

PRINTABLE GUIDE

Clear a browser cache without deleting everything

Cache holds temporary website files. Clearing it may fix stale content, but not every slowdown. Cookies, history and passwords are separate choices; review every selected category.

Google Chrome on a computer | 2 min read | 5 steps

Before you start

- ☐ Any unsaved web forms saved or copied
- ☐ The name of the website causing trouble

1. Try a simpler check first

Reload the affected page, then try another website. If every website is slow, investigate the internet connection. Close extra tabs you no longer need and restart Chrome before deciding that cached files are the cause.

- ☐ Done this step

2. Open the cleanup controls

In Chrome on a computer, open the three-dot menu and choose Delete browsing data. If wording differs, search Chrome settings for browsing data. Other browsers have their own menus and official instructions.

- ☐ Done this step

3. Select only what you intend

Choose Cached images and files. Leave Cookies and other site data, browsing history, passwords and other categories unchecked unless you deliberately want to remove them. Changing cookies can sign you out of websites.

☐ Done this step

4. Choose a time range

Start with a time range that includes when the trouble began. Check the selections again, then choose Delete data. The first visit afterwards may load more slowly because Chrome needs to fetch fresh files.

☐ Done this step

5. Retest the same page

Return to the page and reload it. If the problem remains, check the site's help and your browser updates. Repeatedly clearing everything is unlikely to solve a server fault, a failing extension or poor Wi-Fi.

☐ Done this step

Try it for yourself

Open the cleanup window and identify the cache checkbox before deciding to delete.

☐ I tried the task.

My notes

Will this delete downloaded documents?

Deleting Chrome's download history removes its list, not the downloaded files themselves. Cache is a different category from either.

Official help and the online guide

Delete selected Chrome browsing data -

<https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/2392709/clear-browsing-data-computer?hl=en-GB>

Read online: <https://plaintechguides.com/guides/clear-browser-cache-selectively/>