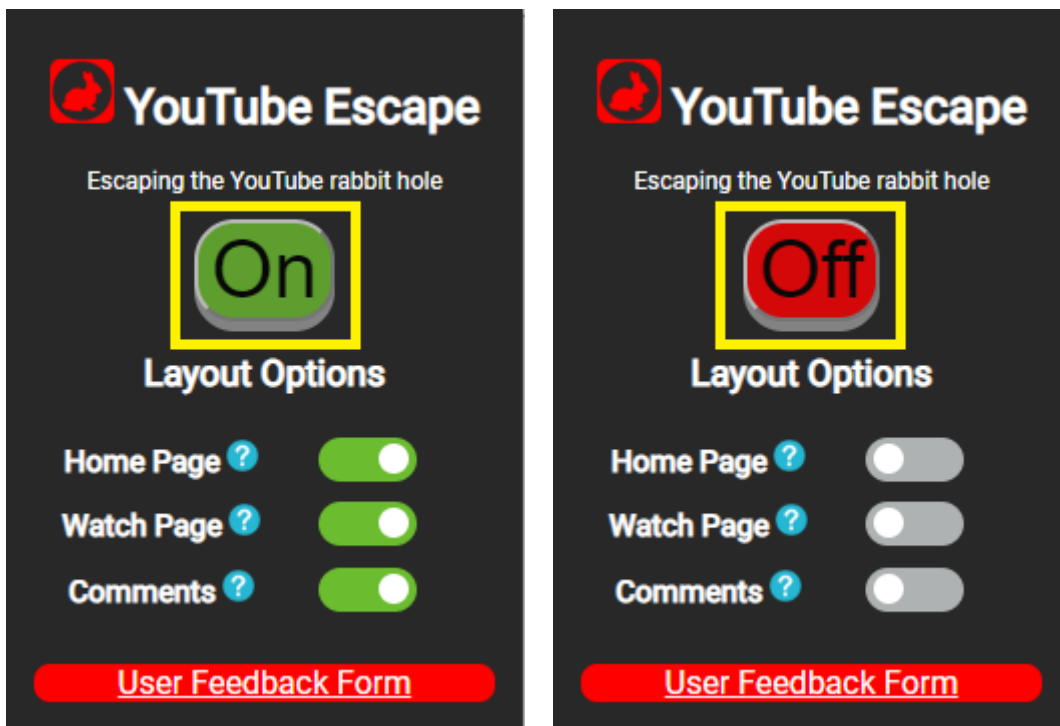# YouTube Escape

User Guide

Contents

+ On/Off Button

The On/Off Button can be seen on our extension menu

1　Extension Menu

It can be used to enable/disable all layout options, as well as to prevent the gradual feature release by the timer.

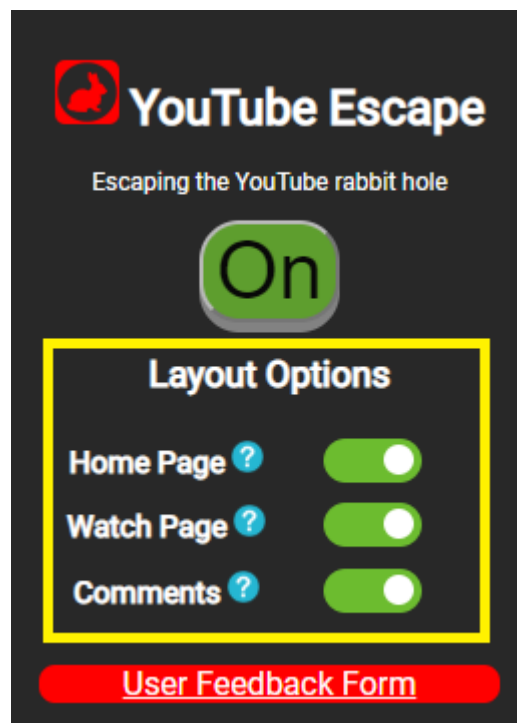Clicking on it is enough to change its state to 'On' or 'Off'.

