

# Task 7: Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions

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## Objective

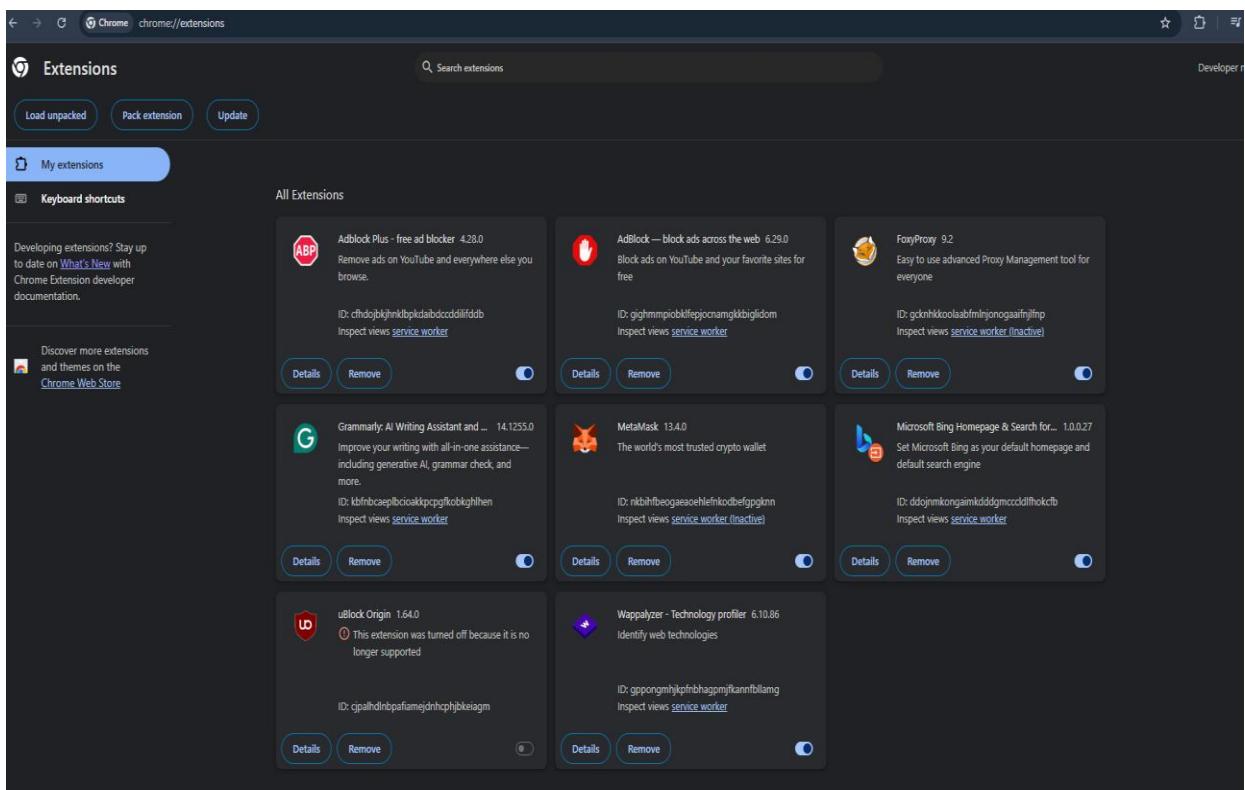
To identify and remove suspicious or unnecessary browser extensions to improve security and performance. This task builds awareness of browser security risks and safe extension management.

## Tools Used

- **Google Chrome Browser** – for managing and reviewing installed extensions.
- **Chrome Web Store** – to verify extension authenticity, reviews, and publisher credibility.
- **Web Search (Google/Bing)** – for researching suspicious extensions and their potential security risks.

## Step 1: Open Extension/Add-ons Manager

- Open your browser (Chrome: chrome://extensions, Firefox:about:addons).
- Objective: Access the list of all installed extensions.



