Browser Extension Security Review

Task: Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions (Review Phase Completed) Browsers Examined: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox

Objective:

To learn to spot and remove potentially harmful browser extensions by reviewing currently installed extensions, their permissions, and their purpose.

General Steps Undertaken:

- 1. Accessed Extension Managers:
 - Mozilla Firefox: Navigated to about:addons
 - ♦ Google Chrome: Navigated to chrome://extensions
- 2. Reviewed Installed Extensions: Each installed extension in both browsers was listed and identified.
- 3. Checked Permissions and Details: Permissions, publisher, and purpose reviewed for each extension.
- 4. Assessed Necessity and Suspicion Level: Evaluated permissions against intended use.
- 5. Action Taken: No extensions removed. Focus was on review and learning.
- 6. Browser Restart & Performance Check: Not applicable since no removal was performed.
- 7. Research on Malicious Extensions: Undertaken as part of learning.

Mozilla Firefox Review:

Extension Name: FoxyProxy

Description: Easy to use advanced Proxy Management tool for everyone.

Status: Enabled

Permissions Reviewed:

- Download files and read/modify browser download history
- Display notifications
- Control browser proxy settings
- Access browser tabs
- Optional Permissions (currently OFF):
- Clear browsing history, cookies, etc.
- Read/modify privacy settings
- Access data for all websites

Assessment: Permissions align with proxy functionality. Optional sensitive permissions are disabled.

Action Taken: Reviewed only, no removal.

Google Chrome Review:

1. Extension Name: Google Docs Offline

Description: Official Google extension for offline Docs access.

Status: Enabled Permissions:

Site access limited to docs.google.com and drive.google.com

Assessment: Permissions appropriate and restricted to Google services.

2. Extension Name: McAfee WebAdvisor

Description: MaAfee Web protection tool

Status: Enabled Permissions:

Read browsing history

- Block content on pages
- Manage downloads
- Communicate with native apps
- Access all data on websites (on all sites)

Assessment: Broad but expected permissions for security tools. Trustable source.

Action Taken: Reviewed only, no removal.

Deliverables Summary:

No suspicious extensions were found and removed. All extensions were reviewed based on permissions and purpose.

Outcome Achieved:

Successfully developed awareness about browser extension risks and gained hands-on experience in reviewing them. Practical familiarity with navigating and assessing extension permissions was achieved.