When the button is turned 'On', all layout options are activated, and can be adjusted accordingly. The gradual feature release mechanism belonging to the timer is also enabled.

When the button is turned 'Off', all the layout options are de-activated, and are disabled. Timer feature release is also disabled.

+   Layout Options

The layout options are provided in the extension menu and enable one to change certain parts of the Home Page and Watch Pages on YouTube.
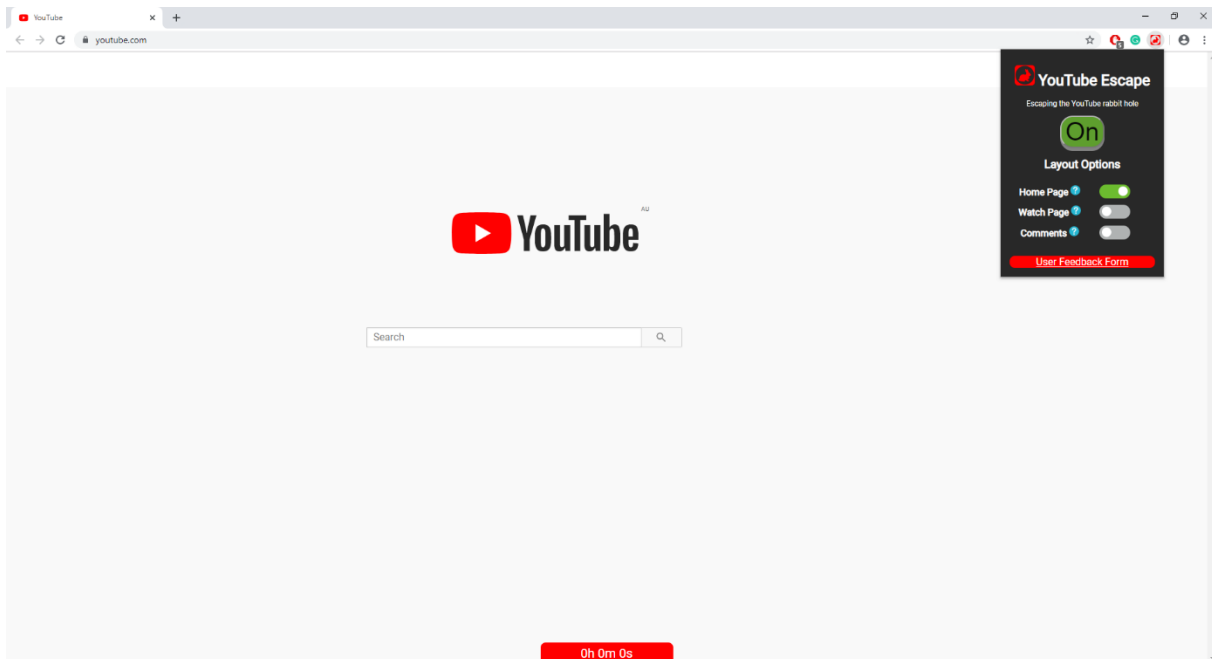
Each slider, or option, provides the following functionality