## Step 2: Create an Inventory of Installed Extensions

Extension Name	Developer/Publisher (if known)	Purpose/Description
<b>Adblock Plus – free ad blocker</b>	eyeo GmbH	Blocks ads on YouTube and other sites.
<b>AdBlock — block ads across the web</b>	BetaFish Inc. (AdBlock Team)	Blocks ads on YouTube and across websites.
<b>FoxyProxy</b>	FoxyProxy, Inc.	Proxy management tool for browsing via different proxies.
<b>Grammarly: AI Writing Assistant</b>	Grammarly Inc.	Grammar and writing improvement assistant.
<b>MetaMask</b>	ConsenSys Software Inc.	Cryptocurrency wallet and Web3 dApp browser extension.
<b>Microsoft Bing Homepage &amp; Search for Chrome</b>	Microsoft	Sets Bing as the default homepage and search engine.
<b>uBlock Origin</b> (disabled/unsupported)	Raymond Hill (gorhill)	Efficient ad blocker (but here marked as no longer supported).
<b>Wappalyzer – Technology Profiler</b>	Wappalyzer Pty Ltd	Identifies technologies used on websites.



## Adblock Plus - free ad blocker

[Remove from Chrome](#)[http://adblockplus.org/](#) [Featured](#) 4.4 ★ (187.3K ratings) [Share](#)[Extension](#) [Workflow and planning](#) 41,000,000 users

Search extensions

← **ABP Adblock Plus - free ad blocker**

On

Description  
Remove ads on YouTube and everywhere else you browse.

Version  
4.28.0

Size  
295 MB

Permissions

- Read and change all your data on all websites
- Display notifications

Site access

Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit: [?](#)

[https://www.youtube.com/\\*](https://www.youtube.com/*) [⋮](#)

[Add a new page](#)

Site settings

Pin to toolbar

Allow in Incognito   
Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option.

Allow access to file URLs

**4.4 out of 5 ★★★★★**

187.3K ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)

[Write a review](#)

[See all reviews](#)

## Details

Version  
4.28.0  
  
Updated  
24 September 2025  
  
Features  
Offers in-app purchases

Size  
63.76MiB  
  
Languages  
53 languages ⓘ

Developer  
eyeo GmbH  
Prinzenstr. 34 Berlin 10969 DE  
  
Website  
Email ⓘ  
Phone ⓘ

Trader  
This developer has identified itself as a trader per the definition from the European Union and committed to only offer products or services that comply with EU laws.  
  
DUNS ⓘ  
315149725

[Flag concern](#)

### Adblock Plus – free ad blocker (eyeo GmbH)

- Trusted and widely used, but has been criticized for “acceptable ads” policy (shows some ads by default).
- **Verdict:** Safe but redundant (since you also have AdBlock & uBlock). Keep only one ad blocker.



**Adblock — block ads across the web**

[Remove from Chrome](#)

<http://getadblock.com/> 4.5 ★ (290.5K ratings) Share

Extension Workflow and planning 62,000,000 users

The screenshot shows the settings page for the Adblock Plus extension. At the top, there's a large red octagonal icon with a white hand symbol, followed by the text "Adblock — block ads across the web". To the right is a blue button labeled "Remove from Chrome". Below this, there's a link to the developer's website (<http://getadblock.com/>) and a rating of 4.5 stars from 290.5K reviews, along with a "Share" button. The main content area contains the following sections:

- Description:** Block ads on YouTube and your favorite sites for free
- Version:** 6.29.0
- Size:** 301 MB
- Permissions:**
  - Read and change all your data on all websites
  - Display notifications
- Site access:** A toggle switch is set to "On". Below it, a note says "Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit: ⓘ" with a dropdown menu set to "On specific sites".
- Site settings:** A toggle switch is off.
- Pin to toolbar:** A toggle switch is off.
- Allow in Incognito:** A note says "Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option." A toggle switch is off.
- Allow access to file URLs:** A toggle switch is off.
- Extension options:** A toggle switch is off.

At the bottom of the page, there's a link "View in Chrome Web Store".

**4.5 out of 5 ★★★★★**

290.5K ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)

[Write a review](#)

[See all reviews](#)

## Details

Version 6.29.0	Size 65.56MiB	Developer ADBLOCK, INC. 12333 Sowden Road Suite B # 99623 Houston, TX 77080-2059 US	Trader This developer has identified itself as a trader per the definition from the European Union and committed to only offer products or services that comply with EU laws.
Updated 23 September 2025	Languages 33 languages ⓘ	Website	DUNS ⓘ 080189229
Features Offers in-app purchases	Email	Phone	
<a href="#">Flag concern</a>			

### AdBlock — block ads across the web (BetaFish Inc.)

- Popular and safe, but again overlaps with Adblock Plus and uBlock.
- **Verdict:** Unnecessary duplication. Remove to avoid conflicts.



