

# EXTENSION DEVELOPMENT FOR **CHROME**

# PREREQUISITES

- Terminal
- HTML / CSS
- JavaScript
- Problem-solving \*

# WHAT IS AN EXTENSION?

At the basic level, a Chrome extension is just some HTML, CSS and JavaScript that allows you to add functionality to Chrome via the JavaScript APIs it exposes.

# WHAT IS AN EXTENSION?

Another way to think about it: an extension is as a web page hosted within Chrome that can access some additional APIs.

# BROWSER ACTIONS

One basic type of Chrome extension is called a *Browser Action*. This kind of extension add a button to the Chrome toolbar that will show an HTML page when clicked and optionally execute some JavaScript.

# BASIC EXTENSION FUNCTIONALITY

- Add a button
- Modify pages
- Request resources
- Do stuff in background

# HACKING THE BROWSER

One basic type of Chrome extension task is the *Browser Action*. An example is adding a button to the Chrome toolbar. When clicked, the button will show an HTML/CSS page and optionally execute some JavaScript.

# CONTENT-SCRIPTS

Another common part of an extension is called a *Content-Script*. This refers to a bit of JavaScript that is *injected* into some (or all) pages that Chrome loads



# BACKGROUND PAGE

Another common part of an extension is called the *background page*. This refers to a webpage (usually with JavaScript) that is running in the background, invisible to the user

# DOCUMENTATION

<https://developer.chrome.com/extensions>



# OUR FIRST EXTENSION

Lets dive in! For this first example we will simply add a button to the toolbar that loads some info about the current page. To start, we need a folder that will hold our extension resources. Lets call it 'Example1'...

# MANIFEST.JSON

Every Chrome extensions require a manifest file. The manifest tells Chrome everything it needs to know to properly load the extension.

So lets create a `manifest.json` file in the folder we created. We can leave it blank for now.

# EXTENSION ICON

Next lets grab a simple icon for our extension

This should be 19x19 .png file called `icon.png`. If you don't have one, just do a web search for "19x19 icon" and pick one to test with.

# POPUP HTML

Next we'll need an HTML page to show when our icon is pressed, so lets add a `popup.html` file and a `popup.js` file in our folder.



Now lets add some code.  
You can do find all the code  
for this workshop at:

<https://github.com/dhowe/BrowserHacking>

To grab them with git, open  
your terminal and do:

```
$ git clone git@github.com:dhowe/BrowserHacking.git
```



Now open up `manifest.json` and enter the following code:

```
{
  "manifest_version": 2,

  "name": "SimpleButton",
  "description": "Adds a button to chrome",
  "version": "1.0",

  "browser_action": {
    "default_icon": "icon.png",
    "default_popup": "popup.html"
  },
  "permissions": [
    "activeTab"
  ]
}
```

# PERMISSIONS

Note the *permissions* section where we ask to access the *activeTab*. This is required in order to enable us to get the URL of the current tab to pass on to our code.

Many of the APIs Chrome APIs require us to specify whatever permissions you require in the manifest.

```
{  
    ...  
    "permissions": [  
        "activeTab"  
    ]  
}
```

Now lets add some very simple  
code to our `popup.html`

```
<!doctype html>


<html>

  <head>
    <title>Great Firewall Check</title>
    <script src="popup.js"></script>
  </head>

  <body>
    <h1>Great Firewall Check</h1>
    <button id="button1">Check this page now!</button>
  </body>

</html>
```

