wikiHow
to do anything

How to Clear Your Browser's Cache

Co-authored by **wikiHow Staff** | Tech Tested

Updated: September 19, 2019

This wikiHow teaches you how to clear your browser's cached information on both computer platforms and smartphone platforms. Cached information can help websites load faster, but it can also prevent you from seeing the most up-to-date version of a webpage; in some cases, it can also cause the webpage to load improperly or fail to load at all. You can clear the cache in all popular browsers, including Chrome, Firefox, Edge, Internet Explorer, and Safari.

Explore this Article

Method 1   **Google Chrome on Desktop**

1 **Open Google Chrome .** Its app icon resembles a red, yellow, green, and blue sphere.

2 **Click** ⋮ . It's in the top-right corner of the screen. A drop-down menu will appear.

3 **Select** More tools . This option is near the bottom of the drop-down menu. Selecting it prompts a pop-out menu to appear.

4 **Click** Clear browsing data... . It's in the pop-out menu. Doing so opens a window with data-clearing options.

5 **Select a time range.** Click the "Time range" box, then click **All time** in the drop-down menu to ensure that all cached images and files are cleared.
   - You can also select a different option (e.g., **Last hour**) if you like.

6 **Check the "Cached images and files" box.** It's in the middle of the window.
   - If this box is already checked, skip this step.
   - You can uncheck every other box on this page if you're only trying to clear the cache.

7 **Click** CLEAR DATA . This blue button is in the bottom-right corner of the window. Doing so clears Google Chrome's cache.

Method 2   **Google Chrome on Mobile**

1 **Open Google Chrome .** Tap the Chrome app icon, which resembles a red, yellow, green, and blue sphere icon.

2 **Tap** ⋮ . It's in the top-right corner of the screen. A drop-down menu will appear.

Tap History . This option is in the drop-down menu.

3

4 **Tap** ⎡ Clear Browsing Data... ⎤. It's in the lower-left corner of the screen.

   • On Android, this option is near the top of the screen.

5 **Tap** ⎡ Cached Images and Files ⎤ **to check it.** You should see a blue checkmark appear next to it.

   • If there's already a blue checkmark next to this option, skip this step.
   • You can uncheck every other box on this page if you're only trying to clear the cache.

6 **Tap** ⎡ Clear Browsing Data ⎤. It's at the bottom of the screen.

   • On Android, tap **CLEAR DATA** here.

7 **Tap** ⎡ Clear Browsing Data ⎤ **when prompted.** Doing so will clear the cache for Chrome.

   • On Android, tap **CLEAR** when prompted.

Method 3 | **Firefox on Desktop**

1 **Open Firefox.** Its app icon resembles an orange fox wrapped around a blue globe.

2 **Click** ⎡ ≡ ⎤. It's in the top-right corner of the window. A drop-down menu will appear.

3 **Click** ⎡ Library ⎤. This option is near the top of the drop-down menu.

4 **Click** ⎡ History ⎤. You'll find this near the top of the **Library** menu.

5 **Click** ⎡ Clear Recent History... ⎤. It's near the top of the menu. Doing so opens a window with your Firefox history and other items in it.

6 **Select a time range.** Click the "Time range to clear" drop-down box, then click **Everything** in the drop-down menu.

   • You can also select a different time range (e.g., **Today**) here if you like.

7 **Click the "Details" drop-down box.** This box is in the lower-left side of the window. Doing so will display a list of things that you can clear.

8 **Check the "Cache" box.** Click the blank checkbox to the left of the "Cache" item.

   • If this box is already checked, skip this step.
   • You can uncheck every other box in the "Details" section if you only want to clear the cache.

9 **Click** ⎡ Clear Now ⎤. It's at the bottom of the window. Doing so will clear your Firefox browser's cache.

Method 4 | **Firefox on Mobile**

1 **Open Firefox.** Tap the Firefox app icon, which resembles an orange fox wrapped around a blue globe.

2 **Tap** ⎡ ≡ ⎤. It's in the bottom-right corner of the screen. A menu will appear.

   • On Android, tap ⋮ in the top-right corner of the screen.

3 Tap [Settings]. You'll find this in the menu.

4 **Scroll down and tap** [Clear Private Data]. It's in the "PRIVACY" section of options.

- On Android, the **Clear private data** option is in the middle of the page.

5 **Tap the white "Cache" switch.** This switch is in the middle of the page. Tapping it will cause it to change color, indicating that the cached files will be cleared.

- If this switch is already blue, skip this step.
- On Android, you'll check the "Cache" checkbox instead.
- If you want to clear only the cache, tap any other blue switches (or checked boxes) on this page to turn them off.

6 Tap [Clear Private Data]. It's at the bottom of the screen.

- On Android, tap **Clear data** instead.

7 Tap [OK] **when prompted.** Doing so will clear the cached files from your Firefox browser.

- Skip this step on Android.

Method 5 **Microsoft Edge**

1 **Open Microsoft Edge.** Its app icon resembles a dark-blue "e".

2 **Click** [⋯]. It's in the top-right corner of the window. A pop-out menu will appear.

3 **Click** [Settings]. This option is at the bottom of the pop-out menu.