Home Page
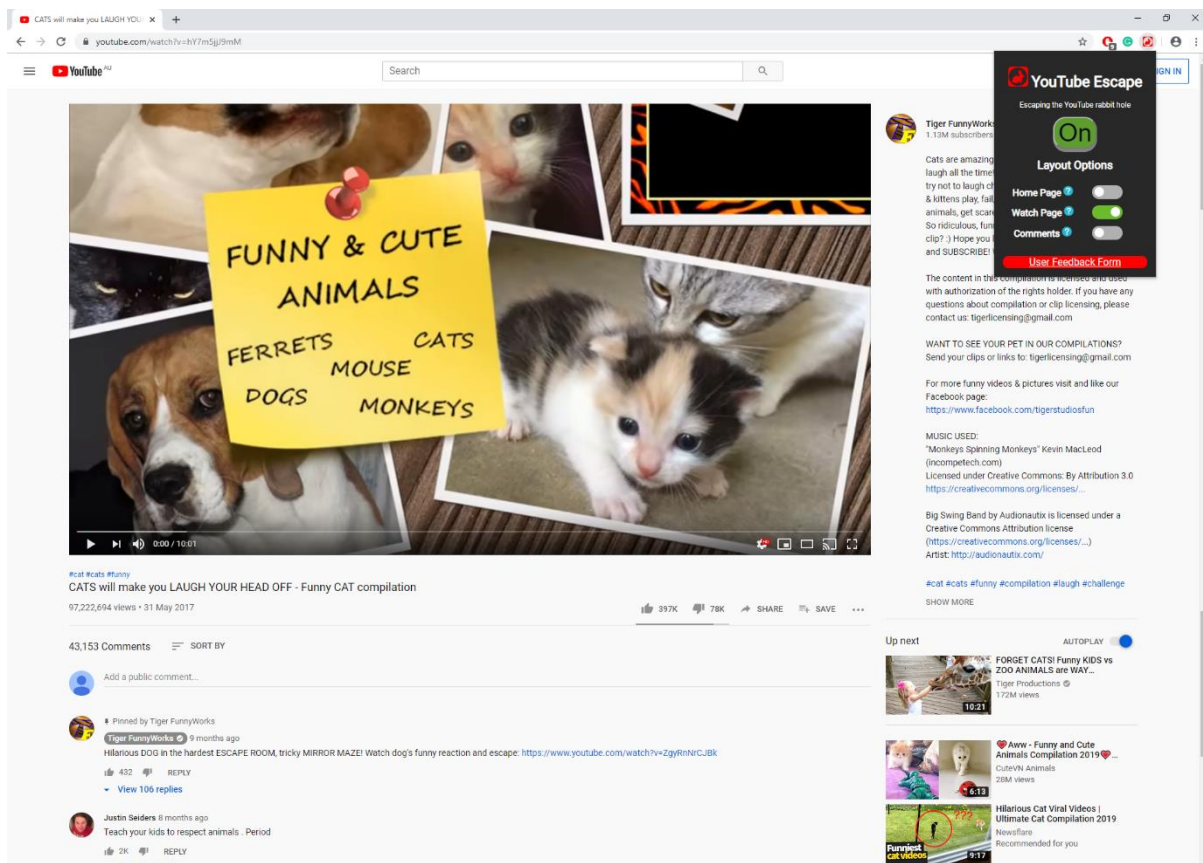
Transforms the home page so that it resembles the Google Search page, and hides distracting icons and buttons.

