



CamoText User Guide

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1. Introduction

CamoText is a text anonymization tool designed to help organizations and individuals detect and obscure sensitive data before sharing text, including in LLM prompts and other AI usecases, to preserve privacy. It operates as an offline desktop application with zero data retention by default.

CamoText scans your input(s) for various personally identifiable information (PII) and other types of confidential details, then securely anonymizes them with encrypted labels. The human-in-the-loop then reviews the output to highlight and anonymize any other sensitive terms, and revert any false positives, before further use.

2. System Requirements & Installation

- **Operating System:** Windows 10 or later, or macOS 15+ with compatible dependencies.
- **Memory and Space:** At least 4 GB RAM; 8 GB or higher recommended for large files. Approximately 220 MB disk space required for the base installation; additional space may be temporarily required for large file processing.
- **Installation:** Double-click the downloaded installer. Follow on-screen prompts to complete. After installation, CamoText will be in the Start menu (Windows) or Applications folder (macOS).



3. Interface Overview

Light Theme

CamoText

Input Text

Drag & Drop File(s) Here, Paste Text, or Click 'Load File(s)'

Load File(s)

Priorities

* Anonymize *

Batch Anonymize

Clear Output

Anonymization Key

Select All

Deselect All

Revert Selections

Review Categories

Copy Key

Output Text

Anonymize Highlighted Text

Open in New Window

Copy Output

Save As

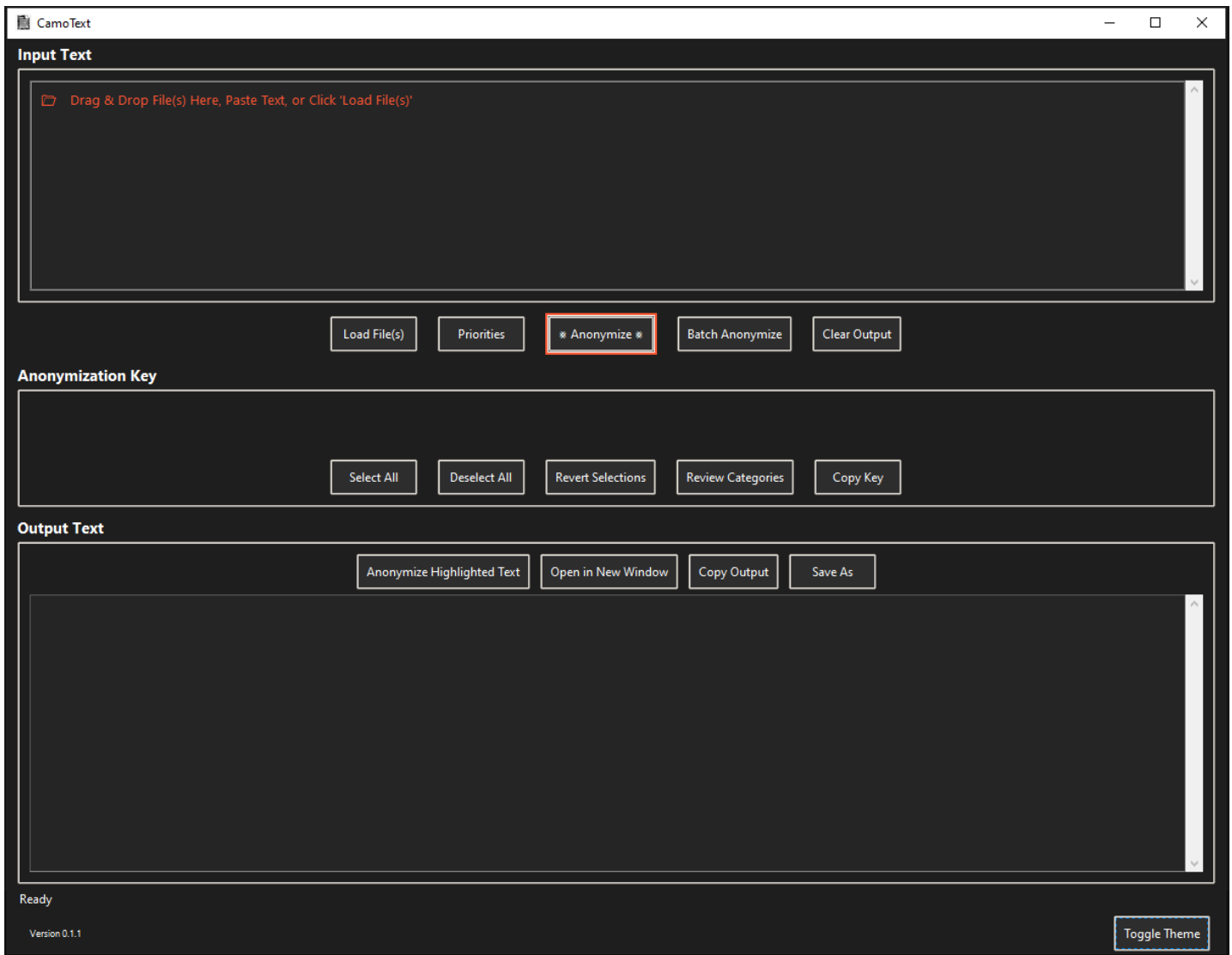
Ready

Version 0.1.1

Toggle Theme



Dark Theme



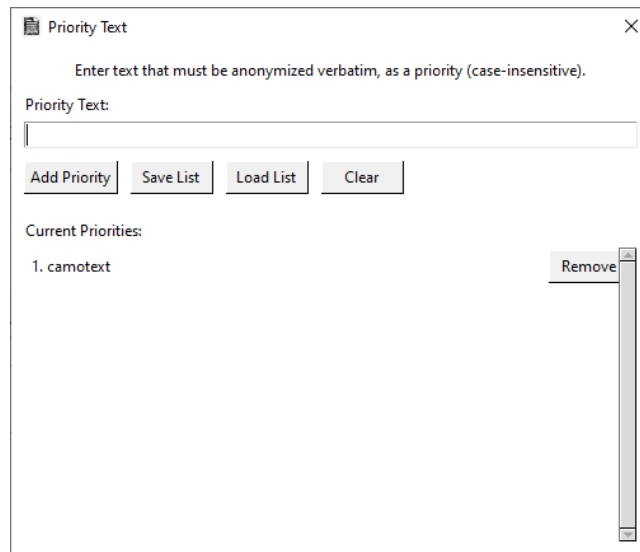
Once launched, the main window of CamoText is divided into three sections. Hover your mouse over buttons to display helpful tips on their purposes.

1. Input Text

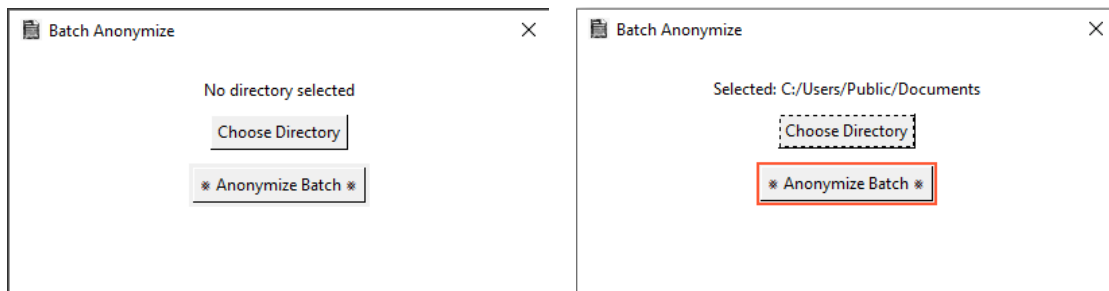
- A text box where you *paste or load* the document you wish to anonymize.
- **Load File(s)** button for importing supported file types (.txt, .pdf, .docx, .xlsx, .csv, .rtf).
- **Priorities** button for specifying verbatim, case-insensitive text that **MUST** be anonymized as a priority before running the anonymization.



- When clicked, a window opens with buttons to manually enter text and **Add Priority**, **Load List** of priorities, **Save List** of priorities, or **Clear** the current priority list.



- *** Anonymize *** button to run CamoText's anonymization of your input text.
- **Batch Anonymize** button to run a batch anonymization of all supported files in a specified directory.
 - When clicked, a window opens with a **Choose Directory** button to select the directory or folder containing the files to be anonymized, and a *** Anonymize Batch *** button that is enabled (displayed with an orange outline) when a directory is selected. Clicking this button runs the anonymization on all applicable files in the directory, producing the anonymization key and output text in the main window.