Note that we include our `popup.js` file



```
<!doctype html>

<html>

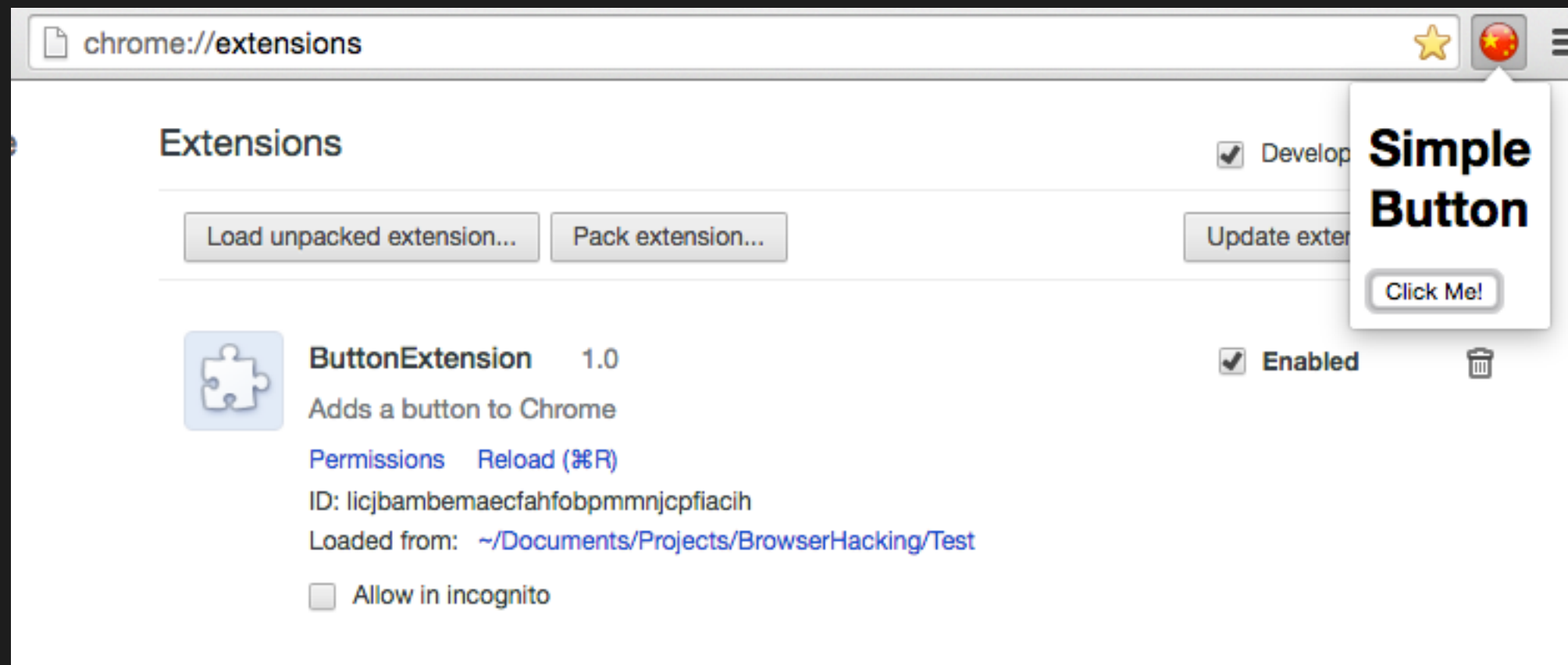
  <head>
    <title>Great Firewall Check</title>

    <script src="popup.js"></script>
  </head>

  <body>
    <h1>Great Firewall Check</h1>
    <button id="button1">Check this page now!</button>
  </body>

</html>
```

Ok, lets test what we have so far ...