Watch Page
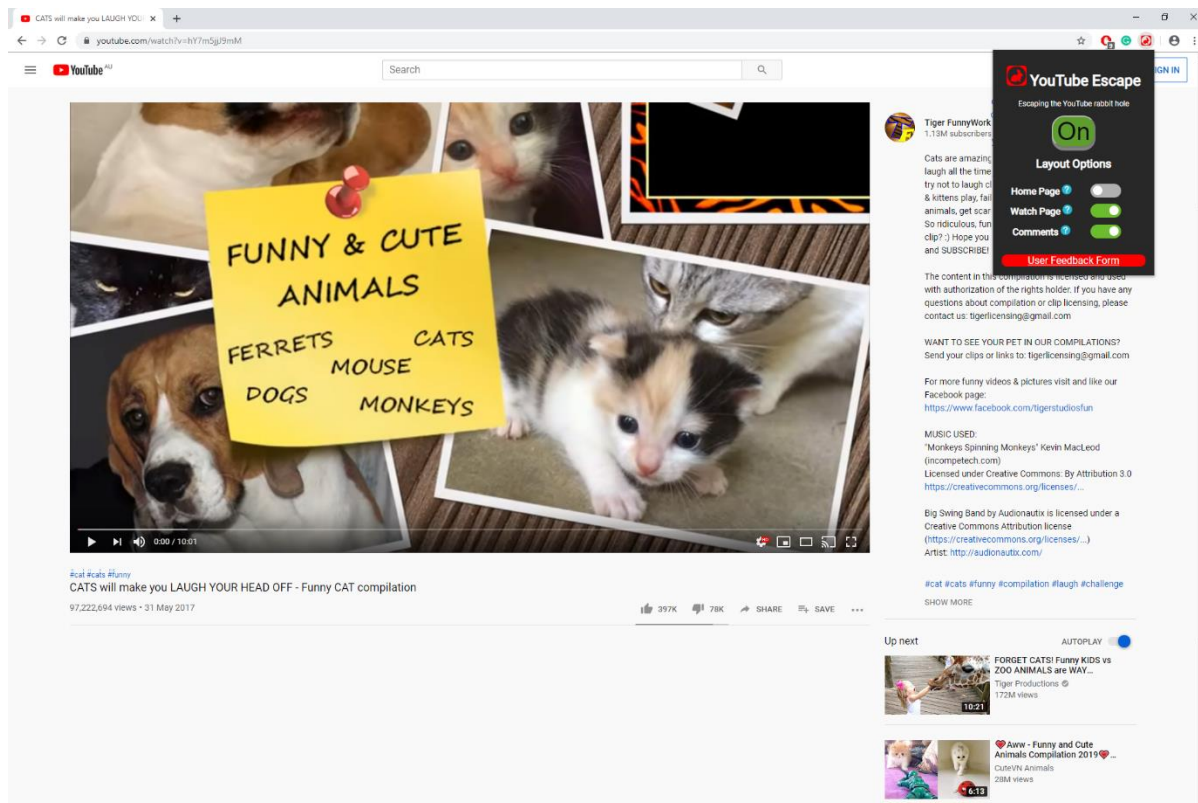
Transforms the watch page so that the description is shifted to a position beside the video.
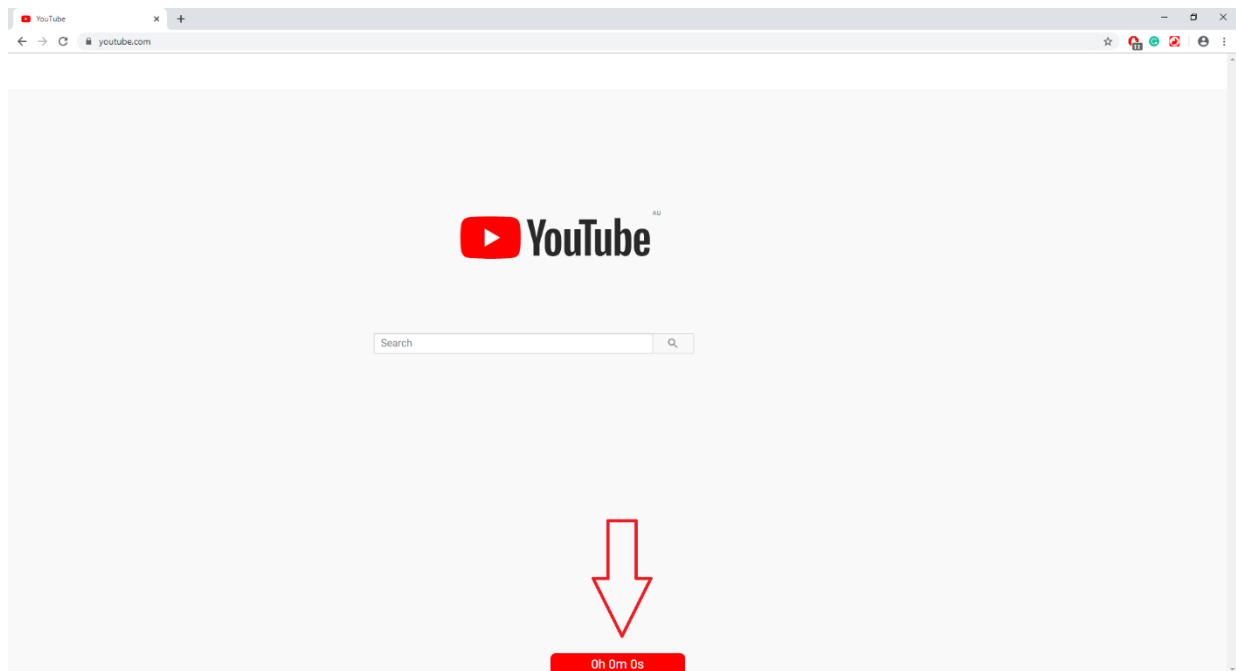
Comments

Removes the comment section on the watch page.

