

WHAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE EDGE BROWSER

To launch Microsoft Edge, select the **Microsoft Edge** button (it's the solid blue E) on the Windows Taskbar.

SET THE HOME BUTTON

You'll find a variety of ways to customize Edge's interface in its Settings menu. (three horizontal dots near the right corner). For example, **you can enable a Home button to quickly take you back to your preferred home page.**

By default, the home button will appear on the bar across the top of an open window. If it doesn't appear, go to the Menu, then Settings, then Show the Home button.

1. Click on the Menu button (three horizontal dots near the right corner).
2. Select "Settings" in the menu.
3. Find "Open Microsoft Edge with". (The default is "the start page")
4. Enter the specific page that you want for your home button.
5. When you click on the home icon that appears on the top of the window, you will be taken back to your home page.

CHANGE THE HOMEPAGE

The homepage in Windows Edge is the page that loads automatically each time you start this browser. You can easily change the homepage and make it anything you want. It can be any web page on the Internet. It can be the default page provided by Edge (Microsoft News) when you installed Windows 10, the current page that's loaded in the active tab, or a new, empty tab.

To change the Edge homepage, follow these steps:

1. Open Edge.
2. Click on the three horizontal dots that appear near the upper right corner.
3. Move down to **Settings**.
4. Click on **Set your home page**: set a specific page.
5. In the *Enter a Web Address box*, type the address of your target homepage.
6. Finally, click the + sign to the right of the homepage you just selected.
7. When you close and then reopen the Edge browser, you will be taken to your preferred homepage.

CHANGE YOUR DEFAULT WEB BROWSER

It is not surprising that Edge is the default browser in Windows 10. However, you may wish to use Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox (or one of the several other popular browsers).

Here's how to accomplish the change in five steps.

1. Click Start and type in *default browser*.
2. Click the link that says *Choose a default web browser* when it appears in the list of your Start menu.
3. The Settings window will appear; click the *Default apps* heading on the left (it should already be highlighted).
4. On the middle column of the screen, look for the heading *Web browser* and click the icon.
5. A new window will appear with the title *Choose an app*. Select whichever browser you wish to use as your default. (Note: you must have already downloaded and installed your browser choice for it to appear here.)

CHANGE YOUR DEFAULT SEARCH ENGINE

To change your search provider:

1. Open Microsoft Edge and click the menu button (that's the button with three horizontal dots at the top-right corner of the Edge window).
2. Select "Settings" in the menu. It is located near the bottom of the list.
3. Scroll over to the left column and click on Advanced.
4. Scroll down to the end of the Advanced settings list and you'll see the "Advanced bar search" box. Click on the "change search provider" button.
5. You'll see a list of available search providers. Select the search engine you want to use and click "Add as default."
6. Important: If the search engine you want to use doesn't appear here, be sure you've visited the preferred search engine's homepage first. If you have and it still doesn't appear, that search engine doesn't support OpenSearch yet.

WORK WITH MULTIPLE TABS IN WINDOWS EDGE

Tabbed browsing is an Edge feature that allows you to open multiple websites in a **single browser window**. You can open web pages in new tabs and switch between the pages by clicking their tabs at the top of the page.

Here's how to do it:

1. Open Windows Edge. Unless you have changed it, the Microsoft homepage will appear.

2. Click on the + at the top of the opening page.
3. Type the web address of your first selection and press Enter.
4. Once your first selection opens, again click on the + tab at the top of the page. You will be asked “Where to Next?”
5. Type the web address of your second selection and press Enter.
6. To add tabs for additional websites, simply follow steps #4 and #5.
7. You can now bounce back and forth from one website to another by clicking on the representative tab.
8. To close any one of the websites, click on the X for the tab that the website represents.
9. When you are done using the tabs, close the browser. Note that the tabs will disappear when you close the browser window.

SEARCH FASTER IN THE ADDRESS BAR

Enter your search in the address bar that appears either at the top of the page or the middle of the page, depending on how you have your home page organized. You’ll get search suggestions, results from the web, your browsing history, and favorites right on the spot.

THE HUB IS A COLLECTION OF ALL YOUR WEB “THINGS”

Think of the Hub as the place where Microsoft Edge keeps the things you collect on the web. Select **Hub**  (a set of three horizontal **lines** near the upper right corner of the window) to view your **favorites, reading list, browsing history, and current downloads.**

ADD FREQUENTLY USED WEB PAGES TO YOUR FAVORITES

When you find a Web page that you would like to add to your Favorites for quick access later on, follow these steps.

