

Firefox

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How can I gather research resources while using Firefox?

Zotero [zoh-TAIR-oh] is a free, easy-to-use Firefox extension to help you collect, manage, and cite your research sources.

<http://www.zotero.org/>

A good quick demo screencast can be found at:

<http://www.zotero.org/documentation/screencasts/intro>

Works only with Firefox 2.0, but does so on Win, Mac and Linux. In a quick test, I was able to search the UCLA Library and download a list of citations.

Need to store a copy of the article? One that is linked to the record in Zotero? Follow instructions here (#2), to sync PDF storage in Zotero to Box.

http://guides.library.cornell.edu/zotero_to_Box

Use the “default” email in Zotero.

Greasemonkey and Firefox

Greasemonkey is a Firefox extension that allows user-created Javascripts to tweak Firefox in various ways. Greasemonkey scripts are like Firefox extensions, but much simpler.

You can download Greasemonkey from its [page on Firefox add-ons](#).

Once you have it installed, go to [userscripts.org](#) to find some scripts. There's no telling what you might find. To install a script, click on a link to the script's .js file, and Greasemonkey will detect it automatically and let you install it.

If you need additional help, visit the [official Greasemonkey website](#).

Firefox Extension Check

Mozilla has created a page to detect and verify status of plugins:

- <http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/plugincheck/>
- Includes Flash player, Shockware, Java, RealPlayer, Silverlight, and others

(Quoting) The Mozilla Plugin Check page is a general tool for keeping web browser plugins up to date.

Fully supported browsers do the following:

1. Gathers every plugin's metadata and optionally its live data
2. Check with the Plugin Directory by mime-type
3. Try to match the plugin metadata with information we know about plugins.
4. If there is a match, then check to see if the version is outdated or has a security vulnerable.

Although the supported top plugins are a healthy portion of the traffic on the internet, we have a long way to go in terms of covering all plugins.

..

Additional information about the project:

- http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/plugincheck/more_info.html

Keeping Firefox Plugins Up-to-Date

Quick verifier to keep Firefox plugins up-to-date —

<http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/plugincheck/>

1Password icon displaying twice in Firefox 29

1Password 3.9.20 add-on for Firefox displays both the “1P” and the 1Password key icon in the Firefox toolbar in Firefox 29.0.

This is a result of 1Password’s add-on not yet properly supporting Firefox 29’s new UI— Firefox 29 changes extension display behavior.

1. Open Firefox 29
2. Click on the hamburger button in the upper-right corner
3. Click on “Customize” in the lower-left corner of the popup window
4. On the toolbar, you should see the following text: “Show 1Password” (no quotes)
5. Right-click on “Show 1Password”, then click on: “Remove from Toolbar”
6. Click on the green button labelled “Exit Customize”

<http://discussions.agilebits.com/discussion/24332/firefox-29-0-1password-extension-buttons>

Why can't I print my UCLA paystub from Firefox?

I just tried printing my stub from Firefox, it pulled up Acrobat Reader, so I'm assuming it'll print fine.

Despite personal and security preferences, users may need to use Internet Explorer occasionally to get full functionality on certain websites.

Did you know these basic Firefox Tips?

Taken from:

<http://cybercapital.org/index.php/2007/05/21/did-you-know-these-basic-firefox-tips/>

1. To quickly find any word in a web page type /word it will highlight the word and press Ctrl+G to "Find Again" that word again
2. If you wish to remove an item from your Address Bar Drop down menu, Highlight it without clicking and use Shift+Delete.
3. Clear your Download history to make the download manager more responsive : Tools | Options | Privacy
4. Type about:cache?device=disk in your address bar to view/save items that you have in your firefox disk cache
5. Type about:cache?device=memory in your address bar to view/save items that you have in your Firefox memory cache
6. Drag any link to the Download Manager Window to add & download the link.
7. If you accidentally delete a bookmark and want to recover it, open the "Bookmarks Manager" and use Ctrl+Z, or Edit | Undo.
8. Double Clicking empty space on the Tab Bar will open a "New Tab"
9. Holding down the Ctrl key when you right click to "View Image" or "View Background Image" will open the image in a New Tab or New Window.
10. A bookmarks Folder's position can also be Dragged & Dropped but you must hold down the SHIFT key while Dragging.
11. To prevent a website from replacing/changing your rightclick context menu go to Tools > Options > Web Features then click the "advanced tab" and de-select "remove or replace context menus". Update: go to Tools>Options>content>Advanced on Firefox2

12. You can work offline in Firefox just go to File > Work Offline. This means that you can browse your previously visited pages even when you're offline this is a really cool feature but not many people who use it.
13. You can bookmark the current page by dragging the icon from the location bar to your Bookmarks folder. You can also drag it to the desktop to make an icon for that page.
14. To stop animated gifs from moving, press the ESC key.

