



Browser Extension to Block Trackers - Part 1



Abstract

The project aims to enhance user privacy by blocking known tracking scripts that monitor browsing behavior. It intercepts network requests, filters known tracker domains, and provides analytics to the user. A user-controlled whitelist ensures flexibility and transparency.








Introduction

Online tracking has become a significant privacy concern. Advertisers and data brokers use scripts to collect user data without consent. This project introduces a Chrome/Firefox extension that automatically blocks these scripts, helping users maintain anonymity and control over their data.








Tools Used

 Category	 Tools / Technologies
 Languages	JavaScript, HTML, CSS
 Browser API	Chrome Extension Manifest v3
 Libraries	WebRequest API, Storage API



Steps Involved in Building the Project (Part 1)






 Step	 Description
 Define Tracker List	Maintain a list of known tracking domains (based on public tracker lists).
 Intercept Requests	Use webRequest.onBeforeRequest to detect and cancel tracker requests.
 Count Blocked Scripts	Each blocked request increases a badge counter.



Browser Extension to Block Trackers - Part 2



Steps Involved in Building the Project (Part 2)

 Step	 Description
 Popup Dashboard	Show total blocked requests and allow user whitelisting.
 Storage Management	Save user whitelist/blacklist using chrome.storage.local.
 Testing	Load unpacked extension in Chrome and verify blocking functionality across sites.








Conclusion

The Tracker Blocker extension effectively improves user privacy by preventing data leakage through third-party trackers. With customizable whitelisting, it balances control and convenience, offering users a transparent, privacy-focused browsing experience.






Key Features

 Feature	 Description
 Privacy Protection	Blocks trackers to prevent unauthorized data collection.
 User Control	Whitelist specific sites to allow trackers if desired.
 Analytics	Shows the number of blocked requests and tracking attempts.





Bonus Tips

-  Users can customize their whitelist to allow trusted sites.
-  Badge icon shows real-time blocked tracker counts.
-  Compatible with both Chrome and Firefox browsers.



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