**FoxyProxy**

[Remove from Chrome](#)

[getfoxyproxy.org](#) 3.8 ★ (784 ratings) [Share](#)

Extension

Privacy & Security

500,000 users

← FoxyProxy

On

Description  
Easy to use advanced Proxy Management tool for everyone

Version  
9.2

Size  
< 1 MB

Permissions

- Read and change all your data on all websites
- Display notifications
- Manage your downloads

Site access

Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit: [\(?\)](#)

Site settings

Pin to toolbar

Allow in Incognito  
Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option.

Allow access to file URLs

**3.8 out of 5 ★★★★☆**

784 ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)

[Write a review](#)

[See all reviews](#)

## Details

Version  
9.2

Size  
223KiB

Developer  
Beholder Corporation

Trader  
This developer has identified  
itself as a trader per the  
definition from the European  
Union and committed to only  
offer products or services that  
comply with EU laws.

Updated  
25 August 2025

Languages  
12 languages ⓘ

Website

DUNS ⓘ  
081213552

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Email ↗  
Phone ↗

## FoxyProxy (FoxyProxy, Inc.)

-  Proxy management tool; can reroute traffic and potentially expose browsing data if misconfigured.
- **Verdict:** Keep only if you explicitly use proxies. Otherwise, remove as it adds risk.



# Grammarly: AI Writing Assistant and Grammar Checker App

[Remove from Chrome](#)<http://grammarly.com/> [Featured](#) 4.5 ★ (42.9K ratings) [Share](#)[Extension](#) [Communication](#) 44,000,000 users

The screenshot shows the extension settings page for Grammarly. At the top, there's a back arrow, the Grammarly logo, and the title "Grammarly: AI Writing Assistant and Grammar Checker App". A toggle switch is set to "On". Below this, there's a "Description" section with the text: "Improve your writing with all-in-one assistance—including generative AI, grammar check, and more." The "Version" is listed as 14.1256.0, and the "Size" is 70.0 MB. The "Permissions" section lists "Read your browsing history" and "Display notifications". Under "Site access", it says "Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit:" with a question mark icon, and a dropdown menu set to "On specific sites". The "Site settings" and "Pin to toolbar" options are shown with their respective toggle switches. In the "Allow in Incognito" section, a warning message states: "Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option.", with a toggle switch turned off. Finally, the "Allow access to file URLs" option has its toggle switch turned off.

## 4.5 out of 5 ★★★★☆

42.9K ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)[Write a review](#)[See all reviews](#)

## Details

Version	4.1256.0	Size	40.84MiB	Developer	Grammarly 548 Market St Ste 35410 San Francisco, CA 94104-5401 US	Trader	This developer has identified itself as a trader per the definition from the European Union and committed to only offer products or services that comply with EU laws.
Updated	2 October 2025	Languages	English	Website	<a href="#">Website</a>	DUNS	<a href="#">031633083</a>
<a href="#">Flag concern</a>				Email	<a href="#">Email</a>		

## Grammarly: AI Writing Assistant (Grammarly Inc.)

- Safe and useful, but note it has **full access to text input** (can read typed content).
- **Verdict:** Keep if needed, but be cautious about typing sensitive data (passwords, private notes)



# Microsoft Bing Homepage & Search for Chrome

[Remove from Chrome](#)3.7 ★ (91 ratings) [Share](#)[Extension](#) [Tools](#) 4,000,000 users

← Microsoft Bing Homepage & Search for Chrome

**On**

**Description**  
Set Microsoft Bing as your default homepage and default search engine

**Version**  
1.0.0.27

**Size**  
1.6 MB

**Permissions**

- Read your browsing history
- Block content on any page
- Display notifications
- Change your home page to: bing.com
- Change your search settings to: bing.com
- Change your start page to: bing.com

