

Pathlings — Privacy Policy

Last updated: August 15, 2026

Thank you for using Pathlings. This Privacy Policy explains what information the Pathlings iOS application accesses, stores, and transmits, how that information is used, and the choices available to you.

The short version: Apple Health step data stays on your device and is not sent to Pathlings, PostHog, or iCloud. Non-health game progress may be backed up to your private iCloud database. Pathlings also sends anonymous usage and purchase-related analytics to PostHog so we can understand and improve the app.

1. Apple Health and HealthKit

Pathlings may request read-only access to your step-count data through Apple Health and HealthKit. Access is optional and controlled through Apple's system permission settings.

Pathlings uses step-count data to:

- Calculate daily walking progress
- Recommend and track step goals
- Award XP, Rubies, quest progress, and streak progress
- Update your Pathling's mood and evolution
- Display recent step history
- Trigger local progress notifications

Pathlings does not write data to Apple Health.

Your raw step counts, HealthKit samples, step history, and activity answers are processed and stored only on your device. They are not sent to PostHog, stored in CloudKit, or shared with other third parties.

You can change Pathlings' Health access at any time through the Health app or iOS Settings. Apple explains HealthKit authorization in its [HealthKit documentation](#).

2. Information Stored on Your Device

Pathlings stores app and game data in the app's local iOS storage. This can include:

- Your Pathlings and their names, types, progress, stages, moods, and inventory

- Daily step totals obtained from HealthKit
- Step goals and activity preferences
- Quest, streak, badge, and milestone progress
- Ruby balances, purchases, refunds, and store inventory
- Habitat ownership and arrangement
- Trail-run statistics
- Notification preferences
- StoreKit purchase-delivery records
- Other settings and game progress

This local data remains on your device unless it is included in the private iCloud backup described below.

3. Private iCloud Save

Pathlings uses Apple CloudKit to back up selected non-health game data and make it available across devices signed into the same iCloud account.

The iCloud save may contain:

- An internal game-profile identifier and creation date
- Pathling names, types, XP, stages, moods, forms, habitats, and inventories
- Ruby balances and Ruby Store progress
- Trail-run statistics
- Companion and habitat ownership
- Notification preferences
- StoreKit transaction and product identifiers, purchase dates, quantities, credited amounts, and refund or revocation information
- Other non-health game state needed to restore purchases and progress

Pathlings deliberately excludes raw step counts, HealthKit samples, step history, step goals, streak history, and activity-preference answers from its CloudKit payload.

CloudKit stores this information in your private iCloud database. Apple states that private CloudKit data is accessible only to the current user by default and is not visible through the developer portal. It also counts toward the user's iCloud storage quota. See Apple's [private CloudKit database documentation](#).

If you are not signed into iCloud or iCloud is unavailable, Pathlings continues storing progress locally and may retry synchronization later.

4. Product Analytics

Pathlings uses PostHog to collect anonymous product analytics. We use this information to understand how the app is used, evaluate feature performance, diagnose conversion drop-offs, and improve Pathlings.

PostHog assigns a randomly generated anonymous identifier to the app installation. Pathlings does not call PostHog's user-identification function and does not send your name, email address, Apple ID, Pathling names, or other direct contact information.

Analytics may include:

- App installation, opening, backgrounding, and update events
- Stable screen names, such as Home, Buddy, Quests, Bag, and Settings
- Onboarding progress and completion
- Whether Health or notification access was connected or enabled
- Daily-goal completion, without the underlying step count
- Pathling care, evolution, badge, companion, habitat, and store activity
- Trail-run themes, completion reasons, distance, and Rubies collected
- Ruby purchase-offer views, purchase attempts, outcomes, completions, and refunds
- Product identifiers, Ruby amounts, prices, currency, purchase context, and StoreKit environment
- App version and build
- Device model and general device type
- Operating-system name and version
- Language, time zone, screen dimensions, and network connection type
- Anonymous session and installation identifiers

PostHog may also receive your IP address and use it to derive an approximate geographic location. Pathlings does not request GPS or precise location access.

Pathlings does not send PostHog:

- Raw or daily step counts
- HealthKit samples
- Pathling or user-entered names
- Apple ID, email address, or contact information
- StoreKit transaction identifiers
- Payment-card or banking information
- Error messages containing user content

Session replay, element-interaction autocapture, automatic screen capture, and automatic crash reporting are disabled in the Pathlings PostHog configuration.

PostHog describes its iOS SDK's automatic lifecycle collection in its [iOS SDK documentation](#).

More information about PostHog's handling of data is available in the [PostHog Privacy Policy](#).

5. Purchases

Ruby purchases are processed through Apple's StoreKit and App Store systems. Pathlings does not receive or store your payment-card number, bank-account information, or Apple Account credentials.

Pathlings receives purchase information needed to deliver Rubies, prevent duplicate delivery, reconcile transactions, and process refunds. Purchase-delivery records may be stored locally and in your private iCloud save.

Limited purchase analytics—such as product, price, currency, quantity, outcome, and refund status—are sent to PostHog. StoreKit transaction identifiers are not sent to PostHog.

6. Notifications

Pathlings may request permission to send local notifications for streak reminders, Pathling reminders, and goal-completion messages.

Notification scheduling occurs on your device. Pathlings may store your notification preference locally and in your private iCloud save and may record the enabled or disabled status as an anonymous analytics event.

You can change notification permissions at any time in iOS Settings.

7. Third-Party Services

Pathlings currently relies on:

- Apple Health and HealthKit for optional step-count access
- Apple iCloud and CloudKit for private game-save synchronization
- Apple StoreKit and the App Store for in-app purchases
- PostHog Cloud US for anonymous product analytics

Pathlings does not use advertising networks or data brokers. We do not sell personal information or use analytics for targeted advertising or cross-app tracking.

Analytics sent to PostHog may be processed in the United States and other locations used by PostHog and its service providers.

8. Data Retention and Deletion

Local app data remains on your device until the app's storage is removed, such as by deleting the app. Deleting the app may not delete its private iCloud save.

You can manage Pathlings' iCloud data through your Apple Account and iCloud storage settings. Because the save is stored in your private CloudKit database, the developer cannot directly view its contents through the CloudKit developer portal.

Anonymous analytics are retained only as long as reasonably necessary for product analysis, security, and legal obligations and are subject to PostHog's retention and deletion controls.

To request access to or deletion of analytics information, contact us using the address below. Because the analytics are pseudonymous and not associated with a name or email address, we may need additional device-specific information to locate a record and may not always be able to associate analytics with a particular person.

9. Children's Privacy

Pathlings does not require an account and does not knowingly request names, email addresses, contact information, or other direct personal information from children.

Anonymous analytics are collected from app use as described in this policy. If you are a parent or guardian and believe information associated with a child should be deleted, contact us at the address below.

10. Your Choices and Rights

Depending on where you live, you may have rights concerning personal information, including rights to request access, correction, or deletion and to object to or restrict certain processing.

You can:

- Decline or revoke HealthKit access through Apple Health or iOS Settings
- Decline or disable notifications through iOS Settings
- Manage or delete private CloudKit data through iCloud settings
- Contact us about PostHog analytics or another privacy request

11. Security

We use reasonable safeguards intended to protect information handled by Pathlings. No

method of electronic storage or transmission is completely secure, and absolute security cannot be guaranteed.

12. Changes to This Policy

We may update this Privacy Policy when Pathlings' features, data practices, or service providers change. Material changes will be reflected by updating the "Last updated" date.

13. Contact

For privacy questions or requests, contact:

dave.mohan3@gmail.com

This Privacy Policy applies to the Pathlings iOS application.