**📘 Locator-X User Manual**

*Your complete guide to mastering the Locator-X Chrome extension*

**🧭 Introduction**

**Locator-X** is a powerful Chrome extension designed for testers, developers, and automation engineers. It helps you generate, evaluate, and manage web element locators — including XPath, CSS selectors, Playwright locators, JSPath, and jQuery — directly from any webpage.

**🔍 Key Benefits**

* Instantly generate locators by hovering or clicking on elements
* Supports shadow DOM and iframe detection
* Evaluate locator accuracy and uniqueness
* Save, search, and reuse locators
* Learn XPath and CSS with built-in help
* Works on local files, dynamic pages, and complex UIs

**🛠️ Installation Guide**

**Step-by-Step Instructions**

1. Open Chrome and go to: chrome://extensions
2. Enable **Developer Mode** (toggle in the top-right corner)  
   *[Screenshot here]*
3. Click **“Load unpacked”**  
   *[Screenshot here]*
4. Select the folder containing your Locator-X files  
   *[Screenshot here]*
5. The Locator-X icon will appear in the Chrome toolbar  
   *[Screenshot here]*

**🚀 Getting Started**

**How to Launch Locator-X**

* Click the **Locator-X icon** in the Chrome toolbar  
  → This opens the **sidepanel interface**
* Or press Ctrl + Shift + X  
  → This toggles **Capture Mode**, allowing you to hover or click on elements to generate locators

**🧩 Feature-by-Feature Guide**

**1. 🔦 Capture Mode**

**Purpose:**  
Enables hover and click-based locator generation.

**How to Use:**

* Toggle ON via sidepanel or press Ctrl + Shift + X
* Hover over elements to preview locators
* Click to capture and send locator data to the sidepanel

**Tips:**

* Works only on supported pages (not Chrome Web Store or PDFs)
* Closed shadow DOM elements will show a warning

**Troubleshooting:**

* If nothing highlights, ensure Capture Mode is ON
* If page is unsupported, a banner will appear

**2. 🧪 Locator Evaluation**

**Purpose:**  
Tests any locator to see how many elements it matches.

**How to Use:**

* Type a locator into the input field
* Match count appears instantly
* Highlighted elements show depth-based colors

**Tips:**

* Use smart suggestions from dropdown
* Click ❓ for XPath/CSS/Playwright help

**Troubleshooting:**

* “0 matches” means locator is invalid or too generic
* Use suggestions to refine

**3. 💾 Save & Manage Locators**

**Purpose:**  
Stores locators with optional names for reuse.

**How to Use:**

* After evaluating, enter a name and click **Save**
* View saved locators in the “Saved Locators” section
* Click to re-evaluate or copy

**Tips:**

* Use meaningful names like “Login Button”
* Search saved locators by name or type

**Troubleshooting:**

* Duplicate locators won’t be saved twice
* You can undo deletions within 5 seconds

**4. 🌳 Element Hierarchy Viewer**

**Purpose:**  
Shows the DOM tree of the captured element.

**How to Use:**

* Click the 🌳 icon next to “Generated Locators”
* Expand/collapse nodes
* Click any node to generate a locator

**Tips:**

* Shadow DOM hosts and children are marked
* Use this to understand nesting and structure

**5. 🎨 Theme Toggle**

**Purpose:**  
Switches between light and dark UI themes.

**How to Use:**

* Toggle in the “Options & Status” section

**Tips:**

* Your preference is saved automatically

**6. 🧠 Smart Suggestions**

**Purpose:**  
Suggests locators based on input, context, and fuzzy matching.

**How to Use:**

* Start typing in the locator input
* Suggestions appear below
* Use arrow keys to navigate, Enter to select

**Tips:**

* Supports XPath, CSS, Playwright, and test attributes
* Suggestions adapt to page content

**7. 📚 XPath Learning Panel**

**Purpose:**  
Teaches XPath syntax and best practices.

**How to Use:**

* Click ❓ next to “Evaluate & Test”
* Browse tabs: XPath, CSS, Playwright, General
* View breakdown of your XPath step-by-step

**Tips:**

* Hover over examples to see usage
* Errors and tips appear automatically

**🖼️ UI Walkthrough**

| **Element** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 🔘 Capture Mode Toggle | Enables hover/click locator generation |
| 🎨 Theme Toggle | Switches between light/dark mode |
| 🧪 Locator Input | Type or paste any locator |
| ❓ Help Button | Opens XPath/CSS/Playwright reference |
| 💡 Suggestions Dropdown | Shows smart locator suggestions |
| 💾 Save Button | Saves evaluated locator |
| 📋 Copy Buttons | Copies locator to clipboard |
| 🌳 Hierarchy Viewer | Shows DOM tree of captured element |
| 📂 Saved Locators | List of saved locators with search, copy, delete |
| 🛑 Status Bar | Shows current mode, errors, or tips |

**🧠 Advanced Usage**

**⌨️ Keyboard Shortcuts**

* Ctrl + Shift + X: Toggle Capture Mode
* Enter: Evaluate locator or select suggestion
* Arrow Up/Down: Navigate suggestions
* Escape: Close suggestions

**🧩 Hidden Features**

* Locator type inference (auto-detects type)
* Shadow DOM indicators (⚡, 🔐)
* Iframe-aware locators (iframeSelector >>> elementSelector)
* Undo delete for saved locators
* Match count badges: Unique, Multiple, Not Found

**🧰 Troubleshooting**

| **Problem** | **Solution** |
| --- | --- |
| Extension doesn’t load | Check manifest paths and Chrome version |
| Capture Mode not working | Ensure page is supported and toggle is ON |
| Locator matches nothing | Try alternate type or use suggestions |
| Shadow DOM inaccessible | Closed shadow roots can’t be accessed |
| Iframe locator fails | Cross-origin iframes are restricted |

**❓ FAQ**

**Q: Can I use this on local HTML files?**  
Yes — just make sure file access is enabled in Chrome.

**Q: What does “Unique” mean?**  
It means the locator matches exactly one element — ideal for automation.

**Q: Can I copy locators to use in Selenium or Playwright?**  
Absolutely. Locator-X supports both formats.

**Q: Why do some elements show ⚡ or 🔐?**  
These are shadow DOM indicators. 🔐 means the shadow root is closed and not accessible.

**Q: Can I rename saved locators?**  
Yes — if you originally saved it without a name, you can update it later.

**🔐 Safety & Privacy Notes**

* Locator-X does **not** collect or transmit any personal data
* Uses chrome.storage.local to store locators and preferences
* Permissions used:
  + activeTab: Access current page
  + scripting: Inject scripts
  + storage: Save locators and settings
  + sidePanel: Use Chrome’s sidepanel API
* Avoids unsafe practices like eval() and uses defensive coding

**📞 Support & Contact Info**

If you need help, want to report a bug, or suggest a feature:

* 📧 Email: mahesh.locatorx.support@example.com
* 🐞 Bug Report Form: [Insert link here]
* 💡 Feature Suggestions: [Insert link here]
* 📚 Documentation: [Insert link here]