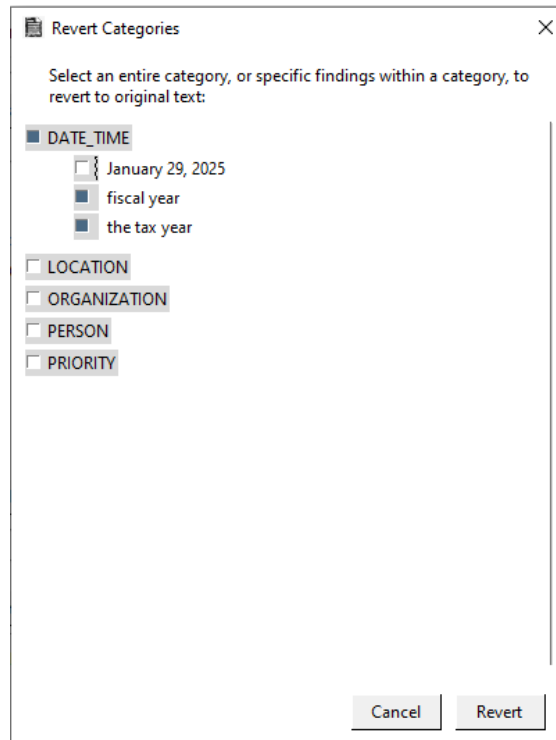
- **Clear Output** button to clear the Anonymization Key and Output Text.

2. Anonymization Key

- This pane displays the list of all anonymized terms along with their encrypted placeholders.
- Tools include **Select All**, **Deselect All**, **Revert Selections**, **Review Categories**, and **Copy Key**.



- When **Review Categories** is clicked, a window opens displaying the list of data categories recognized and anonymized. From there, the user may select an entire category or specific items within a category to revert to their respective original text all at once by selecting and clicking **Revert**.



3. Output Text

- Shows the text after anonymization.
- Buttons to **Anonymize Highlighted Text**, **Copy Output**, **Save As**, and **Open in New Window**:
 - **Anonymize Highlighted Text** — Highlight and anonymize any additional sensitive terms or text of any length you spot, in every location in the output.
 - **Open in New Window** — see *Using “Open in New Window”* below.
 - **Copy Output** — Copies the output text to your clipboard.
 - **Save As** — Saves the current state of the output as a file of your choice. If Batch Anonymization mode was selected, a window will pop up with checkboxes for whether the output files should be saved in the same directory and same filetypes as the input (for example, saving all .docx and .pdf inputs in the same folder as anonymized .docx and .pdf files respectively), and whether the anonymization keys should be saved in the same directory.

At the bottom, you'll see a status indicator that typically shows messages such as “Ready” or “Analyzing text...”, as well as your application version.

Also note the **“Toggle Theme”** button on the far right to toggle between light and dark themes.



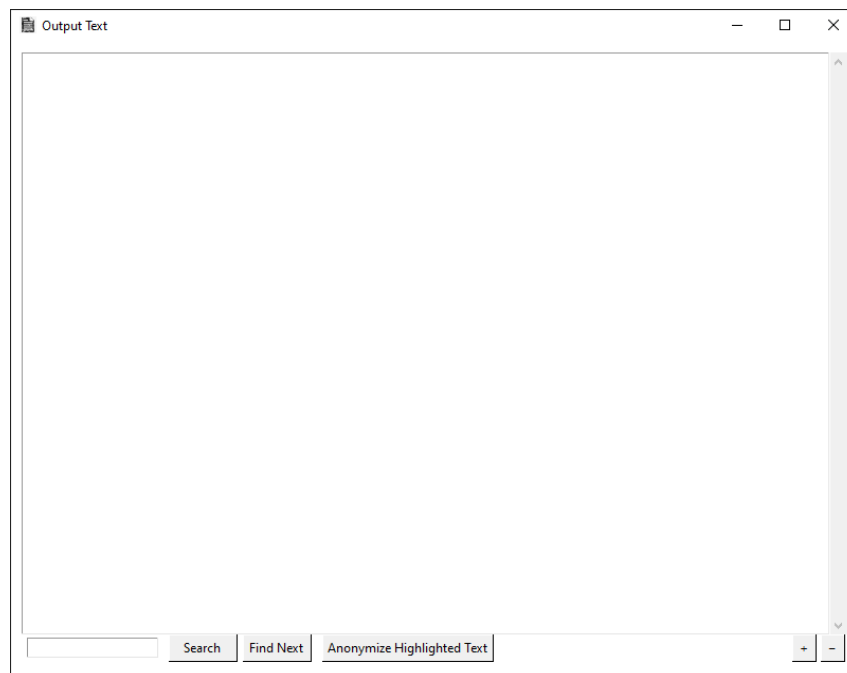
Using “Open in New Window”

Beneath the **Output Text** panel, you will see a button labeled **Open in New Window**.