1. Open the Edge browser.
2. Display the page that you would like to store as a Favorite.
3. Click on the **STAR** on the menu bar.
4. Assign a name to the favorite.
5. Click on either **Favorites** or **Favorites Bar.**
6. Favorites that you pin to the Favorites Bar will appear on a bar near the top of the browser window.

7. Click on the Hub tab (three horizontal lines) on the browser's menu bar to view all the webpages in the Favorites list.

FAVORITES BAR

You can activate the “Show the favorites bar” setting to get an always-present toolbar for easier access to your favorite web pages.

1. Open Microsoft Edge.
2. Click on the Menu icon (three horizontal dots near the upper right corner).
3. Click on **Settings** near the bottom of the list.
4. Turn on **show the favorites bar**.

TURN ON AUTOCOMPLETE

From within your Edge browser, AutoComplete makes suggestions in a pull-down menu as you type information into your search bar. If this feature has been disabled in your Edge browser, you will certainly want to turn it back on. Follow these steps to do so:

5. Open Microsoft Edge.
6. Click on the Menu icon (three horizontal dots near the upper right corner).
7. Click on **Settings** near the bottom of the list.
8. Click on **Privacy and security** (look in left column).
9. Turn on the toggle switch to **Show search and site suggestions as I type**.

WHEN WEBSITES CONSTANTLY OPEN VERY SLOWLY IN YOUR BROWSER

Pinpointing the exact reason for sluggish performances from your browser is difficult. However, resetting Edge to its original settings can help clear corruptions that can impact performance.

Resetting Microsoft Edge is not like resetting other browsers, however. Edge is a part of the Windows operating system, and cannot be uninstalled. There are different ways to tackle this problem, but you should try the basic method first.

1. Open the “Settings” menu by clicking the three horizontal dots in the upper right corner of the Edge window and choose “**Settings**.”
2. Move to **Privacy and Security** in the middle column.
3. Under Clear browsing data, click “Choose what to clear” and then click “Show more.” There are a lot of data types here. Select them all and click “Clear.”
Restart your PC and re-open Edge for a clean slate.

THE BROWSER CACHE: WHAT IS IT? HOW DO YOU EMPTY IT? WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO?

The cache exists because of a basic assumption made by browser designers: the Internet is slow. More accurately, your internet *connection* is slower than your computer.

What that means is that it's faster to get something from your hard disk than it is to get it from the Internet.

Browser designers noticed that most web sites had many of the same elements on multiple pages. For example, if you look at a Web page, you may see a logo at the top. It may be at the top of *every* page on the site. So the thinking was, why download the same logo for every page? Why not just download it once and then keep it so we can use it again?

That's what the browser cache is for. The cache is nothing more than a place on your hard disk where the browser keeps things that it downloaded once in case they're needed again.

When you first visit a page on a Website, the browser downloads the logo into the cache, and then displays it on the page you're viewing. For each additional page you visit on that Website, the logo doesn't need to be downloaded again. As long as the same logo is displayed, it's already on your hard disk.

The cache has a size limit. When the cache gets full, the items in it that haven't been used in a while are discarded to make more space. And it's all happening silently and transparently to you. Until something breaks, of course.

EMPTYING THE CACHE

The cache sometimes gets confused. This seems to happen to all browsers and at random and inexplicable times. What you'll see are partially loaded or badly formatted web pages, incomplete pictures, or, in some cases, the wrong picture in the wrong place.

It's not always a caching problem, but because it happens often enough, "clear your browser cache" is often one of the first diagnostic steps you'll hear from techs.

Here's how to empty the cache.

1. Select the ... icon in the top right corner of the browser window.
2. In the settings menu, towards the bottom.
3. Click on Privacy and Security in the center column.

4. Click on **Clear browsing data**.
5. Select **browsing history, Cookies and saved website data, Cached data and files, tabs I've set aside**. After the two are marked click on **clear**.

USE PAGE PREDICTION

Using Page Prediction speeds up browsing by anticipating access to previous websites.

1. Select the ... icon in the top right corner of the browser window.
2. In the settings menu, towards the bottom.
3. Click on Privacy and Security in the center column.
4. Turn on **Use page prediction**.

WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER MORE THAN ONE BROWSER

An Internet browser is your window to the web, where you can find almost anything from the comfort of your own computer. Today, the Internet is widely used for media, research, communication, shopping and entertainment. The better your browser, the more you will see and experience.

Why should you use more than one browser? The main reason is that you will have a backup resource. If one browser fails and breaks down, you will always have another one to back you up. Another big advantage is that when you're trying to access a Web page and it's giving you trouble, you can always test it on another browser. That way, you will be able to see if it's the actual browser, the Web site or if it's some problem with your connection or firewall.