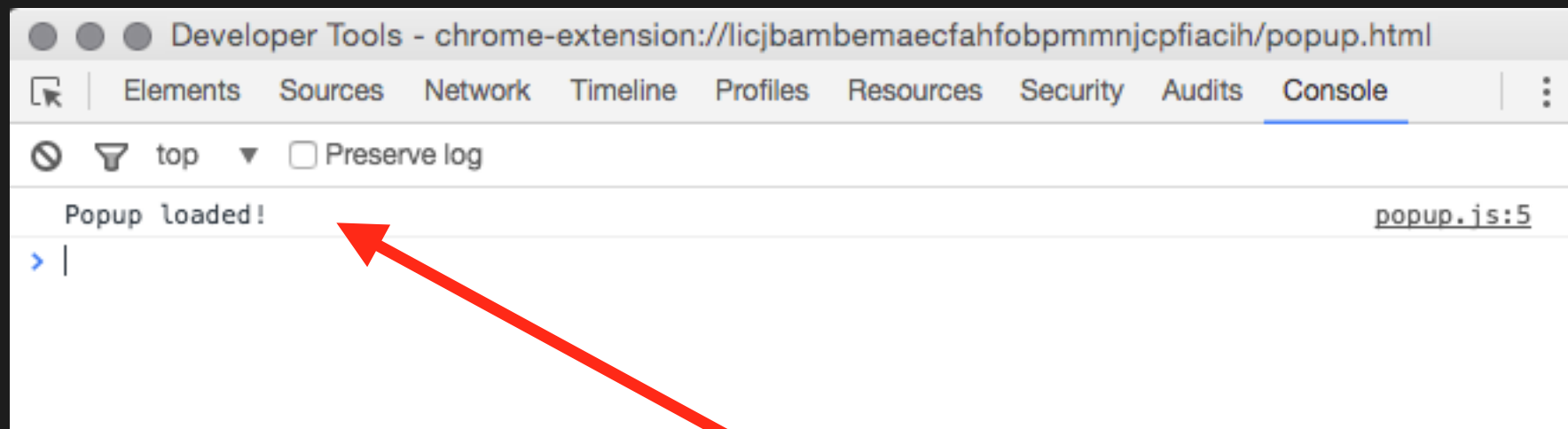
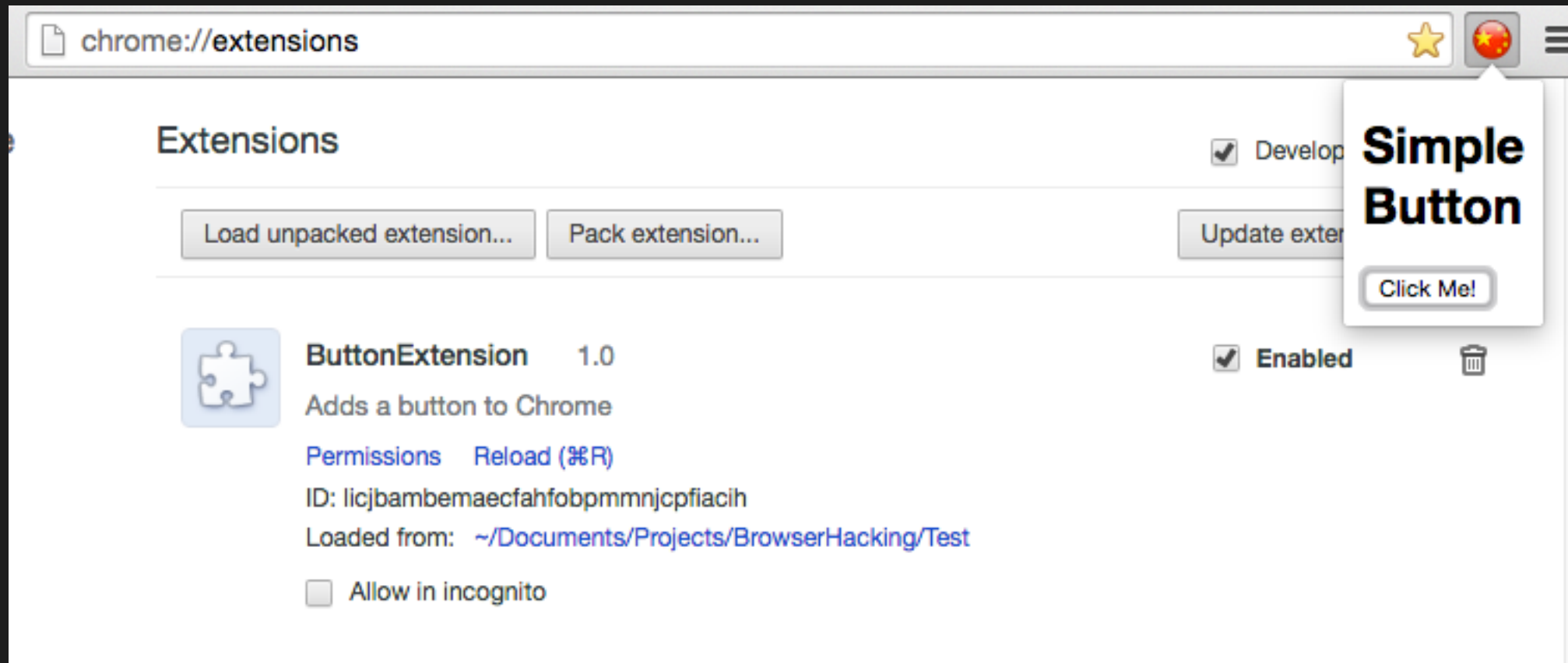