Note: although the effects of the **Home Page** slider can be noticed on other pages, the **Watch Page** and **Comments** sliders only affect the watch page.

2   Timer

The timer can be found at the bottom of the screen, when one enters YouTube.
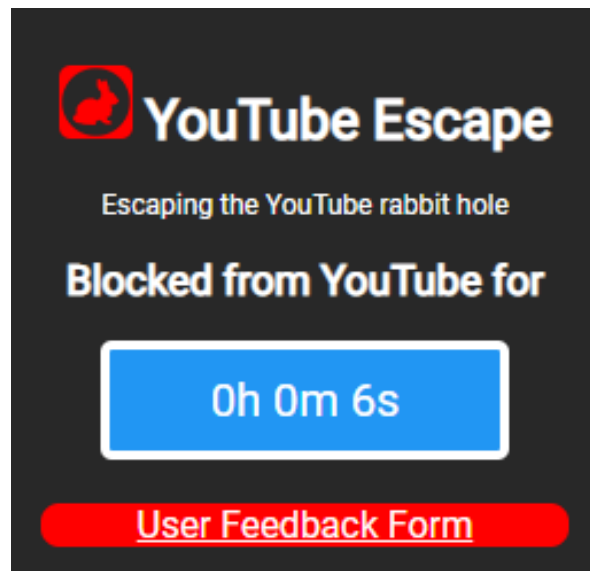
+ Timer Display

The primary timer display can be seen at the bottom of the screen as follows:

The time is displayed in standard
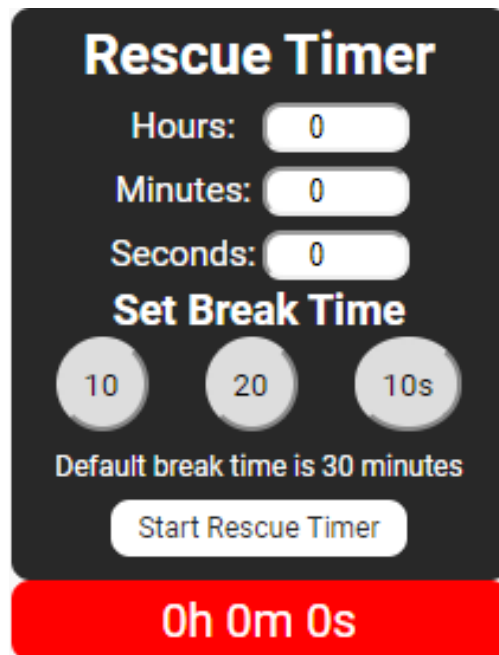**hours**::**minutes**::**seconds** format.

2 Timer

When the extension kicks the user off YouTube, and the break time starts, the user can see how long until the end of the break by clicking on the extension menu.

2 Timer

+ Set Watch Time

In order to set the time for the timer, hover your mouse over the timer bar on screen until a black timer options dialog pops up.

Rescue Timer

Hours: 0

Minutes: 0

Seconds: 0

Set Break Time

(10) (20) (10s)

Default break time is 30 minutes

Start Rescue Timer

0h 0m 0s

Then just enter your preferred watch time in hours, minutes and seconds.

Once you're done, just press the "Start Rescue Timer" button, and the timer should start counting down.

2 Timer

NOTE: Once the Timer is started, all options are disabled, and the user cannot change their previous entries.

+ Set Break Time

The user can set the break time according to the 3 pre-defined options available: 20 minutes, 10 minutes or 10 seconds.

To set a break time, just make sure to press one of the options before starting the rescue timer.

