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# Google Chrome

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- **CNET Editors' Rating:**

Spectacular

- **Average User Rating:**

out of 2,969 votes

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## Quick Specs

- Version:  
28.0.1500.95
- File size:  
766.48K
- Date added:  
July 31, 2013
- Price:  
Free
- Operating system:  
Windows XP/Vista/7/8
- Total downloads:  
22,315,544
- Downloads last week:  
116,087

## CNET Editors' review

by: [Eddie Cho](#) on May 21, 2013

Chrome is the lightweight flagship browser that originated from an open source project by Google called Chromium and Chromium OS. It is now one of the more widely used browsers thanks to a vast ecosystem of extensions and add-ons, a robust Javascript engine, and a rapid-release development cycle that keeps it on the competitive end of the curve.

### Installation

Chrome's installation process is both straight-forward and self-sustaining. After downloading the installer, Chrome's installation process will launch with the standard practices of confirming system directories and a few click throughs. Google will also ask for your permission to anonymously collect usage stats, which can be opted out of.

The self sustenance comes from 'channels' ; Once you install the Chrome browser, Google will automatically roll out updates silently in the background and keep your software updated with the latest versions.

### Interface

Chrome's overall UI has remained stable since version 1.0: a minimal two row window with tabs resting above the address bar (Omnibox), 3 browser controls (Back, Forward, Stop/Reload), a star-shaped toggle for bookmarking, and settings icon. Users coming from older browsers might have to get used to not having a dedicated File menu layout but we found ourselves getting quickly adjusted.

As you install extensions, active icons will appear to the right of the address bar, but beyond that Google maintains strict restrictions on adding visible add-ons. That means no toolbars or any undesired overlays, which at one point was a widespread standard practice. Despite the limited

- Product ranking:  
#1 in [Web Browsers](#)
- Additional Requirements  
Not available
- [See full specifications](#)
- Add to my list
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customisable options, Chrome is minimalist for a reason, and that results in a clean browsing experience with maximum use of screen estate for websites.

### Features and Support

In addition to tabbed browsing, Chrome can be used as simply or as complex as you want, thanks to an impressive number of built-in tools, modes, hotkey functions, and more.

One popular feature is, of course, Incognito mode: Chrome's response to Mozilla's Private Browsing feature. Incognito opens a new window that disables history

recording, tracking cookies, and reduces the amount of traceable breadcrumbs from your usage. Contrary to popular belief, it does not mean you can freely browse the web for illegal use as your ISP can still see your traffic activity... so stay out of trouble.

Under the hood, Chrome has some awesome features that make it very developer friendly: hardware acceleration for rendering 3D CSS effects, Google's own NaCl (Native Client) that allows secure execution of C and C++ codes within the browser, and an in house JavaScript engine that improves load times with every release.

Pressing F12 will open a dev console that allows you to view web code and quickly identify elements simply by highlighting the mouse over each line. You can also add your own HTML and CSS codes to render a page with custom styling.

Chrome also allows Google users to sync their accounts, which comes with added benefits like restoring saved bookmarks and extensions in the cloud no matter what device you're on.

### Performance

Chrome is fast. Really fast. As of version 27, Chrome is powered by Google's own V8 JavaScript engine that renders pages at speeds that have been setting a standard for modern browsers. In addition, Google has been on the forefront of implementing best practices for HTML5 standards and though it's also currently running the widely used open-source Webkit engine, Google has also announced plans to move to Blink in the near future.

### Wrap up

Google has relentlessly set the standard for speed, stability and security and Chrome's numerous version updates, as many as there are, have continued to complement its minimalist friendly design. It's no surprise that its market share continues to rise, especially when combined with its mobile cousin on Android. Regardless of who's faster, whether its user adoption or Chrome's own development team, Google's internet browser is one for the masses: casual user and developer alike.

More than just speed in Chrome:

We've detected that you need to upgrade or install Flash to view our library of thousands of tech videos. Installing Flash is fast, free, and easy! Simply follow the instructions from your browser, or [click here to install/upgrade the free Flash player](#).