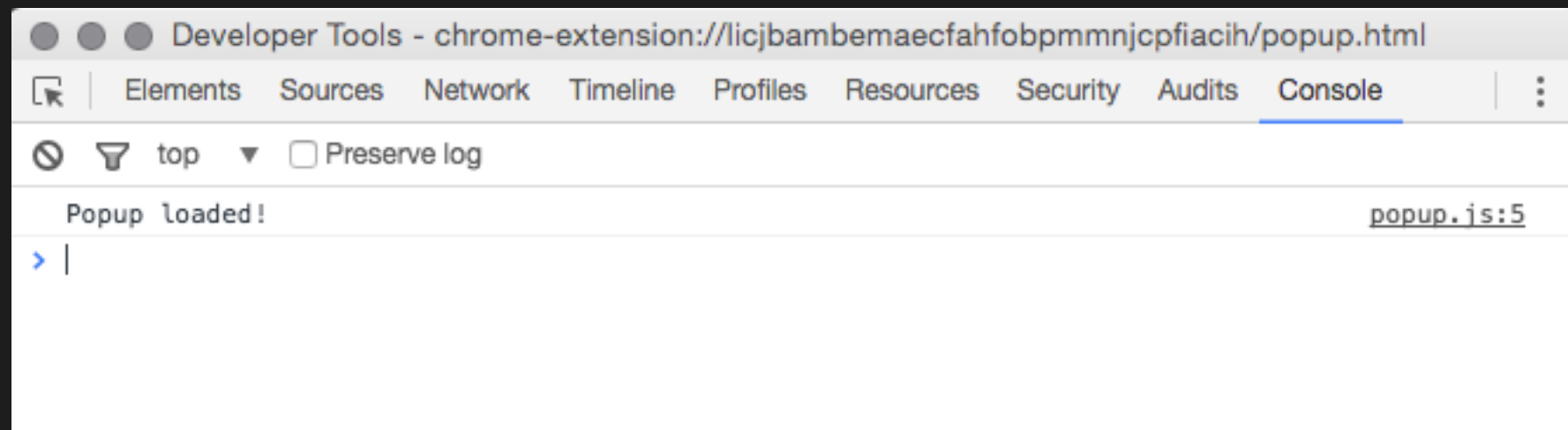
Now for `popup.js` ...

```
// called when our popup is loaded  
document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function () {  
    console.log("Popup loaded!");  
});
```



Ok, lets test what we have so far ...





Use the Browser's built-in tools



Now let's do something useful



Now back to `popup.js` ...

When we click our button, lets load  
<http://www.greatfirewallchina.org/>  
into our popup window...

See code in `BrowserHacking::Example1`

```
1
2 // called when our popup is loaded
3 document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function () {
4
5     // select our button elements
6     var button = document.getElementById('button1');
7
8     // add a listener for button clicks
9     button.addEventListener('click', function () {
10
11         // now get the active chrome tab
12         chrome.tabs.getSelected(null, function (tab) {
13
14             // if not, create a new iframe for our content
15             iframe = document.createElement('iframe');
16             iframe.setAttribute('width', '800px');
17             iframe.setAttribute('height', '600px');
18             iframe.setAttribute('frameborder', '0');
19
20             // set its URL to be the page we want
21             iframe.setAttribute('src', 'http://www.greatfirewallofchina.org');
22
23             // and add it to the document
24             document.body.appendChild(iframe);
25         });
26
27     }, false);
28
29 }, false);
30
```

So this is OK, but what we really want is to automatically check *the current page*...