When clicked:

1. Separate Window Launch

- CamoText opens the entire output text in a new, larger window (screenshot below).
- This new window includes the following features:
 - **Search** — A text field and a **Search** button to locate specific words or phrases in your anonymized text. If a searched term is found, easily click **Anonymize Highlighted Text** to anonymize it in each location.
 - **Find Next** — skips to the next highlighted location of a searched term.
 - **Anonymize Highlighted Text** — same functionality as in the main window.
 - **Zoom** — Small - and + buttons appear in the bottom-right corner for adjusting the font size.



2. Making Changes in the Separate Window

- Any text you highlight and anonymize in the separate window will be automatically updated accordingly in the main window's Output Text upon closure.
- Each newly anonymized item is also tracked in the **Anonymization Key**, just like in the main interface.

3. Automatic Sync

- While the separate window is open, a message is displayed in the Output Text field and all operations of the main window will be frozen in order to avoid mismatches between the two output text versions.
- When you close the separate window, **all changes** made — including newly anonymized terms — automatically update the main window's **Output Text** and the **Anonymization Key**.



Use this feature whenever you have a large amount of text or prefer a dedicated space to review, search, and refine the final anonymized text before saving or distributing.

4. Step-by-Step Usage Instructions

Step 1: Input Text

In the **Input Text** box, you can either:

- **Drag & Drop** a file or files directly from your file explorer into the text box.
- **Paste** text from your clipboard.
- **Click** the **Load File(s)** button to browse and open a file or files (.txt, .docx, .pdf, .xlsx, .csv, .rtf).

If multiple files are inputted, they will be concatenated in the input text with a *****NEXT FILE***** indicator between them. If you prefer to preserve file and filetype separation in order to save outputs accordingly, use the **Batch Anonymize** feature.

If you batch anonymize files, the directory of the files being anonymized will be displayed in the Input Text field.

If you want to ensure certain terms are detected and hashed, enter them in the **Priorities** window. You can save lists of prioritized terms for subsequent use, and load, and combine lists.

If CamoText detects an unusually large file, it may prompt you regarding file size and performance considerations. CamoText automatically extracts the text in your file, so be aware that some file formats such as .pdf may introduce formatting issues (such as line breaks, spaces, or unknown characters) when automatically extracted that can affect the anonymizer's accuracy.

Step 2: Anonymize

1. Once your text is visible in the **Input Text** area, click the **Anonymize** button.
2. If you're using the batch anonymization feature and have properly selected a directory in the Batch Anonymize window, click the **Anonymize Batch** button in this window.
3. **CamoText** automatically scans the input and replaces detected sensitive information with hashed (encrypted) and categorized placeholders, for example: <PERSON_c94e6fa3>
4. The anonymized version appears in the **Output Text** panel, and the **Anonymization Key** panel now lists each hashed term and its original value.

Step 3: Review the Output

1. In the **Anonymization Key** panel, review each hashed item.
2. If a term was hashed *unnecessarily*, check its box and click **Revert Selections**.
 - Example: If **"CamoText LLC"** was hashed but you prefer it visible as you don't consider it to be confidential, revert it here.