**Site access**

Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit:  [On specific sites](#)

**Site settings**

**Pin to toolbar**

**Allow in Incognito**  
Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option.

**3.7 out of 5 ★★★★☆**[Write a review](#)91 ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)[See all reviews](#)

## Details

**Version**  
1.0.0.27**Offered by**  
Microsoft Corporation**Developer**  
Microsoft Corporation  
One Microsoft Way Redmond,  
WA 98052-8300 US**Trader**  
This developer has identified  
itself as a trader per the  
definition from the European  
Union and committed to only  
offer products or services that  
comply with EU laws.**Updated**  
25 July 2024**Size**  
1.33MiB[✉ Email](#) **DUNS** 

081466849

[Flag concern](#)**Languages**  
52 languages [📞 Phone](#)

## Microsoft Bing Homepage & Search for Chrome (Microsoft)

- ⚠ Often installed automatically during Microsoft app installs. Changes homepage/search engine.
- Verdict: Not malicious but unnecessary if you don't want Bing. Safe to remove.



The screenshot shows the uBlock Origin extension page on the Chrome Web Store. The extension has a 4.7 star rating from 35.4K ratings and 19,000,000 users. A message indicates it's no longer available because it doesn't follow best practices for Chrome extensions, with a 'Learn more' link. The extension details page shows it's turned off, has version 1.64.0, is 13.6 MB in size, and has permissions for reading history and changing privacy settings. It also includes site access controls and Incognito mode options.

**uBlock Origin**

4.7 ★ (35.4K ratings) [Share](#)

Extension Privacy & Security 19,000,000 users

This extension is no longer available because it doesn't follow best practices for Chrome extensions. [Learn more](#)

**uBlock Origin**

This extension was turned off because it is no longer supported. Chrome recommends that you remove it. [Learn more about supported extensions](#)

**Off**

**Description**  
Finally, an efficient blocker. Easy on CPU and memory.

**Version**  
1.64.0

**Size**  
13.6 MB

**Permissions**

- Read your browsing history
- Change your privacy-related settings

**Site access**

Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit: [?](#)

**Site settings**

**Allow in Incognito**  
Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option.

**Allow access to file URLs**

## 4.7 out of 5 ★★★★★

35.4K ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)

[Write a review](#)

[See all reviews](#)

### Details

Version 1.66.4	Offered by Raymond Hill (gorhill)	Developer <a href="#">Email</a>	Non-trader This developer has not identified itself as a trader. For consumers in the European Union, please note that consumer rights do not apply to contracts between you and this developer.
Updated 16 September 2025	Size 4.06MiB		
<a href="#">Flag concern</a>	Languages 51 languages		

### uBlock Origin (Raymond Hill, gorhill) [Disabled/Unsupported]

- ✓ One of the best lightweight ad blockers.
- ⚠ Your browser marked it unsupported → no updates/security fixes.
- **Verdict:** Remove since it's not functional anymore.
- 



### MetaMask

[Remove from Chrome](#)

[🔗](#) <https://metamask.io/> 2.7 ★ (5.7K ratings) [🔗 Share](#)

Extension

Workflow and planning

14,000,000 users

← MetaMask

On

**Description**  
The world's most trusted crypto wallet

**Version**  
13.4.0

**Size**  
59.3 MB

**Permissions**

- Display notifications
- Modify data you copy and paste

**Site access**

Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit: [?](#) On specific sites

**Site settings**

**Pin to toolbar**

**Allow in Incognito**  
Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option.

**Allow access to file URLs**

## 2.7 out of 5 ★★★☆☆

5.7K ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)

[Write a review](#)

[See all reviews](#)

### Details

Version 13.4.0	Size 21.4MiB	Developer ConsenSys Software Inc. 5049 Edwards Ranch Rd Fort Worth, TX 76109-4213 US	Trader This developer has identified itself as a trader per the definition from the European Union and committed to only offer products or services that comply with EU laws.
Updated 29 September 2025	Languages 53 languages ⓘ	Website	DUNS ⓘ 117645249
<a href="#">Flag concern</a>		Email	

### MetaMask (ConsenSys Software Inc.)

- ✓ Legitimate crypto wallet, widely trusted in Web3.
- ⚠ High-value target for phishing/malware; ensure updates are installed.
- **Verdict:** Keep if you use crypto; remove otherwise to reduce attack surface.