2   Timer

NOTE: if one does not specify a break time (I.e. how long the extension should block one from YouTube), the extension will set the break time to 30 minutes by default.
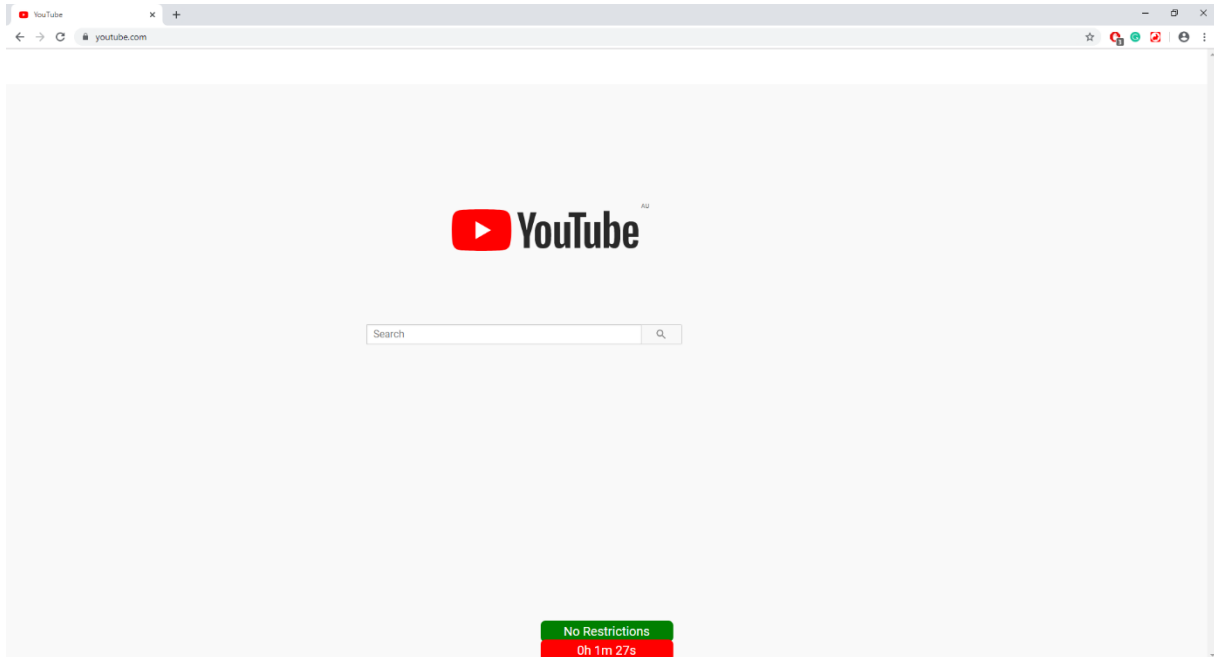
`+` Feature Release

As one may notice if they run the timer, it does not simply keep track of how much time a user has until they get kicked off YouTube. The Timer also gradually changes the YouTube interface, particularly when one is watching a video, so that the user feels less coerced when they are kicked off the site at the end on the timer duration.

The timer gradually disables some of the many tricks YouTube uses to keep people watching videos and adds motivational content of its own onto the page to encourage people to do something better with their time and leave the sight.

