

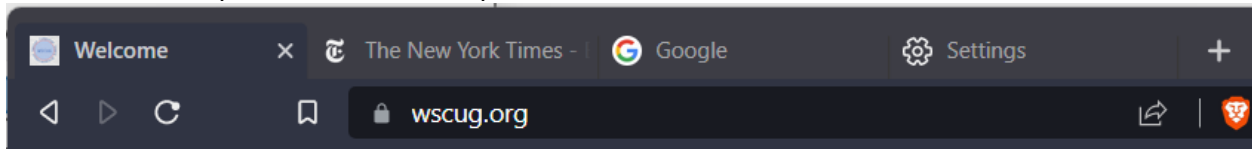
Make the Most of Your Browser

No matter what browser you use (Chrome, Edge, Brave, Firefox, Opera, Duck Duck Go, Safari (Apple), or Vivaldi) there are many things you can do to improve your browsing experience. Here are a few:

Each browser has separate Settings Menu choices, but all of these can be done in any browser. If you can't find it in your browser, you can do a search with the name of your browser and the feature you want.

Tabs

Tabs allow multiple websites to be open at the same time in the address bar.



In this example the open websites include WSCUG.org, NYTimes, Google and browser settings. To open a new tab click the + symbol on the top line. Once you have the new tab either search for what you want to open or enter the website name.

To switch between open tabs just click on the tab that you want to view.

If you wish to rearrange the order of your tabs just double click on the tab you want to move and drag it to where you want it.

Start Tabs

If you want to open the same tabs each time you start browsing, go to the settings for your browser. Look for something like on startup, start or home. Here you can set the tabs to open when you open your browser. If you have the tabs you want, in the order you want, just select use current. The next time you open your browser all of the tabs will open.

Bookmarks Bar

The Bookmarks Bar is a convenient way to find frequently used web sites. If your bookmark bar isn't visible use Ctrl + Shift + b to show or hide the Bookmarks bar. When the bookmark bar is visible click on the lock symbol in front of the web address and drag it to where you want it on the bookmarks bar. If you wish to move it to another location just drag and drop it along the bookmark bar to the desired position.

To remove a bookmark, right click it and select delete.

If you would like to change the name of your bookmark, right click it and select edit. Change the name to whatever you want such as Comcast Mail could become just Mail. Shorter names allow you to see more bookmarks on the bar. Once you exceed the available space, the furthest right bookmark will disappear and only be available from your bookmarks list.

History

You had a website available a few hours ago that took 6 links to find and you want to go back to it but you can't remember it's exact name or how you got to it. The answer is history. Click the three dots, three bars or gear symbol in your browser to bring up your tools and click on

history. This will show you a short list of recent pages but if you click on history at the top of the list it will show you several days' worth of sites you have been to where you can find the one you are looking for.

If you just closed a website but didn't mean to you can type Ctrl + Shift + t to open a previously closed tab. You can hit it multiple times to open multiple closed tabs in the order you closed them.

Navigation

Web pages are usually more than a single screen in size. There are several ways to navigate through the site. On the right side of the screen is your scroll bar. Clicking the up or down arrows at the top or bottom of the screen will move your screen a few lines up or down. Clicking in the scroll bar above or below the dark location bar will move you about one screen up or down one screen's worth.

You can also use your space bar to move. Tapping the space bar will move you down one screen or tapping the space bar while holding down the shift key will move you up one screen.

If you have used links to go from one page to another you can go back to the previous page by hitting the left arrow key on the top left of your screen. To return to the page you went back from hit the right arrow key. If you have linked multiple pages and want to go back farther double click and hold the left or right arrow, This will give you a list of pages you have opened in that tab.

Search Engine

A search engine is the tool you use to find things on the web. You type in a search query and search and it will give you hundreds of thousands of possible matches. The most used search engine is Google but there are other search engines available which may provide a preferable service for you. Yahoo is a long time search engine and it operates similar to Google. Some of the newer search engines are more privacy focused such as Duck Duck Go, Brave and Quant. Bing, the search engine provided with the Microsoft browser Edge is not as privacy focused but if you have Windows 11 it is now adding Chat GPT service to allow you to have an interactive session.

Other tips

If you want to go to a .com page that you know the name of you can just type the name and hit CTRL + enter to automatically add <https://www.website.com> where *website* is the name you typed. This only works with .com sites, not .org or anything else.

CTRL + t opens a new tab.

Ctrl + tab switches you to the tab on the right of the current active one (and loops around).

CTRL and +: Make page bigger.

CTRL and -: Make page smaller.