

Google Chrome - Browse in private (incognito mode)

If you don't want Google Chrome to save a record of what you visit and download, you can browse the web in incognito mode.

Open an incognito window

An incognito window looks different from a regular window. The top of an incognito window is gray or blue, depending on your computer or device.

Here's how to open an incognito window:

Exit incognito mode

To get out of incognito mode, you can:

- Click the **X** icon at the corner of the window.
- Use the keyboard shortcut **Alt+F4** (Windows and Linux) or **⌘-Shift-W** (Mac).
- Close the last tab in a window, which also automatically closes the window.

How it works

- **Your browsing history isn't recorded.** The webpages you open and the files you download in incognito mode aren't recorded in your browsing and download histories.
- **Your cookies are deleted.** All new cookies are deleted after you close all incognito windows.
- **You can switch easily between incognito and regular mode.** You can have both incognito mode windows and regular windows open at the same time, and switch between the two.
- **Extensions are disabled.** Your extensions are automatically disabled in incognito windows. This is because Google Chrome does not control how extensions handle your personal data. If you want an extension to show up in incognito windows, select the "Allow in incognito" checkbox for the extension.

What gets saved

Chrome saves updates to bookmarks and general settings.

Chrome will save any changes you make to your bookmarks or general settings while in incognito mode.

Websites may keep a record of your visit.

Browsing in incognito mode only keeps Google Chrome from storing information about the websites that you've visited. The websites that you visit may still have records of your visit. Also, any files saved to your computer or mobile devices will still remain.