

How do I clear my web browser's cache, cookies, and history?

Notes:

- If you don't see instructions below for your specific version or browser, search your browser's **Help** menu for "clear cache". If you're unsure what browser version you're using, from the **Help** menu, select **About [browser name]**. In Internet Explorer and Firefox, if you don't see the menu bar, press **Alt**.
- When troubleshooting issues with any web site, after clearing your browser's cache and cookies, exit your browser completely before attempting to access the site again. In Windows, close all your browser windows; in Mac OS X, quit (**Command-q**) your browser.

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About cache, cookies, and history

Each time you access a file through your web browser, the browser caches (stores) it. By doing this, the browser doesn't have to newly retrieve files (including any images) from the remote web site each time you click **Back** or **Forward**. You should periodically clear the cache to allow your browser to function more efficiently.

A cookie is a file created by a web browser, at the request of a web site, that is then stored on a computer. These files typically store user-specific information such as selections in a form, shopping cart contents, or authentication data. Browsers will normally clear cookies that reach a certain age, but clearing them manually may solve problems with web sites or your browser.

A browser's history is a log of sites that you visit. When you use a browser's **Back** button, you are moving back one entry in the history log. Browsers will normally clear the history at regular intervals, but you may want to clear it manually for privacy.

Android

1. Start your browser.
2. Tap **Menu**, and then tap **More**.
3. Select **Settings**.
4. Under "Privacy settings", select **Clear cache**, **Clear history**, or **Clear all cookie data** as appropriate, and then tap **OK** to accept (or **Cancel** to cancel) the deletion.

Chrome

1. In the browser bar, enter:

```
chrome://settings/clearBrowserData
```

2. Select the items you want to clear (e.g., **Clear browsing history**, **Clear download history**, **Empty the cache**, **Delete cookies and other site and plug-in data**).

From the **Obliterate the following items from:** drop-down menu, you can choose the period of time for which you want to clear cached information. To clear your entire cache, select **the beginning of time**.

3. Click **Clear browsing data**.

Firefox

1. From the **Tools** or **History** menu, select **Clear Recent History**.

If the menu bar is hidden, press **Alt** to make it visible.

2. From the **Time range to clear:** drop-down menu, select the desired range; to clear your entire cache, select **Everything**.
3. Click the down arrow next to "Details" to choose which elements of the history to clear. Click **Clear Now**.

Internet Explorer 8 and higher

1. From the **Tools** or **Safety** menu, select **Delete browsing history...**

If the menu bar is hidden, press **Alt** to make it visible.

2. Deselect **Preserve Favorites website data**, and select:
 - **Temporary Internet files** or **Temporary Internet files and website files**
 - **Cookies** or **Cookies and website data**
 - **History**

3. Click **Delete**.

Mobile Safari for iOS (iPhone, iPod touch, iPad)

To clear cache and cookies:

1. From the home screen, tap **Settings**, and then tap **Safari**.
2. At the bottom of Safari's settings screen, tap **Clear cookies and data**, or **Clear Cookies** and **Clear Cache**. Confirm when prompted.

To clear history:

1. From the home screen, tap **Safari**.
2. At the bottom of the screen, tap the **Bookmarks** icon.
3. In the lower left, tap **Clear**.
4. Tap **Clear History**.

Opera

1. From the **Opera** menu, select **Settings**, and then **Delete Private Data...**
2. In the dialog box that opens, select the items you want to clear, and then click **Delete**.

Safari

1. From the **Safari** menu, select **Reset Safari...**
2. From the menu, select the items you want to reset, and then click **Reset**. As of Safari 5.1, **Remove all website data** covers both cookies and cache.

How do I view and control cookies in my web browser?

On this page:

- Chrome
- Firefox
- Internet Explorer
- Safari
 - Safari 5.1 and later
 - Safari 5.0.x and earlier

Chrome

1. From the Chrome menu in the top right corner of the browser, select **Settings**.

2. At the bottom of the page, click **Show advanced settings...**
3. Under **Privacy**, select **Content settings...**
 - To manage cookie settings, check or uncheck the options under "Cookies".
 - To view or remove individual cookies, click **All cookies and site data...** and hover the mouse over the entry. Select the X that appears next to the cookie to remove it.
 - To delete all cookies, click **All cookies and site data...** and select **Remove all**.

Firefox

1. From the **Tools** menu, select **Options**.

If the menu bar is hidden, press **Alt** to make it visible.
2. At the top of the window that appears, click **Privacy**.
 - To manage cookie settings, from the drop-down menu under "History", select **Use custom settings for history**. Enable or disable the settings by checking or unchecking the boxes next to each setting:
 - To allow sites to set cookies on your computer, select **Accept cookies from sites**. To specify which sites are always or never allowed to use cookies, click **Exceptions**.
 - To accept third-party cookies, check **Accept third-party cookies**. In the "Keep until:" drop-down menu, select the time period you wish to keep cookies on your computer.
 - To specify how the browser should clear the private data it stores, check **Clear history** when Firefox closes. Click **Settings...** Check the items to be cleared when you close Firefox.
 - To view or remove individual cookies, click **remove individual cookies**.
 - To remove all cookies, from the **History** menu, select **clear your recent history**. Click the arrow next to "Details" to expand the menu, check the items you want to clear, and then click **Clear Now**.

Internet Explorer

1. From the **Tools** menu, or the **Tools** drop-down at the upper right, select **Internet Options**.

If the menu bar is hidden, press **Alt** to make it visible.

- To manage cookie settings, select the **Privacy** tab and click **Advanced**. To override the automatic cookie settings, click **Override automatic cookie handling** and then make your selections using the radio buttons.
- To view or remove individual cookies, select the **General** tab. Under "Browsing history", click **Settings**. Select either **View objects** or **View files**.
- To delete all cookies, under "Browsing history", click **Delete...** Check **Cookies** and then click **Delete**.

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Safari

Note: To determine the version of Safari you're using, from the **Safari** menu, select **About Safari**.

Safari 5.1 and later

1. In Safari, from the **Safari** menu, select **Preferences...**
2. In the Safari preferences window, click **Privacy**.
 - To manage cookie settings, next to "Block cookies", select **From third parties and advertisers**, **Always**, or **Never**.
 - To view or remove individual cookies, click **Details...** Select the cookie to delete and click **Remove**.
 - To delete all cookies, select **Remove All Website Data...** In the window that appears, select **Remove Now**.

Safari 5.0.x and earlier

1. In Safari, from the **Safari** menu, select **Preferences...**
2. In the Safari preferences window, click **Security**.

- To manage cookie settings, next to "Accept Cookies:", select **Always** or **Only from sites you navigate to**. To disable cookies, select **Never**.
- To view and delete individual cookies, click **Show Cookies**. In the sheet that drops down, you can browse the list of cookies on your computer.
- To delete all cookies, click **Show Cookies**. In the window that appears, select **Remove All**.