

HOW TO CLEAR YOUR WEB BROWSER'S CACHE

PROBLEM SOLVING > 5.1 SOLVING TECHNICAL PROBLEMS

TARGET GROUP	AGE GROUP	PROFICIENCY LEVEL	FORMAT	COPYRIGHT	LANGUAGE
Facilitators	N/A	Level 3	Background information	Protected by United States and international copyright and trademark laws	English

This resource explains the concept of browser cache and contains simple steps to remove it.

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General Objective Skillset building

Preparation time for facilitator less than 1 hour

Competence area 5 - Problem solving

Name of author GCFGlobal.org

Resource originally created in English

WORKSHOP DIRECTIONS

1 What is a browser cache?

Whenever you visit a website, your web browser needs to load several things in order to display the page, including text, images, and videos. In an effort to make browsing faster, your **web browser tries to remember information** from the pages you visit. All of this information is then saved, or **cached**, within your browser. When you visit a site again, your browser only has to load the newest information, so the page can be displayed even faster.

2 Why do I need to clear my cache?


Your browser's cache can help to speed up web browsing, but it can also **create new problems** in some situations. For example, if a website has replaced existing content that was previously saved to your cache, you might not always see the most recent version of the site. Cached content can also prevent certain parts of a webpage from loading correctly.

If you're having trouble getting a webpage to load—or if you need to view the most recent information on a site—it's a good idea to try **deleting**, or **clearing**, your browser's cache. This way, the browser can reload the page with all of the most recent information.

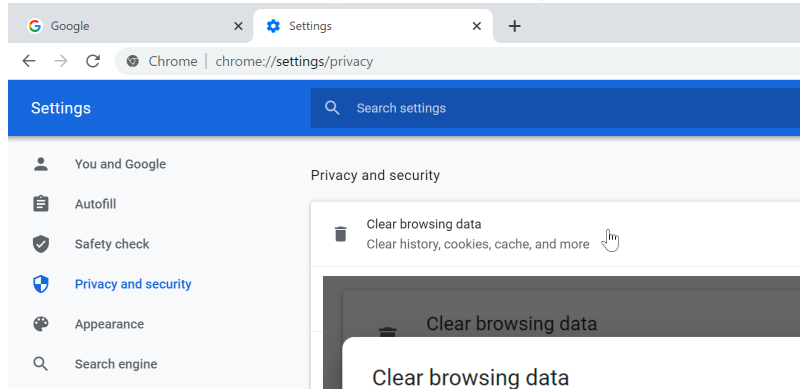
3 How to clear your web browser's cache:

The exact procedure for clearing your cache will **depend on the web browser you're using**. In this example, we'll be using Google Chrome for Windows. In most browsers, you'll find this option in the **Settings** or **History** menu.

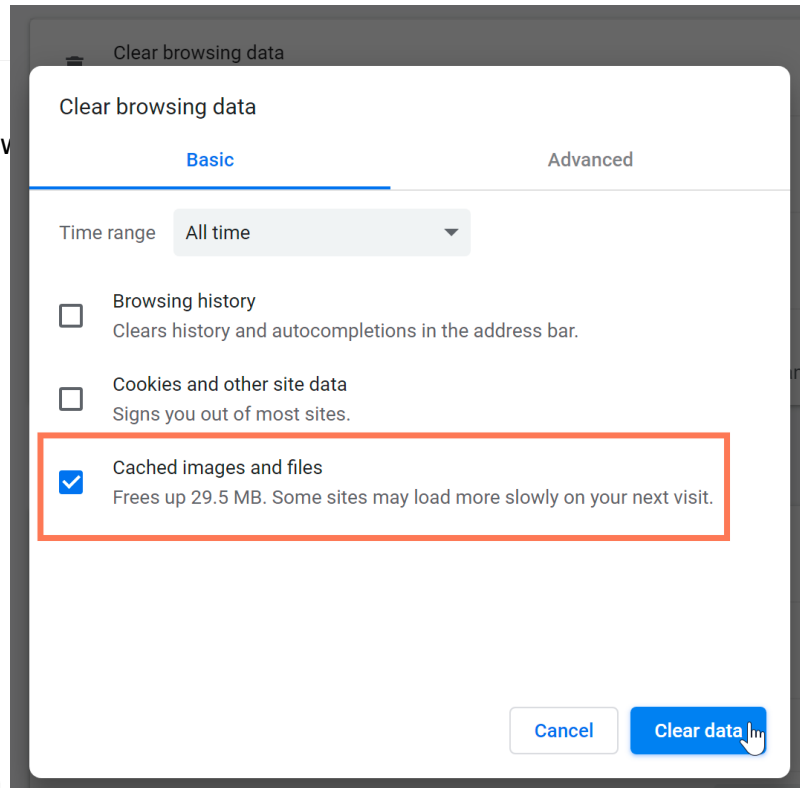
1. Navigate to your web browser's settings. In this example, we'll select the **menu button** near the

New tab	Ctrl+T	
New window	Ctrl+N	
New incognito window	Ctrl+Shift+N	
History		▶
Downloads	Ctrl+J	
Bookmarks		▶
Zoom	- 100% +	
Print...	Ctrl+P	
Cast...		
Find...	Ctrl+F	
More tools		▶
Edit	Cut	Copy Paste
Settings		
Help		▶
Exit		

2. Navigate to the **Privacy and security** settings, then look for the option to **Clear browsing data**.



3. A dialog box appears with the **Clear browsing data** dialog box. The **Basic** tab is selected, and the **Time range** is set to **All time**. The **Cached images and files** option is selected, and the **Clear data** button is visible.



then click **Clear data**.

4. The cached data will be deleted from your browser. You can now navigate to any website as you normally would, and the browser will reload all of the content on that page.

4

That's all there is to it!

Clearing your browser cache is a quick and simple way to solve various issues you may encounter when browsing online. The next time you have trouble with a website you visit frequently, try clearing your

cache to see if that solves the problem!