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guitoo - Fri, 2015-01-02 11:30

I list few tips to have more privacy and reduce various annoyances during web browsing, using your standard Firefox updated browser.

[Tor Browser](#) [1] or OS like [Tails](#) [2] are probably better choices if you are really looking for advanced anonymisation or privacy.

- Cookie control: [Cookie AutoDelete](#) or [Self Destructing Cookies](#) [3] extension. Verify that Google cookies are fully removed. They are as sticky as chewing gum under a shoe, I had to create a new profile to get rid of their cookies, and explicitly reject cookies from google.com (and the google of your country). Keep cookies for web site you visit frequently and trust
- Advertisements removal: [Ghostery](#) [4] extension. Disable most trackers and cookies. In advanced settings, tick "Delete Flash and Silverlight cookies on exit". Review Ghostery settings regularly. In [this link](#) [5], other options are presented
- Referrer removal: many add-ons are available to avoid being tracked accross web sites, such as [Referrer Switch](#). On some web sites, it needs to be disable especially during the authentication (login) step [6]
- Plugin enumeration removal: to reduce browser finger printing abuse, set in "about:config" the preference name "plugins.enumerable_names" to an empty value. The add-on "[Hide Plugin & Mimetype Identifiers](#) [7]" seems to do the same. Some web sites may complain
- JAVA and Flash Plugin control: in Add-ons menu, Plugins tab, set drop-down to 'Ask to Active' for JAVA, Shockwave Flash (any Shockwave plugin actually), Silverlight plugin, etc. This helps reduce attacks on plugins vulnerabilities and reduces browser finger printing abuse. To check URLs you have allowed plugins 'Allow and Remember', check data in the 'permissions.sqlite' file in your Firefox profile, and execute the query bellow. 'permission' of 1 (or 3 for vulnerable plugins) means it has been allowed.

```
select * from moz_hosts where type like 'plugin%'
```

- User-Agent control: via [User Agent Switcher](#) [8] add-on, adding a new setting "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; rv:56.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/56.0", or any other Firefox version
- Canvas API control: to reduce browser finger printing abuse via the [CanvasBlocker](#) [9] add-on
- Standard Tracking: in Firefox Options, Privacy tab, tracking area, tick "Tell sites that I do not want to be tracked"
- [HTTPS Everywhere](#) [10] to force using SSL when available
- [NoScript](#) [11] is a classic, but unfortunately breaks a lot of visited sites

To evaluate your browser finger print uniqueness, check the brilliant web site [Panoptick](#) [12]. [Privacy Analyzer](#) [13] is an interesting alternative too.

I recommend the [HTTP Request Logger](#) [14] add-on that logs on a local file all URLs accessed by the browser, for example:

```
(none) GET https://duckduckgo.com/?q=test
```

[HttpFox](#) [15] add-on provides more extensive debugging capability via GUI.



Source URL: <http://geckotechnology.com/node/23>

Links:

- [1] <https://www.torproject.org/projects/torbrowser.html>
- [2] <https://tails.boum.org/>
- [3] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/cookie-autodelete>
- [4] <https://www.ghostery.com>
- [5] <https://www.comparitech.com/blog/vpn-privacy/free-anti-tracking-browser-extensions/>
- [6] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/referrer-switch>
- [7] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/happy-bonobo-plugins-mimety>
- [8] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/uaswitcher>
- [9] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/canvasblocker/>
- [10] <https://www.eff.org/am/https-everywhere>
- [11] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/noscript>
- [12] <https://panoptick.eff.org/>
- [13] <https://privacy.net/analyzer/>
- [14] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/http-request-logger/>
- [15] <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/httpfox/>