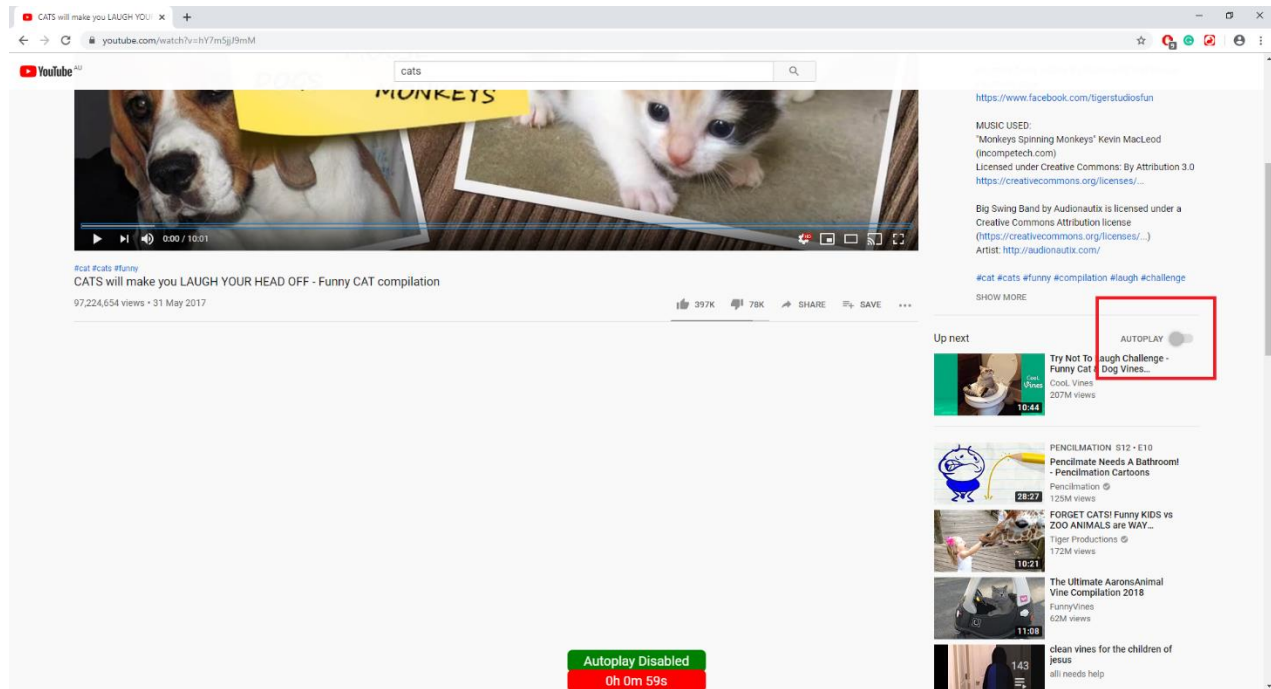The various stages the timer goes through are described below:

No Restrictions

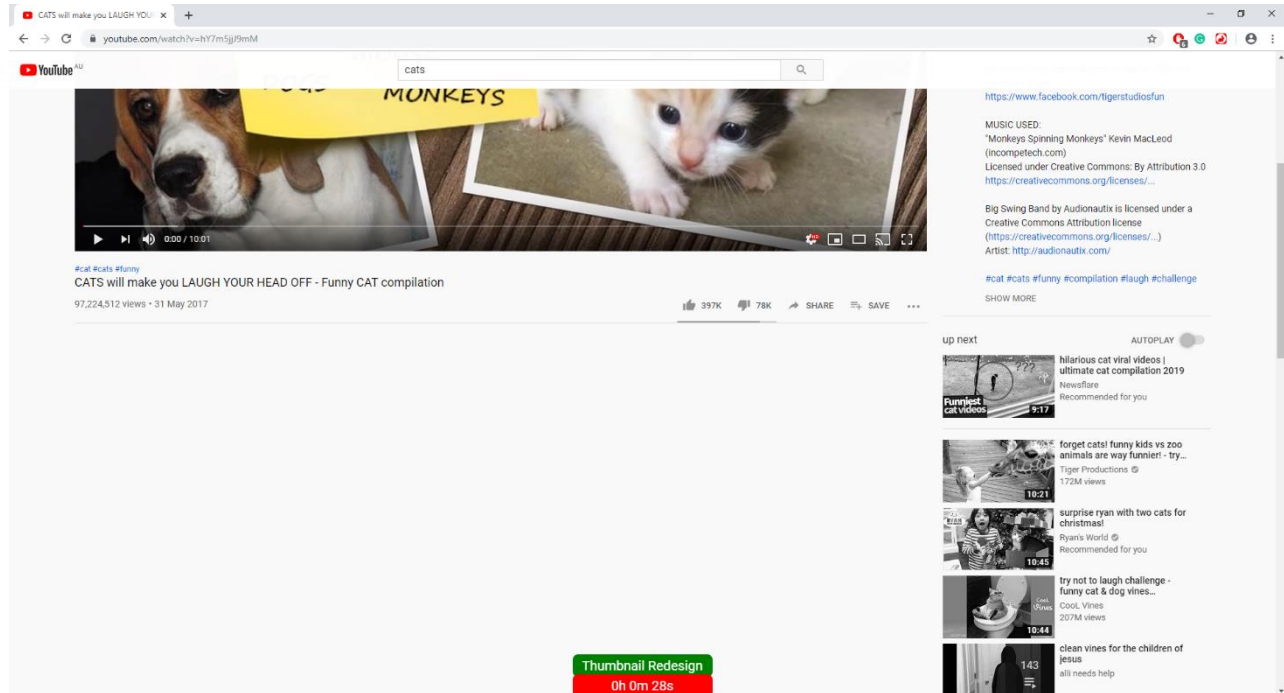Initially, the timer does not modify the YouTube interface at all.

