

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

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