

Electronic signatures vs. digital signatures

Defining the difference

Electronic signatures and **digital signatures** are often used interchangeably in conversation—however, each carries a distinct set of defining features and functions.

FEATURES

Electronic signatures



It's a legal concept that stands as lasting representation and capture of someone's intent

Digital signatures



The encryption technology underlying the electronic signature that works with an electronic signature NOT as an electronic signature

FUNCTIONS

An electronic signature needs to prove:



What was signed



Intent and consent



Who signed

How digital signatures support electronic signatures



Secures sensitive data



Detects tampering efforts



Strengthens signer trust

Simply having an **electronic signature** applied to a document doesn't ensure integrity. How it is used and applied to support the **digital signature** is very important.

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