * Technical submission process
 - * Collecting the required privacy-related information for my app
 - * Ensuring compliance with data privacy laws
 - * Updating the DSS for every app version
 - * Others

2.9. What resources do you use to help you understand and complete the Data Safety section (DSS)? Select **all** that apply.

- Multiple choice question.
- Optional text-field for comments.
- Mandatory.
- Choices:
 - * Google’s official documentation
 - * Google’s Checks framework
 - * Online forums and communities
 - * Third-party tools and services
 - * Other

3 Section 3: General Feedback

3.1. What specific challenges have you faced while filling out the Data Safety Section (DSS) on Google Play Store?

- Free-text field.
- Mandatory.

- 3.2. Describe any technical or general issues you have encountered during the submission of the Data Safety Section (DSS) form on the Google Play Store.
- Free-text field.
 - Optional.
- 3.3. Have you ever had an app rejected due to issues with the Data Safety Section (DSS)? If yes, please describe the situation.
- Free-text field.
 - Optional.