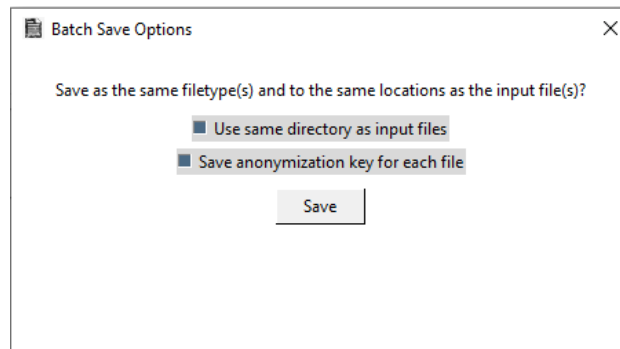


3. Browse items for any that were hashed *unnecessarily* within the categories of data by clicking **Review Categories**, then check individual items and click **Revert**.
4. If you deem an *entire category* of data type (or multiple items within a category) to be hashed *unnecessarily*, click **Review Categories**, then check the box(es) and click **Revert**.
 - Example: If **"DATE_TIME"** text findings were hashed but you prefer them all visible as you don't consider them confidential, revert them in one easy step here.
5. The output updates so that the original text is reinserted for the reverted terms.
6. *Double-Check Sensitive Terms*: Look over the **Output Text** carefully to ensure that **all** critical confidential or identifying terms or passages are hashed. *Human-in-the-loop review* is essential as automated detection may skip oddly formatted words or partial matches.
7. **Anonymize Highlighted Text**: If you spot new or missed terms or even full passages, highlight them in the Output Text box and click **Anonymize Highlighted Text**. This hashes them in every location in the text and updates the Key panel accordingly.
8. **Open in New Window**: For an easier review, you can open the **Output Text** in a separate window— especially helpful for larger documents and searching for specific terms in the output. Any anonymizations you make in that window sync back to the main interface when you close it.

Step 4: Copy or Save Output for Further Use

1. **Copy Output**: Copies the fully anonymized text to your clipboard.
2. **Save As**: Saves the anonymized text in a supported format (.pdf, .txt, .docx, .xlsx, .csv, .rtf).

For Batch Anonymizations, this saves the anonymized files in the same filetype as their input, and shows checkboxes for whether you'd like to save in the same directory and save the anonymization keys.



3. **Keep or Discard the Key**:
 - If you need to reference the original anonymized details in the future, hold onto the Anonymization Key by clicking **Copy Key** and saving it.
 - If you want the data to remain inaccessible, do *not* share or store the Key.
 4. **Close**: Once CamoText is closed, no text nor data is retained by it unless you have copied it to clipboard or saved it to your device.
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5. Data Types & Meanings

CamoText recognizes and replaces many different categories of text that are commonly considered PII (personally identifiable information) or otherwise commercially sensitive:

- **PERSON:** Full or partial names that might identify an individual.
- **EMAIL_ADDRESS:** Any recognized email format (e.g., *user@domain.com*).
- **PHONE_NUMBER:** Telephone numbers in various formats, including international.
- **DATE_TIME:** Dates and times in various formats (e.g. 01/01/2001, D.O.B. Jan. 1, 2001)
- **ENTITY:** Legal entity names, such as *CamoText Inc.*
- **ORGANIZATION:** Groups, organizations and associations
- **NRP:** Nationality, religious, and other demographic identifiers
- **MONEY:** Monetary amounts (with currency symbols or references, numerical or words).
- **LOCATION:** General location identifiers (e.g. *Baltimore, Maryland*)
- **ADDRESS / STREET_ADDRESS:** Address lines, road names, etc.
- **CREDIT_CARD:** Numerical string matching common credit card number patterns
- **ACCOUNT:** Account handles, PINs, and names (e.g. *@CamoText1*)
- **US_SSN:** Numerical string matching US social security number pattern
- **US_DRIVER_LICENSE:** Driver's license according to <https://ntsi.com/drivers-license-format/>
- **US_PASSPORT:** string matching US passport number pattern
- **US_BANK_NUMBER:** US Bank Account number
- **US_ROUTING_NUMBER:** US Bank routing number
- **US_ITIN:** US Individual Taxpayer Identification Number
- **UK_NHS:** United Kingdom National Health Service ID number
- **IBAN_CODE:** IBAN banking code
- **IP_ADDRESS:** Both IPv4 and IPv6 patterns (e.g., *192.168.0.1*).
- **MEDICAL_LICENSE:** String matching common medical license patterns
- **MEDICARE_ID:** Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI)
- **UUID:** Universally Unique Identifier strings (e.g., e-signed document identifiers, GUIDs).
- **CRYPTO_ADDRESS:** cryptocurrency addresses (Bitcoin, Ethereum/EVM, Solana)
- **GPS:** GPS Coordinates in common formats (e.g., *38°53'48.1"N 77°00'23.1"W*)
- **FAC:** Facilities, such as buildings or airports
- **URL:** Website urls or hyperlink patterns.
- **FILE:** Common file types and file path strings (e.g., *C:\Users\Username\Documents\secret.pdf, SurveillanceFootageHome.mp4*).
- **PRIORITY:** any text entered in the "Priorities" window by the user.
- **HIGHLIGHT:** any text highlighted and anonymized by the user.

Note: Some text (such as misspelled personal names, custom IDs, unusual terms, or text with line breaks or multiple whitespaces) might *not* be auto-detected. Due to the overlap among some categories' coverage, some text may be anonymized under an erroneous category.

