Many factors impact library patron information and privacy, including: how information is deleted after a patron logs off, where circulation records are stored, and how ebooks are downloaded.

Not all information about a patron is transmitted digitally. There are some physical considerations, such as the way a room is arranged, where computers are placed, and whether library staff (and others) are able to see what a patron is doing, for example, on a computer terminal. But by and large, many different pieces of a library's information architecture require information about a patron to function.

How many of these things can the library easily change and control in order to protect patron privacy? Some things are physical and direct -- a library might take certain measures to lock up routers and servers, so that no one could tamper with them.

But much of what comprises the library's information architecture may be difficult to control, given that it is run by parties other than the library. And this is potentially troubling, not only for the fact that third parties could do something with patron data that a patron would not expect or desire, but also for the fact that the government might try to obtain this information from third parties.

Acquisitions system	Library website, other Web properties	Link resolvers	Servers	Web analytics
Barcoded devices (tablets, MiFi)	Internet service	Kiosks (printing, fines)	Serials	Web filters
Chat reference platform	Information aggregators/ databases	Network traffic management tools	Security cameras	Wifi
Circulation records system	Non-barcoded devices (hard drives, usbs)	Online public access catalog	Scanners	
Copiers	Furniture	Publisher websites	Routers	
Discovery layer	Ebooks	Repositories	Room design	