Edit Misspelled Words in Firefox

Firefox keeps a per profile dictionary of custom words. To correct words which inadvertently enter it:

- Go to “%APPDATA%\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles”
- On Mac OS X, go to “~/Library/Application Support/Firefox/Profiles”
- Enter the profile folder, usually like “.default”
- Edit “persdict.dat” with a text editor (WordPad, Notepad, or Textedit)

Save, and done.

How do I control the popup blocker settings in Firefox?

The Popup Blocker Options/Preferences are located in the Content panel of
Tools > OptionsEdit > PreferencesFirefox > Preferences.

From there, you can do the following things:

- Block Popup Windows: Deselect this option preference to disable the popup blocker altogether.
- Exceptions dialog: This is a list of sites that you want to allow to display popups. The dialog has the following choices:
 - o Allow: Click this to add a web site to the exceptions list.
 - o Remove Site: Click this to remove a web site from the exceptions list.
 - o Remove All Sites: Click this to remove all of the web sites in the exceptions list.

Note: Blocking popups may not always work and may interfere with some web sites.

What can I do with the Download Manager on Firefox?

In addition to keeping information on all your downloads in one place, the Download Manager keeps convenient download actions easily accessible for each of your downloads.

Pause

You can pause any downloads currently in progress by clicking the [Pause](#) link beside the file entry. This may be useful, for example, if you need to open a small download started after a large download. Pausing downloads gives you the choice to decide which of your downloads are most important. When you want to continue downloading those files, simply use the [Resume](#) link to finish those downloads.

Cancel

If after starting a download you decide you no longer need that file, canceling the download is simple: just use the [Cancel](#) link beside that file entry to cancel it and free up your connection for your browsing and other downloads.

Open the File

When a download has finished, the [Open](#) link will appear by the file entry. Use it to open the file.

Remove the File's Entry

If you do not wish to store information on a particular download, removing the entry is as simple as the click of a mouse. Simply use the [Remove](#) link beside the file entry to delete it.

Retry a Download

If for any reason a download does not complete, it is easy to attempt the download again. To recover from a failed download and retry it, just use the [Retry](#) link next to the file entry and Firefox

will restart the download for you.

Show Download Folder

If you have set Firefox to save all downloads to a folder in Download Manager

Options/Preferences, you can open this folder by clicking the Folder Name at the bottom of the Download Manager window.

How do I customize the toolbars in Firefox?

There are two basic methods of customizing the toolbars in Firefox:

- Adding/Removing Toolbars
- Rearranging Items on the Toolbars

Adding/Removing Toolbars

You can take away certain toolbars if you do not wish to keep them on your screen. Currently, these toolbars can be removed:

- Navigation Toolbar
- Bookmarks Toolbar

You cannot currently remove the Menu Bar because you cannot move the menu items (File, Edit, Help, etc.) to a different toolbar, and they must stay on the screen at all times.

To remove a toolbar, look in the View menu on your Menu Bar. Select View > Toolbars. You should see a few menu items.

The top ones (above the separator) are the toolbars you may show. Toolbars currently shown are checked, and toolbars currently hidden are not checked.

To show or hide a toolbar, simply click its menu item. The toolbar will now be shown or hidden based on your choice.

To add a toolbar, select View > Toolbars > Customize. Click on Add New Toolbar (in the bottom of the

dialog). This should give you a dialog to enter a name. Enter a name, click OK, and then click Done. Now select the View > Toolbars menu, and you should see your new toolbar listed. Follow the procedures in the previous section to show or hide it.

Rearranging Toolbar Items

To rearrange the items (icons, buttons, text boxes, etc.) on your toolbar, right-clickpress Ctrl and click on any part of the toolbar that is not a text box and select Customize.... This will bring up the toolbar customization dialog.