### Wappalyzer - Technology profiler

[Remove from Chrome](#)

[wappalyzer.com](#) Featured 4.6★ (2K ratings) [Share](#)

Extension Developer Tools 3,000,000 users

The screenshot shows the settings page for the Wappalyzer extension. At the top, there's a back arrow, the extension icon, and the title "Wappalyzer - Technology profiler". A large blue "On" switch is on the right. Below it, there's a "Description" section with the text "Identify web technologies". The "Version" is listed as "6.10.86" and "Size" as "67.5 MB". Under "Permissions", there are two items: "Read your browsing history" and "Manage your downloads", each with a blue toggle switch. The "Site access" section contains the instruction "Allow this extension to read and change all your data on websites you visit:" followed by a blue "On specific sites" dropdown menu. The "Site settings" section has a blue "Edit" button. The "Pin to toolbar" section has a blue "On" switch. At the bottom, there's a warning about "Allow in Incognito" mode: "Warning: Google Chrome cannot prevent extensions from recording your browsing history. To disable this extension in Incognito mode, unselect this option." with a blue "Off" switch.

**4.6 out of 5 ★★★★★**

[Write a review](#)

2K ratings • [Learn more about results and reviews.](#)

[See all reviews](#)

## Details

Version  
6.10.86

Size  
31.75MiB

Developer  
Wappalyzer Pty Ltd  
72-82 Errol St Suite 934 North  
Melbourne, VIC 3051 AU

Non-trader  
This developer has not  
identified itself as a trader. For  
consumers in the European  
Union, please note that  
consumer rights do not apply to  
contracts between you and this  
developer.

Updated  
17 September 2025

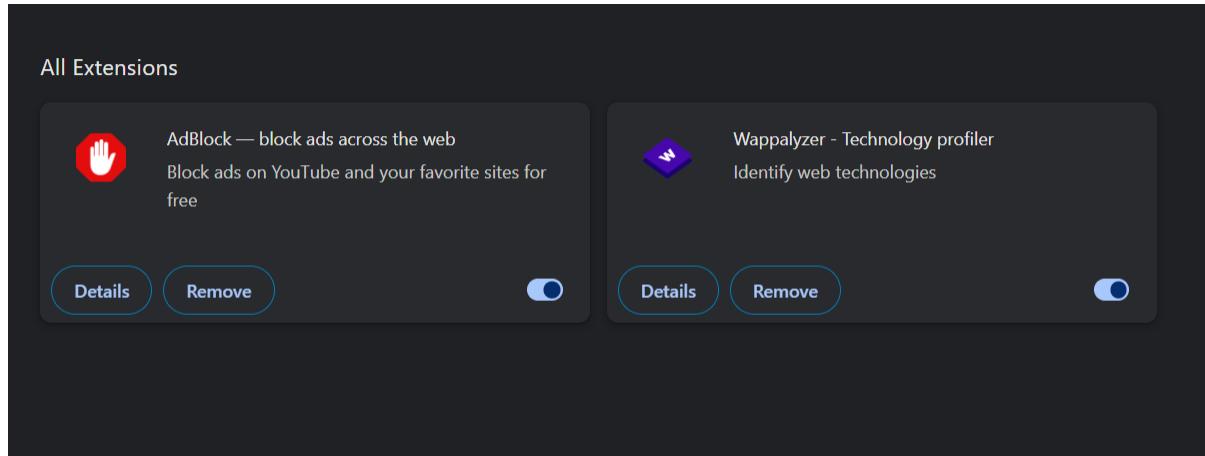
Languages  
22 languages ⓘ

Website  
Email ↗

[Flag concern](#)

## Wappalyzer – Technology Profiler (Wappalyzer Pty Ltd)

- ✓ Safe and widely used by developers.
- ⚠ Requires broad access to websites (to detect technologies).
- **Verdict:** Keep only if you need it for web analysis. Remove otherwise.



## Final Extensions Kept:

- **AdBlock — block ads across the web** (for ad blocking).
- **Wappalyzer – Technology Profiler** (for research and analysis).