Firefox 4^{beta}

Reviewer's Guide

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1. About Mozilla

Mozilla is a global community of people creating a better Internet. We build public benefit into the Internet by creating free, open source products and technologies that improve the online experience for people everywhere. We work in the open under the umbrella of the nonprofit Mozilla Foundation. Everything we create is a public asset available for others to use, adapt and improve.

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2. What's New in Firefox 4 Beta:

A New Look

Firefox 4 Beta includes an updated interface for all platforms that's sleeker and easier to use.





Tabs on Top

Tabs are given top visual priority for more efficient and intuitive browsing.

Switch-to-Tab

Navigate more easily by switching to open tabs from your Awesome Bar.



All your menu items are in a single button for easy access and reduced clutter.







Fasten your Seatbelts

Firefox 4 Beta contains huge performance enhancements, including our brand new JägerMonkey JavaScript engine. From faster start up times and graphics rendering to improved page load speed, you'll notice the difference instantly.



Tests performed on a Dell Optiplex 760 (Intel Core2 Duo). Windows 7 Professional.



3. Features

Sync

Synchronize your settings, passwords, bookmarks, history, open tabs and other customizations across multiple devices so you can take Firefox with you wherever you go. <u>Watch the video</u>.

Organize your Tabs

Reclaim your browser from tab clutter! Easily drag and drop your tabs into manageable groups that you can organize, name and arrange in a fun and visual way. <u>Watch the video</u>.





App Tabs

Take sites you always keep open—like Web mail—off your tab bar and give them a permanent home in your browser.

New Add-Ons Manager

An easier way to manage your add-ons and discover new options for personalizing your browsing.







WebM and HD Video

As pioneers of HTML5 video standards, Firefox also supports the <u>WebM</u> format so you can watch open HD quality video.

Protecting Your Privacy

Firefox puts your privacy first, fixing flaws in some web standards that allow bad guys to snoop around and expose your browser history.







4. Under the Hood

HTML5 Support

A new HTML5 parser and full support for web video, audio, drag & drop, and file handling means Firefox 4 is ready to run the best web apps of both today and tomorrow.

Fasten your Seatbelts

Firefox 4 now includes major performance enhancements, including our brand new JagerMonkey JavaScript engine. From faster start up times and graphics rendering to improved page load speed, you'll notice the difference instantly.

3D on the Web

WebGL brings 3D graphics to Firefox, opening the door for developers to create vivid games and new kinds of visualizations and experiences for the Web.

Compartments

Firefox can now better mange JavaScript objects with Compartments, offering improved cache utilization and garbage collection mechanisms for better security, memory management and overall performance.

Fabulous Fonts

Firefox 4's OpenType font features gives designers and developers more control over a variety of font features—like kerning or ligatures—to create gorgeous websites.

Upgrading Forms

Firefox integrated Form features like list attributes and HTML5 validation provide the tools to make annoying form implementation development a thing of the past.

SVG as Images

SVG files can now be used as images and backgrounds in Firefox, meaning that developers and designers can have stunning, performance-conscious websites with lighter, resolution-independent image files.

Stylin' Pages with CSS3

Support for new CSS₃ features like Transitions and Transformations makes it easy to add elegant animations to Web pages. Learn more.

Multitouch Support (Windows)

Firefox now integrates multi-touch support for Windows 7, enabling you to interact with your browser in a whole new way.

Audio API

Firefox is changing the way media is integrated on the web: exposing the raw audio data housed within the <video> and <audio> elements in HTML5 makes it easy for developers to use JS to read and write audio data.

Retained layers

Experience super fast scrolling on complex web pages. Simply awesome.



Full Hardware Acceleration

Experience super-fast graphics acceleration with Direct2D and Direct3D on Windows and OpenGL on Mac, now enabled by default, on all supported hardware.

HSTS

Sites can now keep attackers from intercepting sensitive data during the log-in process by telling Firefox to automatically establish secure connections to their servers.

New JS Values

Changes to the C++ representation of Java Script values allow Firefox to execute heavy, numeric code more efficiently, resulting in cleaner graphics and a better browsing experience.

XPCOM

Firefox starts up even faster thanks to XPCOM module improvements that pave the way to a better extensions framework.

Web Console

With this experimental analysis tool for modern sites, Firefox allows you to peek under the hood of dynamic web pages.

JetPack SDK (Making Add-On Development Easier)

Add-Ons can be installed without restarting the browser, and can be developed more easily using the new JetPack SDK and js-ctypes.

Crash Protection

Firefox provides uninterrupted browsing for Windows, Linux, and now Mac when there is a crash in the Adobe Flash, Apple Quicktime or Microsoft Silverlight plugins. If one of these commonly-used plugins crashes or freezes, it won't affect the rest of Firefox. Instead, you can simply reload the page to restart the plugin and try again. Learn more about plugins.

