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Developer Adblock Plus, long the most popular Firefox extension (both officially and around these parts), has been claiming for some time that it hasn't been all that interested in porting its add-on to Chrome. But that all changed, according to TechCrunch, and the developer teamed up to expand AdThwart's expansion into a full-fledged Adblock Plus for Chrome (and then, probably after that, Safari and Opera ports). (TechCrunch) Google Chrome: Adblock Plus has long been a great extension for toning down ad-infected sites, and the newest version can even block in video ads, so you don't have to wait around to watch YouTube. The video lock is not yet available in the stable version of Adblock Plus, but now you can take the experimental version to try it out. Before installing, you must go to the chrome://flags turn on the APIs-1500s flag and the API Experimental Extension. Then scroll to the bottom of the page and hit Relaunch Chrome. Once the extension is resumed, the extension should be installed as normal. Unfortunately, since the add-on is still in the experimental stage, it doesn't work on every video player - in fact, at this point, it seems that it only works on YouTube (Hulu, CBS, NBC, and other television players, unfortunately, were immune). Hopefully, however, as they continue to tweak the new version, it will be able to block other video players as well. Adblock Plus is a free download for Google Chrome. The Firefox version of Adblock Plus doesn't have this feature, but you can install an Adblock Video extension to block built-in ads in the video. Firefox: AdBlock Video is a simple Firefox extension that will play your videos commercially for free. Read moreAdblock Plus Development Builds via the Adblock Plus blog you can contact Whitson Gordon, author of this post, on whitson@lifehacker.com. You can also find it on Twitter, Facebook, and lurking around our #tips page. Google has published official documentation detailing its plans to expand its Chrome beta browser. When we asked you a few months ago whether Chrome with extensions would convince you to switch, 28% said yes, while a whopping 22% of you said that as long as the Adblock extension never reached Chrome, you wouldn't use it. The previous ad should have been the first group, but if you were in the Adblock crowd, you'd be happy to know that one of the highlights for Google Chrome extensions is content filtering, including Adblock, Flashblock, Privacy Control, and Parental Control. It looks like Google is moving in the right direction if they want to snag earlier adopters. Now we just See more progress for the Mac and Linux crowd. Earlier today we learned that Google Chrome will officially support add-ons and scripts like... Read moreExtensions (cNET developer documentation) How shocking as it may seem, there is no native way of way websites on Chrome. Why Google hasn't come up with a solution outside of us, but there are several ways to keep computers from accessing websites. Here's a quick guide that will show you how to block websites on Chrome.Block sites on Chrome using extensionsBlock Site One Solution uses the Block site. With Block Site you can blacklist adult-oriented pages as well as selectively select sites that you don't want to access. You can even block content by keywords or at certain times. The extension can sync with mobile devices and keep your entire family's devices safe. Although Block Site is not a proof of a fool, settings can be password protected and you can set alerts by email when someone tries to delete it. A little security is always welcome! After adding an extension, just go to the website that you want to block and tap the icon in the top right corner of Chrome. Choose To Block this site and you should no longer have access to this page. You can manually edit the list by moving to the extension icon and then select the Change list of blocked sites. UblocklistUblocklist works as a replacement for Google's own personal block list, which is currently discontinued. Ublocklist doesn't exactly block websites, it just stops them from showing up in Google Search. Add an extension to Chrome, and you'll see a Ublocklist icon that appears in the top right corner of the browser. You can go to the website that you want to block, click the icon, and click OK to blacklist the URL. In addition, you can manually edit the list by clicking the right button on the Ublocklist icon and going into the settings. Blocking websites on Chrome by editing file hosts (Windows)Chrome extensions work perfectly, but they won't stop a well-versed computer user from accessing what they want. Those who want to make it difficult for people to access the web page can tinker with the Host file. It sounds like a complicated thing, but you definitely don't need to learn coding to do it. It's pretty simple if you follow these instructions. Open the File Explorer folder. Use the address bar to go to C: WindowsSystem32 drivers, etc. to get the Hosts file using Notepad.Go at the bottom and under the type of signs 127.0.0.1 and then the website you want to block (without www). Example: 127.0.0.1 AndroidAuthorityCompetitor.com. Close the file and save. Google needs to get a job on the native site blocker, but these methods should keep your browsing safe until then. Are there any other solutions to blocking the website you guys like using? READ ALSO: Source: Joe Maring/Android Central Be easy to take our phones for granted, but when you step back and think about it, it's absolutely wonderful what they are capable of. Even one app, such as Google Chrome, puts the entire Internet in your pocket for search and browsing whenever you you You can do a lot with Google Chrome, from reading news, checking Twitter, and shopping online. All of these actions require data, however, and if you're trying to reduce the amount of mobile data that you use for a month, you may find that Chrome eats up a lot. Aside from simply monitoring how much you're on it, Google Chrome has a built-in tool that will help you use as little data as possible when using the app. Even better, turning it on takes only a few seconds. If you're willing to start using less data in Google Chrome on your Android phone, you need to include something called Lite mode. Here are the steps to get you there. Open Google Chrome on your Android phone. Click on the three points in the top right corner. Click Settings. Source: Joe Maring/ Android Central Scroll down to the bottom of the page. Click Lite mode. Tap the switch to turn it on. Source: Joe Maring/Android Central As stated in the screenshot above: Google says that Lite mode uses up to 60% less data compared to using the app with the off, which is a significant savings rate. However, it's worth bearing in mind that Lite mode doesn't work if you're