

Task 7: Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions



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Task Objective

To identify potentially harmful browser extensions, review their permissions, remove suspicious ones, and improve browser security.



Tools Used

- **Web Browser:** Google Chrome
 - **Extension Manager:** chrome://extensions/
 - **Review Source:** Chrome Web Store (user reviews, permission details)
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Steps Performed

1. Opened Extension Manager:

Navigated to chrome://extensions/ to view all installed extensions.

2. Reviewed Installed Extensions:

Manually checked each extension for:

- Developer information
- Last updated date
- Permissions requested
- User reviews/ratings

3. Identified Suspicious Extensions:

Extensions flagged as suspicious if:

- Required unnecessary permissions (e.g., read browser history, manage downloads)

- Low ratings or reports of malware
 - Unknown developers or unofficial branding
4. **Removed/Disabled Suspicious Extensions:**
Used the “Remove” or “Disable” button for each identified extension.
5. **Restarted Browser:**
Relaunched browser to ensure proper removal and check for performance improvement.
6. **Documented Findings:**
Recorded the names and details of suspicious extensions removed.
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Suspicious Extensions Found and Removed

Extension Name	Reason for Removal	Permissions Requested
PDF Converter Pro	Unverified developer, intrusive ads	Read browsing history
Weather Alerts Now	Low reviews, reported for pop-up spam	Access location, modify settings
Quick Tab Switcher	Excessive permissions, unknown publisher	Access all site data, manage tabs

Outcomes and Learning

- Improved understanding of **extension permissions** and associated risks.
 - Realized how malicious extensions can **steal sensitive data**, track activities, and degrade performance.
 - Learned to **evaluate extension credibility** using user reviews and permission analysis.
 - Understood the importance of **sandboxing and secure updates** for extensions.
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Conclusion

This task improved my practical understanding of browser security, made me aware of common cyber threats via extensions, and trained me to maintain a secure browsing environment.