We can do this via the `chrome.tabs` API

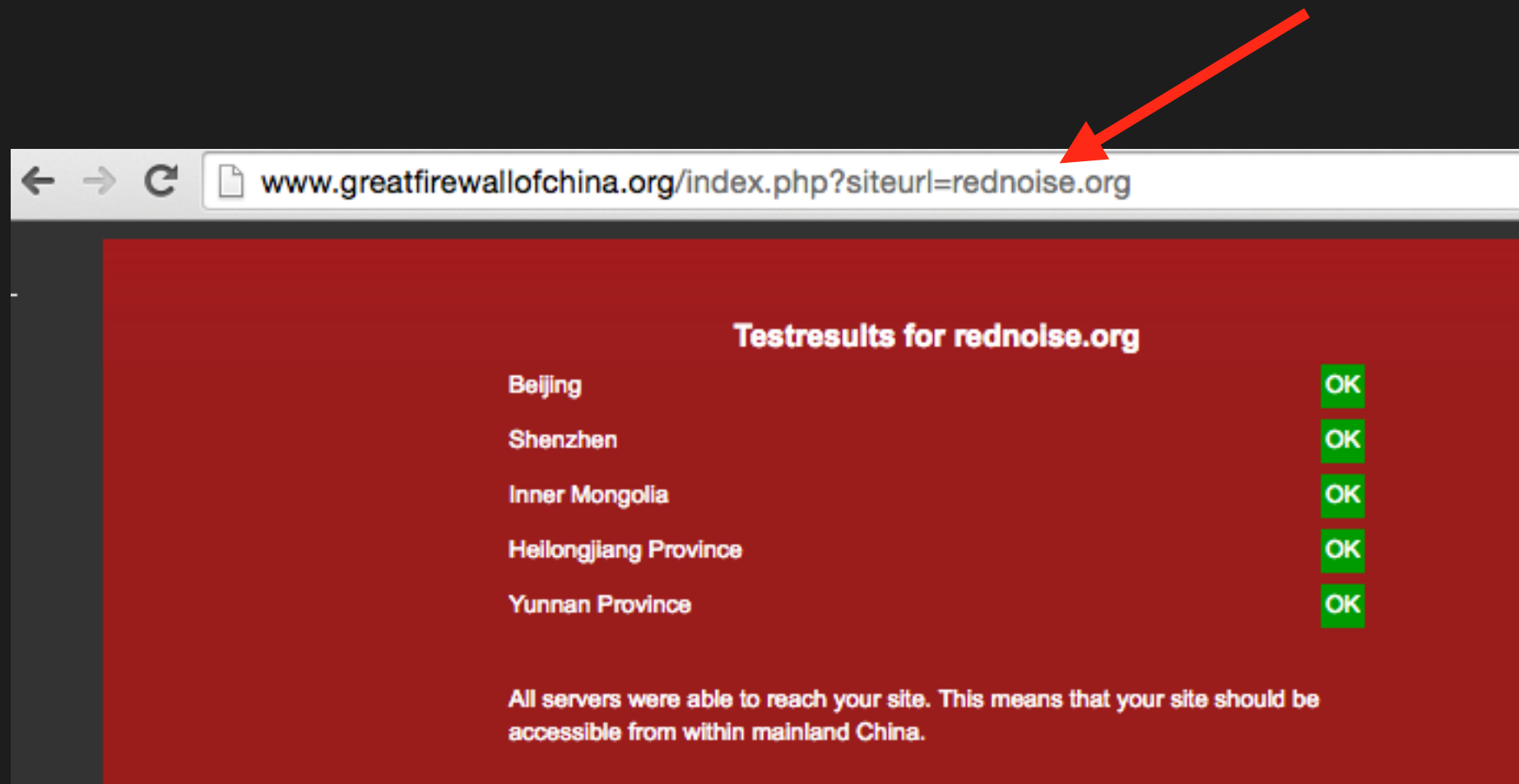
```
chrome.tabs.getSelected(null, function(tab) {  
    console.log(tab.url);  
});
```

<https://developer.chrome.com/extensions/tabs>

Now that we have the current tab's URL,  
lets take a look at how the site works...



Now that we have the current tab's URL,  
lets take a look at how the site works...



You can see this all together in *Example 2+3*

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the Facebook homepage. The browser's address bar displays <https://www.facebook.com>. The Facebook logo and the text "Facebook helps you connect and share with people in your life." are visible. A world map with orange user avatars and dashed lines connecting them is shown. A dark overlay titled "Great Firewall Checker" is positioned on the right side of the page. It displays test results for [www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/) from various locations in mainland China, all of which failed. The overlay also includes a summary statement and a power attribution to ViewDNS.info.

facebook

Facebook helps you connect and share with people in your life.