Thanks,  
The CNET TV Team

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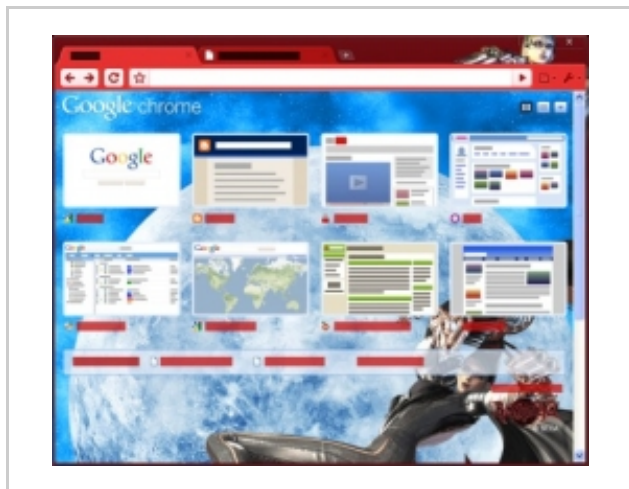


Google Chrome is a browser that combines a minimal design with sophisticated technology to make the Web faster, safer, and easier. Use one box for everything--type in the address bar and get suggestions for both search and Web pages.

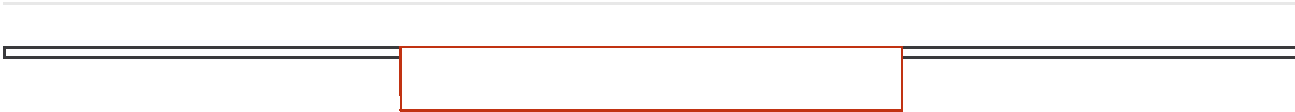
Thumbnails of your top sites let you access your favorite pages instantly with lightning speed from any new tab. Desktop shortcuts allow you to launch your favorite Web apps straight from your desktop.

Google Chrome is in the [Web Browsers](#) category of the [Browsers](#) section.

What's new in this version: Version 28.0.1500.95 includes various bug fixes.



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## "Great Browser"

August 13, 2013 | By [Brooker32](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

### Pros

Fast, efficient, easy user interface. Doesn't crash, has plenty of extensions. Overall best browser.

### Cons

Not really any.

### Summary

I've always liked Chrome best because I have the least number of problems with it. I also like other chromium based browsers like CoolNovo and Torch browser.

[Reply to this review](#)

Was this review helpful? [\(2\)](#) [\(0\)](#)

---

## "5 Stars for me"

August 13, 2013 | By [AdaStevens](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

### Pros

Very fast speed  
Simple interface  
Easy to use

### Cons

Sometime it cannot some plugins

[Reply to this review](#)

Was this review helpful? [\(1\)](#) [\(0\)](#)

---

## "not bad for me"

August 12, 2013 | By [Windows78](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

### Pros

- Nice customizable UI
- Fast loading webpages
- So much add-ons
- Must have browser

### Cons

- Takes too much space for usual browser
- Crashes oftenly

### Summary

In my opinion IE10 is good enough for me.

[Reply to this review](#)

Was this review helpful? (2) (0)

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## "Program is very quick"

August 11, 2013 | By [Bob1019](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

### Pros

Very limited crashes

### Cons

Seems to have problems incorporating adobe flash player

[Reply to this review](#)

Was this review helpful? (2) (0)

---

## "The Best Browser for me"

August 8, 2013 | By [Andy\\_Doson1](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

## Pros

Free,fast speed, the incognito mode is really amazing. Simple and friendly interface.

## Cons

Haven't found now.

## Summary

Chrome is really the best one for me and I use it all the time.Like it very much.

[Reply to this review](#)

Was this review helpful? (0) (0)

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## "Too much adware and cookies"

August 5, 2013 | By [shadowball123](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

## Pros

its free thats about it

## Cons

waaay too many cookies and adware so pages take forever to load and pages freeze up alot too

## Summary

im sticking with comodo dragon, alot safer and comodo has privdog that stops cookies getting through

[Reply to this review](#)

Was this review helpful? (0) (0)

---

## "My overall favorite browser"

August 3, 2013 | By [JEFL](#)

Version: Google Chrome 28.0.1500.95

## Pros

Very fast compared to Firefox

## Cons



None at all

## Summary

Overall a very nicely built browser

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