Drag and drop any items you want to and from the toolbars (excluding the menu items). You can also rearrange icons already on the toolbars by dragging and dropping them wherever you wish. When the toolbars and items are arranged the way you want them, click Done.

Special Toolbar Items

There are a few special items that are available to you when customizing the toolbar. They are as follows:

- Separators: These allow you to separate items on the toolbars with a small vertical line.
- Spacers: These allow you to separate items on the toolbars with a fixed-size space, usually around 20 pixels on most themes.
- Flexible spacers: Spacers allow you to separate items on the toolbars with a space. These spacers automatically resize to fill all of the empty space on the toolbar. These are good for positioning items on the right of a toolbar.

Themes

Themes are small files that are installed in Firefox that change the look and feel of Firefox. Themes are not allowed to modify the actions or functionality of Firefox, only the look.

Getting and Installing Themes

You can download and install many themes from Mozilla Update.

Internet searches will find many other themes as well.

Usually when you click on a link to install a theme, Firefox displays a dialog asking you for permission to install the theme. You can choose to allow the download and installation or to cancel the process.

Uninstalling Themes

Should you ever wish to remove a theme from Firefox, select Tools > Themes to open the Theme Manager.

In the Theme Manager, select the theme you wish to remove, and click the Uninstall button. You may need to close and then reopen Firefox for all changes to take effect.

Switching Themes

To switch between your installed themes, select Tools > Themes to open the Theme Manager.

In the Theme Manager, select the theme of your choice, and click the Use Theme button. It is recommended that you close and then reopen Firefox so that the theme can be applied correctly.

Updating Themes

Whenever you would like to check for a newer version of a theme that you have installed, select Tools > Themes to open the Theme Manager.

In the Theme Manager, Firefox displays Update Now buttons

for themes with available updates. Click the respective button for the theme you would like to update.

By default, Firefox will periodically check and notify you when a new version for one of your installed themes is available. You can change this behavior in the Update tab of the Advanced panel of Options/Preferences.

You can check for updates manually by clicking the Find Updates button.

Extensions

Extensions are small add-ons to Firefox that change existing browser functionality or add new functionality.

Getting and Installing Extensions

Installing an extension involves a very similar process to installing themes. Extensions can be found at Mozilla Update.

There should be an install link for each extension on that extension's page. As long as JavaScript is not disabled in your browser, clicking this link will install the extension for you.

Uninstalling Extensions

Should you ever wish to remove an extension from Firefox, select Tools > Extensions to open the Extension Manager.

In the Extension Manager, select the extension you wish to remove, and click the Uninstall button. You may need to close and then reopen Firefox for all changes to take effect.

Updating Extensions

Whenever you would like to check for a newer version of an extension that you have installed, select Tools >

Extensions to open the Extension Manager.

In the Extension Manager, Firefox displays Update Now buttons for extensions with available updates. Click the respective button for the extension you would like to update.

By default, Firefox will periodically check and notify you when a new version for one of your installed extensions is available. You can change this behavior in the Update tab of the Advanced panel of Options/Preferences.

You can check for updates manually by clicking the Find Updates button.

What are the most common mouse shortcuts for Mozilla Firefox?

This is a list of the most common mouse shortcuts in Mozilla Firefox.

Back

Ctrl+Shift+Scroll Down

Close TabMiddle-click on Tab

Decrease Text SizeCtrlCmd+Scroll up

ForwardCtrl+Sift+Scroll up

Increase Text SizeCtrlCmd+Scroll down

New TabDouble-Click on Tab Bar

Open in Background TabCtrlCmd+Left-clickMiddle-click

Open in Foreground TabCtrlCmd+Shift+Left-clickShift+Middle-click

Open in New WindowShift+Left-click

Paste URL and GoMiddle-click on Tab

Reload (override cache)

Shift+Reload button

Save Page As

AltOpt+Left-click

Scroll line by lineAltOpt+Scroll

How do I print from Firefox?

Printing a Page

To print the current page:

- Select File > Print.

To print selected text:

- Select the text in the current page.
- Select File > Print. The print dialog box will appear.
- Under Print Range, click Selection.

The web page's author and the size of the printed page, not the size of the onscreen window, determine placement of content on the printed page. Text is wrapped and graphics are repositioned to accommodate paper size.

