Building Chrome Extensions





Agenda

- Introduction to Chrome Extensions
- Understanding the Structure
- Core Components
- Working with Chrome APIs
- Packaging & Testing



Why & What are Chrome Extensions?



 To make your browsing experience smarter, faster, and tailored to your needs. Automate tasks, add new features, and customize the web to work exactly how you want it.

Different Types of Extensions

Sidebar extensions

a ecommwebsite.com

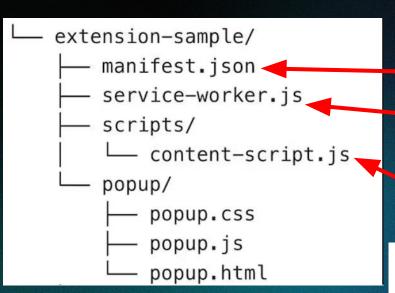
Background scripts extensions action

Page extensions

Browser action extensions

Context menu extensions

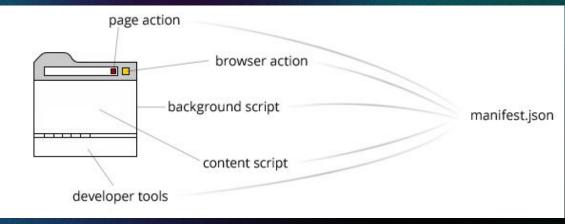
Basic Directory Structure



The backbone of your extension

Runs in the background to handle events like network requests, caching, and messaging

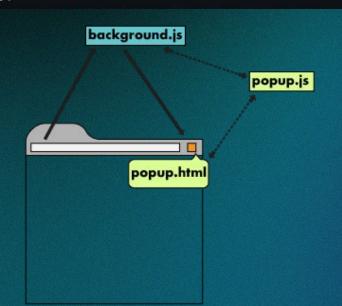
Injects code into web pages



1. Manifest.json

```
"name": "Library Extension by Metis",
"manifest_version": 3,
"version": "0.1.0",
"permissions": ["contextMenus", "storage", "activeTab", "tabs", "sidePanel", "scripting"],
"side_panel": {
        "default_path": "popup.html"
},
"action": { "default_title": "Generate a summary" },
"background": {
        "service_worker": "background.js",
        "type": "module"
},
"host_permissions": ["<all_urls>"],
"web accessible resources": [
                "resources": ["dialog.html"],
                "matches": ["<all_urls>"]
```

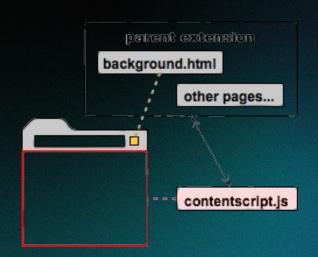
2. Background Scripts



These are long-running scripts that handle events like browser startup, tab changes, or network requests.

Think of them as the "brains" of your extension, always listening and responding when needed.

```
// for side panel
chrome.sidePanel
        .setPanelBehavior({ openPanelOnActionClick: true })
        .catch(error => console.error(error));
// Updated background.js
chrome.runtime.onInstalled.addListener(() => {
        chrome.contextMenus.create({
                id: "saveText",
                title: "Save Text to Your Library",
                contexts: ["selection"],
chrome.contextMenus.onClicked.addListener(async (info, tab) => {
        if (info.menuItemId === "saveText" && info.selectionText) {
                        const [result] = await chrome.scripting.executeScript({
                                target: { tabId: tab.id },
                                func: () => ({
                                        url: location.href,
                                        pageTitle: document.title.
```



3. Content Scripts

Scripts that run directly inside web pages, allowing you to interact with and modify the DOM of the websites users visit.

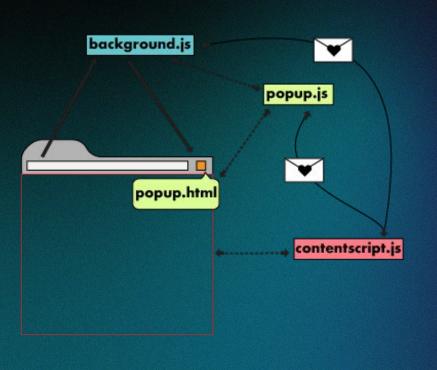
Use this to inject custom elements, change styles, or gather data from pages.

```
document.getElementById("save").addEventListener("click", () => {
  const title = document.getElementById("title").value;
  const category = document.getElementById("category").value;

if (title) {
  chrome.runtime.sendMessage({
    type: "saveData",
    data: { title, category },
  });
  }
});
```

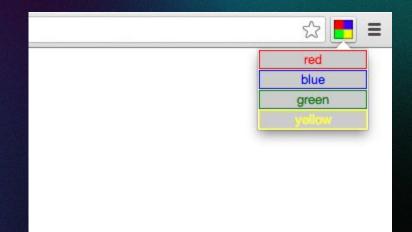
Important: Content scripts have limited access to Chrome APIs, but they can communicate with background scripts.

4. Popup UI

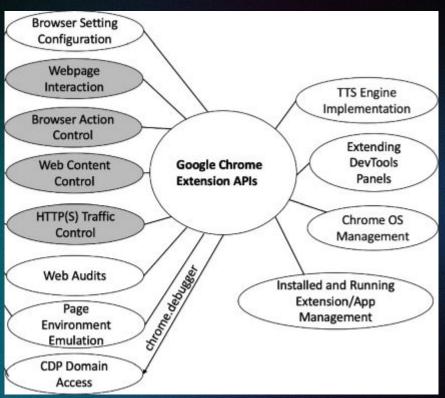


The small window that appears when you click the extension icon.

Built using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, it's like a mini web page with buttons, forms, or info displays.



Chrome API's



Refer: https://github.com/Metis-IITGandhinagar/ChromeExtensionWorkshop/tree/main?tab=readme-ov-file#chromee-apis

Mini Hackathon Schedule

KICKOFF

6:30 PM 7:30 PM SATURDAY MIDWAY CHECKPOINT

12:00 AM SUBMISSIONS OPEN

HACKATHON

Theme: Productivity

Open Ended - No Problem Statement