looking at Incognito tabs. Once Lite mode is enabled, Google makes it very easy to see exactly how much data you saved using the feature. At any time, tap three dots in the top right corner of Chrome. You'll see a new section at the bottom of the pop-up list showing how much data you've saved, and clicking on it will take you to Lite settings, where you can see more information about how Lite mode works in the background. Source: Joe Maring/Android Central Lite mode won't save you data on every website you visit, but seeing as it doesn't have a negative impact on your browsing experience, you might as well keep it on all the time and watch savings pile up. What unlimited plan should you buy in 2020: ATT, Sprint, T-Mobile or Verizon? We can earn commissions for purchases using our links. Learn more. Most Android devices come pre-loaded with Google Chrome. This is also a good thing, since Chrome is the fastest Android browser and custom tabs make it an easy browser to open links from third-party apps. Unlike its desktop counterpart, mobile Chrome has no extensions to make it better than what it is. But you'd be surprised to learn that there are a lot of built-in features that can already make it better. Changing the font to your preferred size is all vision different. The internet is mostly about reading text and you want a clear, legible experience. Chrome has a setting that lets you set how big the font is on any will look like you can always read it without straining your eyes. Go to the menu for the options, where you'll find this option of scaling the text: As the instructions say, just drag the slider around so that the text text great you want it to be. Chrome will now apply this setting to all sites, making them text more, so it's right for your eyes. This is another way to make Android phones easier for the elderly. Include Increase Everywhere Many mobile sites disable the ability to zoom in, especially on images. It can be a little annoying at times. If you can do it on your desktop, why not on your mobile phone? Well, one hidden setting allows this too. Go to the menu for the availability settings and check the box next to Force Enable Boost. Now you can enlarge any page you're browsing, whether it supports it or not. As with all smartphones, use a simple gesture to pinch with two fingers to zoom in and out. Accelerate Chrome, reduce data One of the many ways to reduce the use of data on Android through Chrome embedded data Saver technologies. What many don't know, however, is that this feature also makes browsing the Internet faster. Go to the data saver menu and turn on the switch. This technology basically puts the Google server between the site you access and your Android device. Thus, the site sends its data to the Google server, where Google crunches it down and then sends it to your phone. It's all instant and actually faster. You see, google's data compression makes a smart choice, like converting all images into a WebP file format that is easier than others. It also minimizes the needs of pages such as Javascript or CSS, and eliminates some bad coding to make the page more efficient. Here's a full explanation for more details. The end result is that the page loads faster for you, while keeping the data too. A quick search with a built-in search bar When you read something online and come across a word or phrase you don't know what you're doing? Choose and copy it, open a new tab, insert it, search, see the result, go back to your article. Or maybe you'll be looking for it on Merriam-Webster's dictionary app. Chrome tries to make this process shorter with Touch to Search. With this feature, you can click any word and Google will instantly search for it. A small bar at the bottom of the page shows this search. Drag the bar halfway to see the results, which is usually enough if you want to check the definition or see a photo of the term. You can browse in this small panel, or even make the panel bigger if you want, but it's probably more than you need. For a quick search, Touch to Search is perfect. To turn it on, go to the menu of qgt; privacy settings qgt; to search for and enable it. Swipe Address Bar for Switch tabs is one of those tricks that an amazing number of people don't know but are excited about when they see it in action. This will revolutionize the use of Chrome. Let's say you have a few tabs open and you want to go to the previous one. Usually you press the tab button by flicking through them and click on the right tab. Instead, Chrome has gesture support to spill tabs directly. When you look at any page and want to go to the previous tab, just swipe right on the address page. If you want to move to the next tab, swipe left on the address rack. This is the easiest trick, but it has a huge impact on how you go about your daily browsing on Chrome. Much like the above gesture trick, you can also reduce the number of times you click when opening a new tab or incognito tab (which is useful for more than just porn). Again, it's a small trick, but the more you use it, the faster you get when doing tasks with Chrome. Think of these gestures as the equivalent of knowing keyboard shortcuts on your desktop. Don't raise your finger when you press the Menu button. Instead, keeping it pressed, just drag it on the option you want, like opening a new tab incognito. Let it go to this option to complete the task. Simple, isn't it? Once your muscle memory for these tasks builds up, you will notice a remarkable increase in how fast you browse the web. Browse your local files as a MakeUseOf reader, we know that you probably have one of the best free Android file managers already installed on your device. But when someone asks you for help with their phone, they can't have a researcher. Well, Chrome can work like one. Simply enter file://sdcard (no quotes) in the address rack and click Go or Enter on the keyboard to open a simple explorer window of all your folders and files. It's a good, no-set solution to find something on the phone. One caveat though: You can't install locally stored APKs through this. Of all these, I believe everyone should allow Touch to search and start using gestures, as this will dramatically change the way you use Chrome and make your browsing much faster. We also have a list of basic Chrome for Android flags to improve the browser in different ways. Do you have a cool Chrome trick that makes the browser better? What do you think of the above tricks? Share with us in the comments! 3 Ways Social Media makes society more divided there are many ways in which social media unites us, but it can also fuel divisions in society. Related Topics Android Browsers Google Chrome Android Setting About Author Mihir Patkar (1232 Articles Published) Read more from Mihir Patkar Patkar

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