How do I use Page Setup on Firefox?

To customize how pages are printed in Firefox, you can use Page Setup:

- Select File > Page Setup.

In Page Setup, you can change the following settings for pages you want to print:

- Format & Options: Choose the orientation, scale, and other options:

- o Orientation: + Portrait: Choose this to position the page normally, with the shorter side facing up. + Landscape: Choose this to position the page sideways, with the longer side facing up.
- o Scale: Type in a percentage of the original size. For example, type "50" to make each page half the size of the original page.
- + Shrink To Fit Page Width: Select this to automatically resize the page to the width of the paper.
- o Options: + Print Background (colors and images): Select this to print background images and colors. If unselected only pictures and color in the foreground (in front) are printed.

- Margins & Header/Footer: Click this tab to set up margins, headers, and footers:

- o Margins: + Top, Bottom, Left, Right: Type a margin in the given units for the top, bottom, left, and right margins.
- o Headers & Footers: Each drop-down list represents either a header or a footer area. The top row of drop-down lists are for the left, center, and right header areas. The bottom row are for the left, center, and right footer areas. In each drop-down list, choose one of the following options: + **blank**: Show nothing in this area. + Title: Show the web page title. + URL: Show the web page URL (URL's usually start with "<http://>"). + Date/Time: Show the date and time when the web page is printed. + Page #: Show the page number of each page. + Page # of #: Show the page number along with the total number of pages. For example, if you print a five page web page, "3 of 5" would be shown on the third page. + Custom: Type your own text. You can include any of the following codes to print specific information:

1. &PT: Page Number with Total (Example: "3 of 5")

1. &P: Page Number

1. &D: Date

1. &U: URL

1. &T: Page Title

How do I make Firefox my default browser?

To make Firefox your default web browser:

1. Select Tools > OptionsEdit > PreferencesFirefox > Preferences and click the “Check Now” button in the General panel.

...

When setting a computer to use Firefox as the primary browser, it is helpful to *disable* Internet Explorer’s checks to make it the default browser:

Start > Settings > Control Panels > Internet Options > Programs > Internet Explorer should check to see whether it is the default browser

On campus, some sites are not browser neutral and require Internet Explorer. To facilitate using IE with Firefox, check the Firefox plug-ins [IE Tab](#) or [IE View](#)

How do I get/install/uninstall/switch/up themes in Firefox?

Getting and Installing Themes

You can download and install many themes from Mozilla Update.

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Usually when you click on a link to install a theme, Firefox displays a dialog asking you for permission to install the theme. You can choose to allow the download and installation or to cancel the process.

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the Use Theme button. It is recommended that you close and then reopen Firefox so that the theme can be applied correctly.

Updating Themes



Whenever you would like to check for a newer version of a theme that you have installed, select Tools > Themes to open the Theme Manager.

In the Theme Manager, Firefox displays Update Now buttons for themes with available updates. Click the respective button for the theme you would like to update.

By default, Firefox will periodically check and notify you when a new version for one of your installed themes is available. You can change this behavior in the Update tab of the Advanced panel of Options/Preferences.

You can check for updates manually by clicking the Find Updates button.

Firefox ESR

Mozilla offers an Extended Support Release (ESR) based on an official release of Firefox for desktop for use by organizations including schools, universities, businesses and others who need extended support for mass deployments—

- <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/organizations/faq/>
- <https://wiki.mozilla.org/Enterprise/Firefox/ExtendedSupport:Proposal>
- Downloads, <http://ftp.mozilla.org/pub/mozilla.org/firefox/releases/latest-esr/>
- Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Firefox#Extended_Support_Release

Adjust Firefox top visit suggestion in address bar

Firefox 43.0.1 introduced a new "visit: suggestion at the top of the list of sites returned in searches entered into the address bar.