Great Firewall Checker

Testresults for [www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/)

Beijing	FAIL
Shenzhen	FAIL
Inner Mongolia	FAIL
Heilongjiang Province	FAIL
Yunnan Province	FAIL

No servers were able to reach your site. This means that your site is most likely NOT accessible from within mainland China.

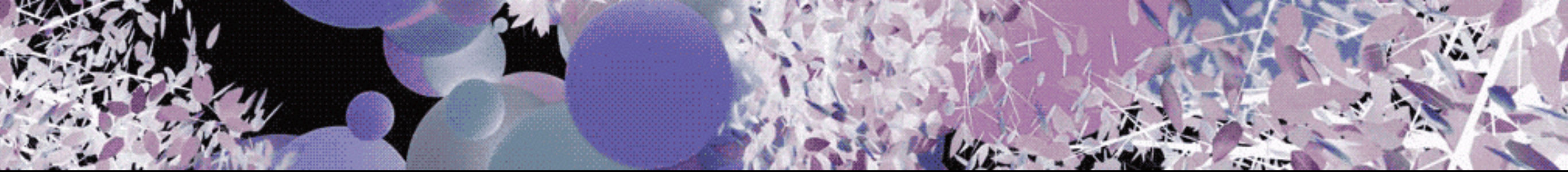
Powered by [ViewDNS.info](https://viewdns.info)

New password

Birthday

Day ▾ Month ▾ Year ▾ [Why do I need to date of birth?](#)

☐ Female ☐ Male



# FIN PARTIE I

next: content-scripts



# CONTENT-SCRIPTS

Earlier I mentioned a common extension task was to inject code into some (or all) web pages that the user visits.  
We can do this with *Content-Scripts*.

# CONTENT-SCRIPTS

A content script is simply a JavaScript file that runs in the context of a web page.

This means that a content script can interact with web pages that the browser visits. Not every JavaScript file in a Chrome extension can do this; we'll see why later...

# CONTENT-SCRIPTS

Lets add a content-script to  
our example called `content.js`

And we need to list it in our manifest

```
"content_scripts": [  
  {  
    "matches": [  
      "<all_urls>"  
    ],  
    "js": ["content.js"]  
  }  
]
```

Example4

```
"content_scripts": [  
  {  
    "matches": [  
      "<all_urls>"  
    ],  
    "js": ["content.js"]  
  }  
]
```

This tells Chrome to inject `content.js` into every page we visit using the special `<all_urls>` URL pattern.

Note: if we want to inject the script on only some pages, we can use match patterns. Here are a few examples of values for "matches":

```
["https://mail.google.com/*", "http://mail.google.com/*"]
```

injects our script into HTTPS and HTTP Gmail.

If we have `/` at the end instead of `/*`, it matches the URLs exactly, and so would only inject into `https://mail.google.com/`, not `https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox`. Usually that isn't what you want.

# CONTENT-SCRIPTS

so lets add some test code to `content.js`

```
// content.js  
alert("Hello from: "+window.location.href);
```

# CONTENT-SCRIPTS

Sometimes its useful to inject jQuery into the page:

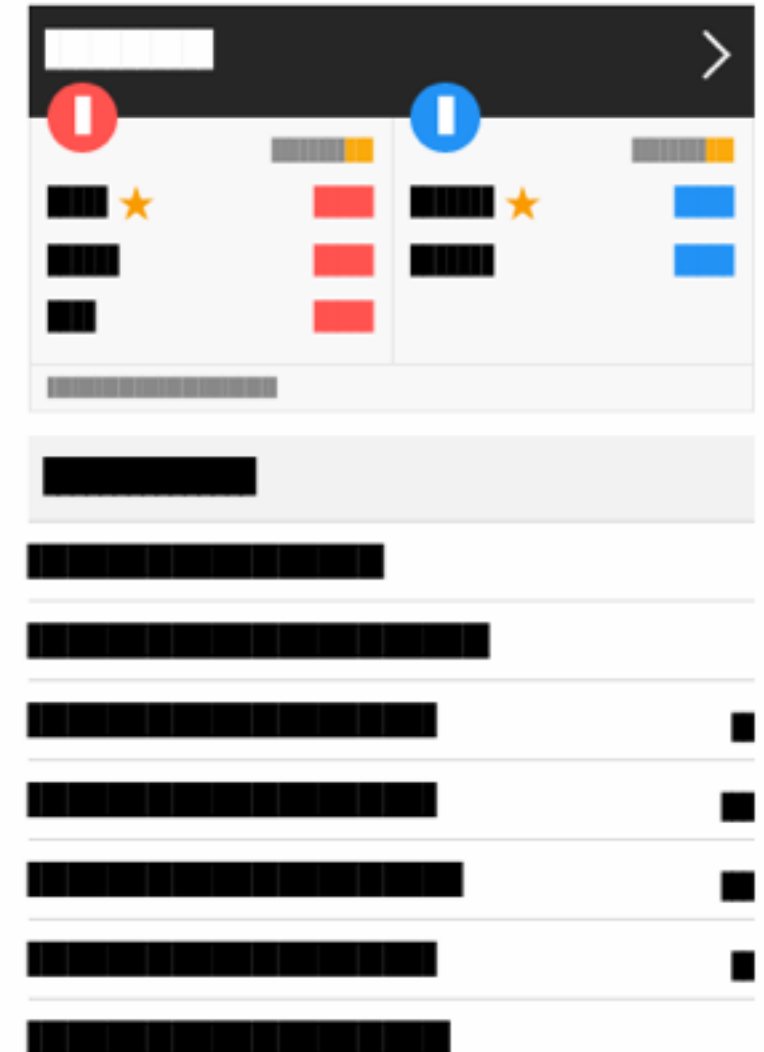
```
"content_scripts": [  
  {  
    "matches": [  
      "<all_urls>"  
    ],  
    "js": ["jquery-2.2.3.js", "content.js"]  
  }  
]
```

Example4

So now that we have jQuery, lets add some simple code in `content.js` to grab the first link on each page and print it to the console.

```
// content.js  
  
var firstHref = $("a[href^='http']").eq(0).attr("href");  
  
console.log(firstHref);
```

Ok, now lets try something more useful...





# STEP-BY-STEP

- Download a `.woff` font file into a new `fonts` folder
- Use our content-script to *inject* its CSS into the page
- Then *apply* the font to our elements (jQuery)