4 **Click** [Choose what to clear]. It's below the "Clear browsing data" heading.

- You may have to scroll down the Settings bar to see this option.

5 **Check the "Cached data and files" box.** This is in the middle of the list of checkboxes.

- If this box already has a checkmark in it, skip this step.
- You can uncheck every other box in this section if you only want to clear the cache.

6 **Click** [Clear]. It's a button in the middle of the menu. Doing so will clear your Edge cache.

Method 6 **Internet Explorer**

1 **Open Internet Explorer.** Its app icon resembles a light-blue "e" with a yellow band wrapped around it.

2 **Open Settings .** Click the gear-shaped icon in the top-right corner of the window. A drop-down menu will appear. ⚙

3 **Click** [Internet options]. This option is near the top of the drop-down menu.

4 **Click** [Delete...]. It's on the right side of the Internet Options window in the "Browsing history" section.

- If you don't see this option, first click the **General** tab at the top of the Internet Options window.

5 **Check the cache boxes.** You'll want to make sure that both the "Temporary Internet files and website files" box and the "Cookies and website data" box are checked.

- If both of these boxes have checkmarks in them, you don't have to click the checkboxes.
- You can uncheck every other box on this page if you want to clear only the cache.

6 **Click** [Delete]. It's at the bottom of the window. This will clear your Internet Explorer cache.

7 **Click** [Apply], **then click** [OK]. Both options are at the bottom of the window. Doing so saves your changes and exits the Internet Options window.

Method 7 **Safari on Desktop**

1 **Open Safari.** The Safari app icon resembles a blue compass, and can usually be found in your Mac's Dock at the bottom of the screen.

2 **Click** [Safari]. It's a menu item in the top-left corner of the screen. A drop-down menu will appear.

- If you see a **Develop** menu item at the top of the screen, skip ahead to the "Click **Develop**" step in this method.

3 **Click** [Preferences...]. It's near the top of the **Safari** drop-down menu. Doing so opens the Preferences window.

4 **Click the** [Advanced] **tab.** This option is on the far-right side of the Preferences window.

5 **Check the "Show Develop menu in menu bar" box.** It's at the bottom of the Preferences window.[1]

6 **Close the Preferences window.** You should now have a **Develop** menu item in the menu bar at the top of your Mac's screen.

7 **Click** [Develop]. This option is at the top of the screen. A drop-down menu will appear.

8 **Click** [Empty Caches]. It's in the middle of the **Develop** drop-down menu.

- If prompted to confirm your choice, click **Empty Caches** (or **OK**, etc.) when prompted.

Method 8 **Safari on Mobile**

1 **Open your iPhone's Settings .** Tap the grey app with gears on it. This opens your iPhone's Settings page.

2 **Scroll down and tap** [Safari]. It's about a third of the way down the Settings page.

3 **Scroll down and tap** [Clear History and Website Data]. You'll find this near the bottom of the Safari page.

4 **Tap** [Clear History and Data] **when prompted.** Doing so will clear all of your iPhone's Safari data, including the cached files and pages.

Community Q&A

Question

How can I figure out which version of Firefox I have installed?

Community Answer

Right click the top of the Firefox window, click Menu Bar, click Help, About Firefox. Under the Firefox logo, it will say Firefox and then a number. That is the version you have.

Question

How do I clear my cache on my iPad?

Community Answer

Settings -> Safari -> Clear History and Website Data -> Clear History and Data.

Question

I am using Firefox 45, so how do I clear the Cache?

Community Answer

From the History menu, select Clear Recent History. If the menu bar is hidden, press Alt to make it visible. From the Time Range to Clear: drop-down menu, select the desired range; to clear your entire cache, select Everything. Next to "Details", click the down arrow to choose which elements of the history to clear; to clear your entire cache, select all items. Click Clear Now. Exit/quit all browser windows and re-open the browser.

Question

How do I clear my cache on my iPhone 6s?

Community Answer

Open settings, then go to Safari, then select clear browser history.

Question

How do I refresh a web page?

Community Answer

This depends on your web browser, but most have a small icon that looks like an arrow somewhere near the address bar.

Question

How do I delete an account on my browser?

> **Community Answer**
>
> This depends entirely on what account you're trying to delete. Some websites don't provide an easy option for deleting an account and require contacting support. Some will have "punishments" for deleting an account (intended to encourage you to keep the account). Others will simply have a "Delete Account" option in your account settings or at the bottom of the emails they send you.

Question

How do I clear the cache on Opera?

> **Community Answer**
>
> Click on the Opera button in the top left corner, then choose "Settings," then "Delete private data."

Question

How can I clear the browser cache off of my Android phone?

> **Community Answer**
>
> Click on the Opera button in the top left corner, choose "Settings," then "Delete private data."

Tips

- When clearing any form of data from your browser, it's best to close and re-open the browser after the clearing is complete in order to finalize the process.
- Deleting your browser's cache is not the same thing as deleting cookies.

Warnings

- Your browser may load sites a little bit slower when accessing them for the first time after clearing the cache.

References

1. https://techsviewer.com/clear-cache-macos-high-sierra/