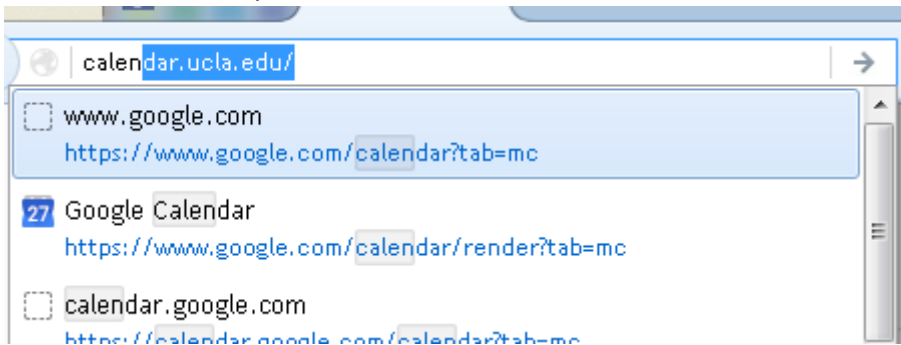
To disable this (standard behavior prior to 43.0.1):

1. Go to about:config
2. Change browser.urlbar.unifiedcomplete to false

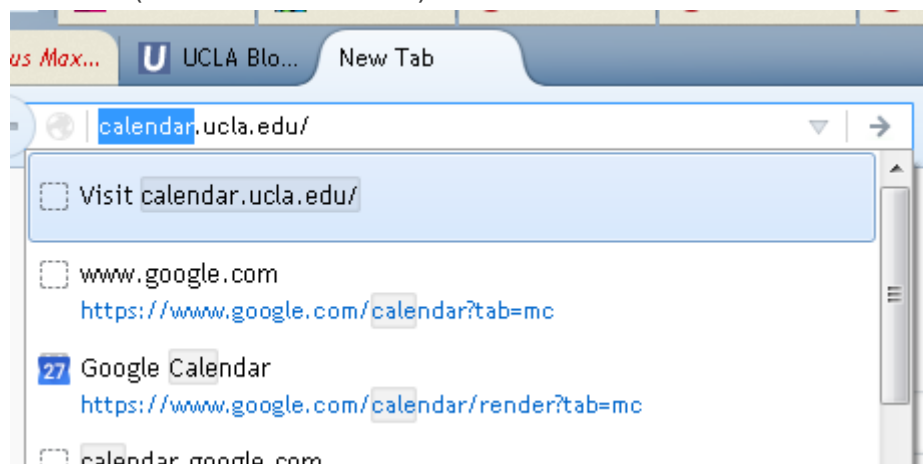
To enable this (standard behavior in 43.0.1):

1. Go to about:config
2. Change browser.urlbar.unifiedcomplete to true

Disabled (default prior to 43.0.1):



Enabled (default as of 43.0.1):



Source:

https://www.reddit.com/r/firefox/comments/3x98fa/is_there_a_way_of_turning_off_the_top_visit/

Firefox Add-Ons for Web Developers

Here's another cool add-on

<http://www.getfirebug.com/>

firebug is similar to the “web developer” firefox plugin but amped up.

And another <http://developer.yahoo.com/yslow/>

more on yslow here

<http://www.phpied.com/yslow-performance-extension-for-firebug/>

Firefox Add-on's are small extensions that add new functionality to Mozilla Firefox. They can add new features, toolbars, and are completely customizable.

It is in a developers interest to peruse Firefox's “Developer Tools” and “Website Integration” add-on categories to find extensions which fit your work style: <https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/>

—

TO INSTALL: Click the link, wait a moment until you can click the “Install Now” button that pops up, wait for it to download, and restart your browser.

TO REMOVE: If it's a toolbar, you can hide them under View > Toolbars, un-checking (selecting) Web Developer, for example. To remove it all together, select Tools > Extensions, selecting the extension and pressing Uninstall on the bottom left.

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- [Colorzilla](#) – Advanced Eyedropper, ColorPicker, Page Zoomer, and other goodies. (Windows Only)
 - [HTML Validator](#) – Tidy for FireFox! Highly recommended for web developers. Lets you check

your page's validation by doing a **View / Page Source**.