# STEP-BY-STEP

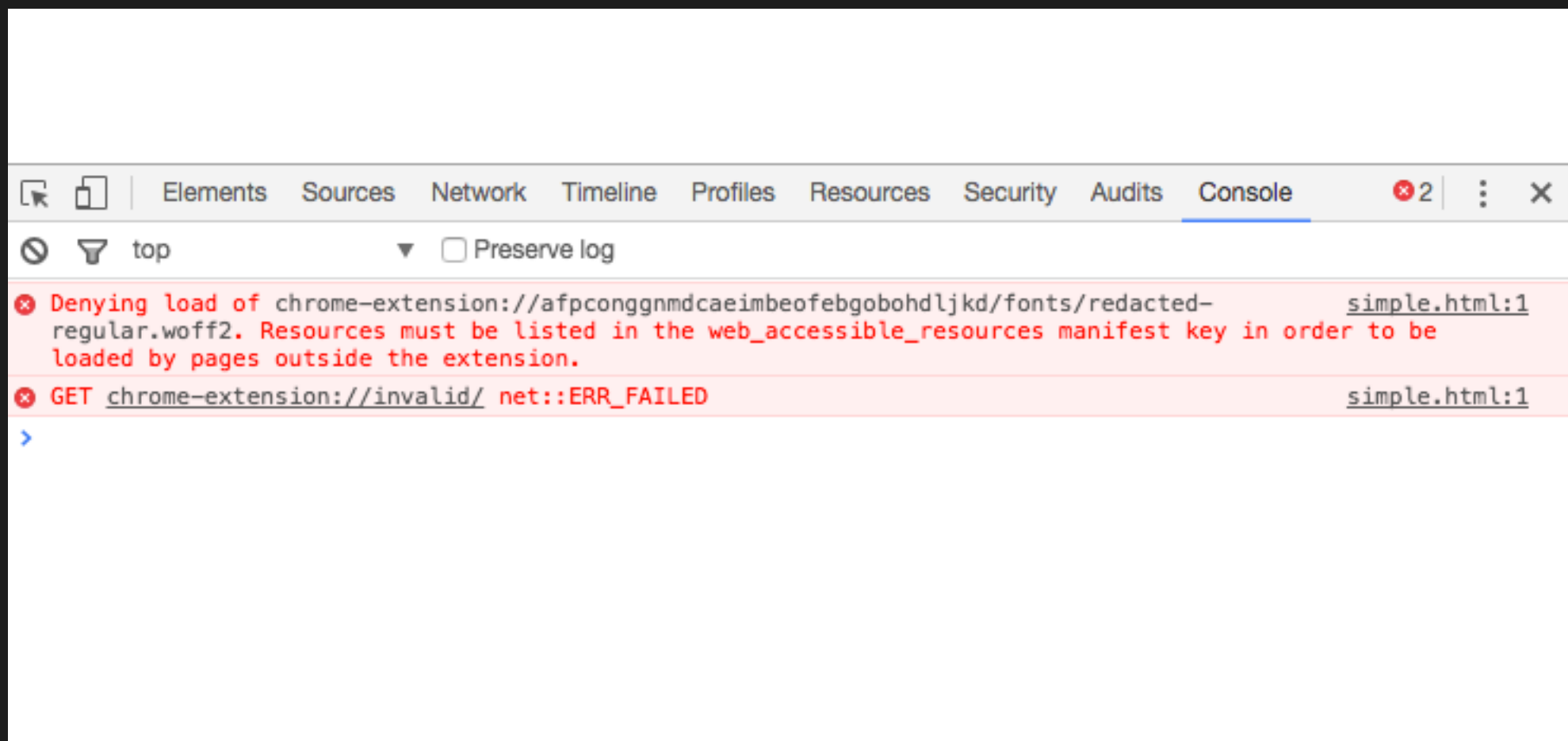
content.js

×

```
1 // content.js
2
3 // Create the text for the CSS we need for our font
4 var fontFace = '@font-face { font-family: Redacted; src: url("'" +
5     chrome.extension.getURL('fonts/redacted-regular.woff') + '"); }';
6
7 // Create a style tag for our CSS and inject it into the page
8 $("
```

# STEP-BY-STEP

But wait, we have a problem...



# CONTENT-SCRIPTS


We need to list the fonts in our manifest

```
"web_accessible_resources": [  
  "fonts/*"  
],
```

# STEP-BY-STEP

Note: we can also include  
a CSS file to be loaded with  
our content-script

```
"content_scripts": [{  
  "matches": [ "<all_urls>" ],  
  "js": [ "jquery-2.2.3.js", "content.js" ],  
  "css": [ "content.css" ]  
}],
```



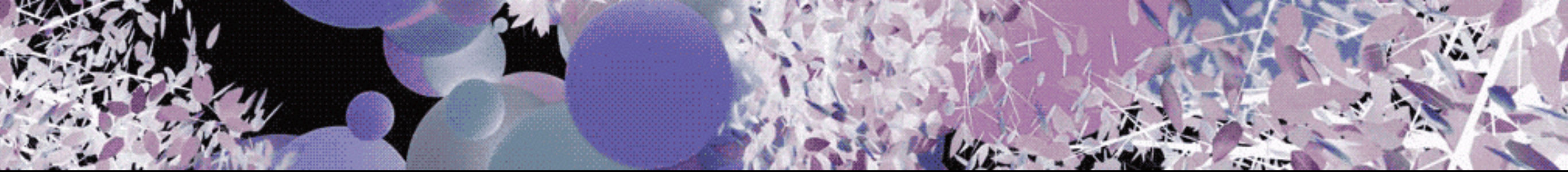
# STEP-BY-STEP

Some CSS code for `contents.css`

```
img, image {  
    -webkit-filter: brightness(0);  
}
```

Now this is the NEWS...





# FIN

## PARTIE II

next: adblockers





TRY AGAIN  
FAIL AGAIN  
FAIL BETTER

*-Samuel Beckett*