Detection uses a natural language processing engine combined with probability-based pattern matching, which is not 100% accurate and may miss or improperly label detections.

Sensitivity of text is often subjective and recognizers are not perfect – ALWAYS do a manual review of the anonymized terms and output, and use the priority text feature.



6. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I run multiple anonymizations at once? What about batch processing?

A: Yes, just drag-and-drop or load multiple files into the Input Text window or paste the text from multiple documents into the Input Text window. For batch processing, use the Batch Anonymize button. For CLI batch processing, contact us about our Enterprise version.

Q: Why does my computer block installation, saying the app is from an “unknown” or “unidentified” publisher?

A: Windows’ firewall and macOS’s Gatekeeper have especially sensitive security settings for bundled executables like CamoText, so they may warn you when trying to install, despite the application and installers being code-signed and notarized.

On Windows, double-click the “.exe” file to open the installer, which should display “CamoText LLC” as the publisher. If the file is blocked, the window may give an option for “More Info” which, when clicked, should provide an option to “Run Anyway” – after selecting this, the installer will proceed as normal.

On MacOS, double-click the “.dmg” file to open it, drag the .app file to your Applications folder, Right-click the .app in Applications and select "Open." In the pop-up, click "Open" to bypass the warning if it appears.

On either operating system, after CamoText has been installed and opened, it should be accessible and usable in the future without any further warnings.

Q: Can CamoText handle large PDFs or Word documents?

A: Yes, up to 50MB and 800 pages, though performance will depend on your system’s memory. PDFs will be slower and more prone to errors in formatting than text files. For extremely large files on less-performant computers, consider first copying the text itself to clipboard, converting to a txt file, or breaking them into parts.

Q: Do I need to keep the Anonymization Key?

A: Only if you foresee needing to restore or reference those portions of the original text without using the original text itself, or need it for auditing purposes. If not, you can ignore it to reduce the risk of unintentional exposure, as it is automatically deleted when CamoText is closed.

Q: Does CamoText detect sensitive images or scans of text?

A: In its current version, CamoText only output textual content. Content other than text (including scanned PDFs with no extractable text) will be ignored.

Q: Why does the tool sometimes over-match or skip certain words?

A: It is designed to often err on the side of caution by over-matching certain patterns, especially considering the ease of reversing false positives. Text that’s misspelled or oddly formatted may be skipped, so always double-check.



Q: Wait, can AI reverse-engineer the hashes CamoText creates when anonymizing?

A: No, the SHA256 encryption is effectively irreversible by current technology. While only the first 8 characters are displayed for readability, 32 characters are used in the code.

Q: Are there other reasons to use CamoText other than with AI?

A: CamoText can be useful anytime redaction is needed or advisable in documents, as a way to quickly remove PII and as an easy-to-use interface for manual redactions.

Q: Can I have a special type of recognizer for my company or agency, or remove some recognizers I don't need?

A: Absolutely! Email contact@camotext.ai for custom versions, CLI functionality, and bulk pricing.

7. Disclaimers & Best Practices

1. REVIEW THE END USER LICENSE AGREEMENT

Use of CamoText is expressly subject to the accompanying End User License Agreement — ensure you read it in full and understand it. If you need another copy, email contact@camotext.ai.

2. DO NOT RELY SOLELY ON AUTOMATED ANONYMIZATION

This software is intended to include *human-in-the-loop review*. Always inspect the output for missed or improperly hashed terms.

3. AIM FOR THE STRICTEST PRIVACY STANDARDS POSSIBLE

If you identify entire paragraphs or other broad sections that pose a risk of re-identification due to their substance, highlight and anonymize them fully.

4. SHARING THE ANONYMIZATION KEY DEFEATS ITS PURPOSE

Do not share the key with anyone unless absolutely necessary.

5. CONSULT LEGAL OR COMPLIANCE EXPERTS

Data sensitivity and privacy requirements vary by jurisdiction and context. This tool does not replace professional counsel.

6. FILE FORMATTING LIMITATIONS

Some file types may introduce stray characters or spacing that hamper detection. Check for line-breaks or mid-word splits and correct them if they reveal sensitive data.



8. Contact & Version

- **Website:** <https://camotext.ai>
- **Email Support:** contact@camotext.ai
- **Latest Version:** 0.1.1

Thank you for using CamoText!

If you have any questions or ideas on how to improve the software, please reach out.