- [FireBug](#) – Allows live HTML, CSS, and JavaScript edits and lets you visualize CSS metrics. MUST HAVE for debugging and web developing. Apparently it's also good for [viewing and debugging Ajax traffic](#).
- [MeasureIt](#) – Provides a ruler to measure the width and height (in pixels) of any element on a webpage.
- [View Formatted Source](#) – Displays CSS being applied to each element. Great for debugging.
- [View Source Chart](#) – Tame tables and containers. Great for debugging.
- [IE Tab](#) and/or [IE View](#) add-ons to emulate IE functionality in Firefox. More on [IE Tab here](#).
- [Copy Plain Text](#) – Allows you to copy plain text into editors directly from a webpage without having to go through notepad etc.
- [Load Time Analyzer](#) – Allows developers to measure and graph how long web pages take to load in Firefox.
- Web Developer (see below)

[Web Developer](#) – For web developers and programmers. Useful functions include:

1. Disable > Disable JavaScript. This can reveal what we deliver, or don't, for the 1.5% who have JavaScript off.
 2. Cookies. If your UCLA site uses cookies, you can see how it breaks down if cookies are turned off.
 3. CSS. To have a truly accessible site, turning off the CSS should show a fairly logical structure. Or not.
 4. Resize. You can check how it looks at 800×600 even if your monitor has a larger resolution, and how your site fits for the < 10% who stick with the smaller resolution.
 5. Tools. Something to consider for setting a standard: valid HTML, CSS, feeds, and Section 508/WAI accessibility. This is a tedious process, on a programming end, but it's a professional step to make it check out with web accessibility standards — a step beyond if it just “works” in IE/Firefox.
-

See also, <https://kb.ucla.edu/link/220>

Firefox Tab Groups

Firefox is pushing tab groups to better organize the web browsing experience. Video & web page gives a overview:

[**http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/what-are-tab-groups**](http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/what-are-tab-groups)

Google Browser Sync!

Firefox's major asset is its wide variety of user community created and supported extensions.

The ability to save all open windows and active tabs was a “cannot live without” feature brought forth, in part by **Tab Mix Plus**. **Firefox 2** now incorporates similar functionality. The ability to sync bookmarks across various installs using the **Foxmarks** extension greatly eased the transition between desktop, laptop, and/or virtual machines as well.

Google, being Google, has upped the ante with “**Google Browser Sync for Firefox**”:

<https://addons.mozilla.org/addon.php?id=1122>. (Verbatim) Google Browser Sync for Firefox is an extension that continuously synchronizes your browser settings—including bookmarks, history, persistent cookies, and saved passwords—across your computers. It also allows you to restore open tabs and windows across different machines and browser sessions.

A valuable extension to save session feature between computers, such as those users who use a desktop and laptop, or Windows machine and Mac OS machine.

Session Manager allowed for more powerful session saving than Tab Mix Plus, not only loading whatever sites you were visiting but the position of the scrollbar, contents typed into textfields, etc. At the moment this extension is not available for Firefox 2.0

Firefox 7 and Internet Connection Issues

In case you come across any users who might be running v7.x of Firefox on Win x86 or x64, and complain of slow performance, can't/won't load pages, etc., while other browsers have no problem, below is an Mozilla article which may help.

“If you have a problem connecting to a website, you may see error messages like **Server Not Found**. This article describes how to troubleshoot problems that cause this error” —

- <http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Server%20not%20found>

See also,

- <http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Error%20loading%20web%20sites>

"Quick Tabs" in Firefox

Internet Explorer 7 (IE7) for Windows XP+ only has been released in November 2006. Some have said the "Quick Tabs" is reason alone to use IE7.

Firefox already has had such a feature through add-ons:

Tab Catalog — <https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/1937/>

- Has an option to disable the viewing of the tab catalog on button roll-over. The Tab Catalog button is a well-behaved toolbar element and can be placed where desired on the toolbar(s).

Firefox Showcase — <https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/1810/>

- Very much like Quick Tabs.

Viamatic foXpose — <https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/1457/>

- Also, very much like Quick Tabs.

Ctrl Tab Preview — <https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/2134/>

- A bit different. Has a very Mac OS X feel to it.

As with most Firefox extensions, many options are available for a given extension/add-on.

It has been said, ***"If you are not using Firefox extensions, you are not using Firefox"***.

Optimizing Firefox for broadband

Taken from a PC World article...

Open Firefox

Type **about:config** in address bar and press Enter

Type **network.http** in the filter field

Double-click *network.http.pipelining.maxrequests* to bring up the "Enter integer value" dialog box. Enter a higher number than the default **4**: try **15**. and click OK.

Double-click *network.http.proxy.pipelining* to set it to 'true'.

Right-click anywhere on the page and select *New Integer*. Enter **nglayout.initialpaint.delay** and then click OK.

Set the integer value to **0** (zero) and click OK again.