Autoplay Disabled

After half of the session length has elapsed, the timer turns off YouTube autoplay.
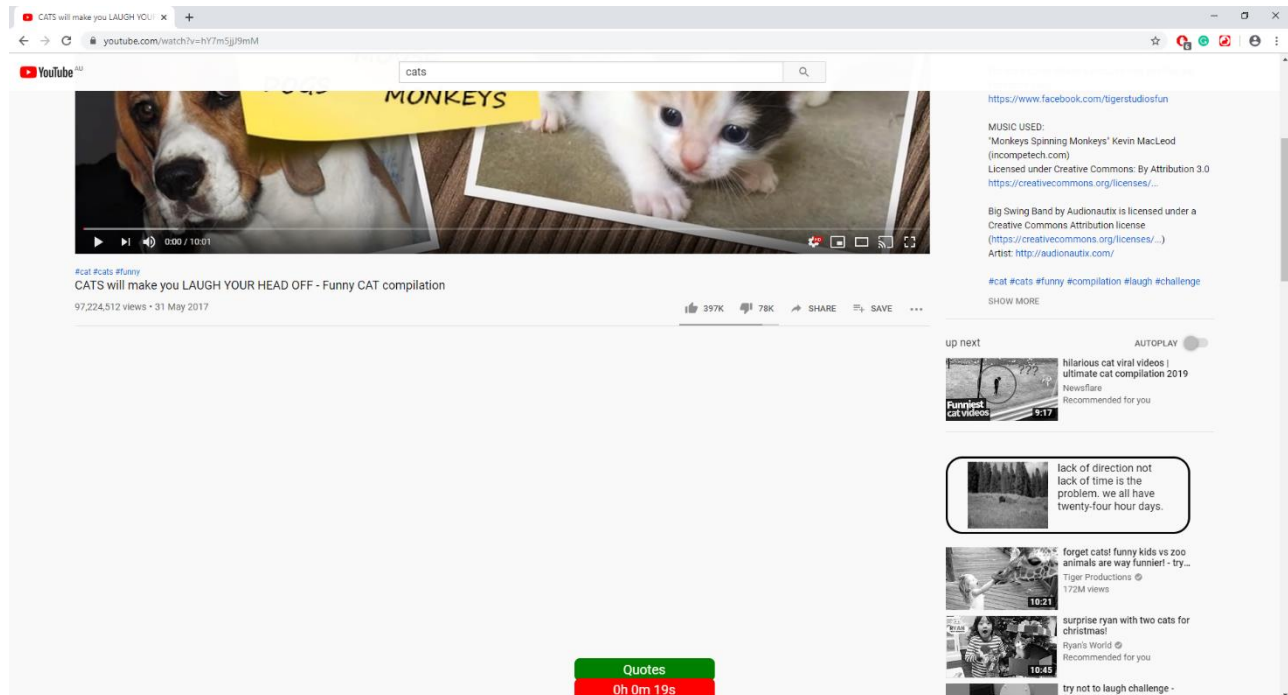
Thumbnail Redesign

After 60% of the session length has elapsed, the timer turns all video thumbnails to greyscale, removes thumbnail animations, and transforms all video thumbnail titles to lowercase.
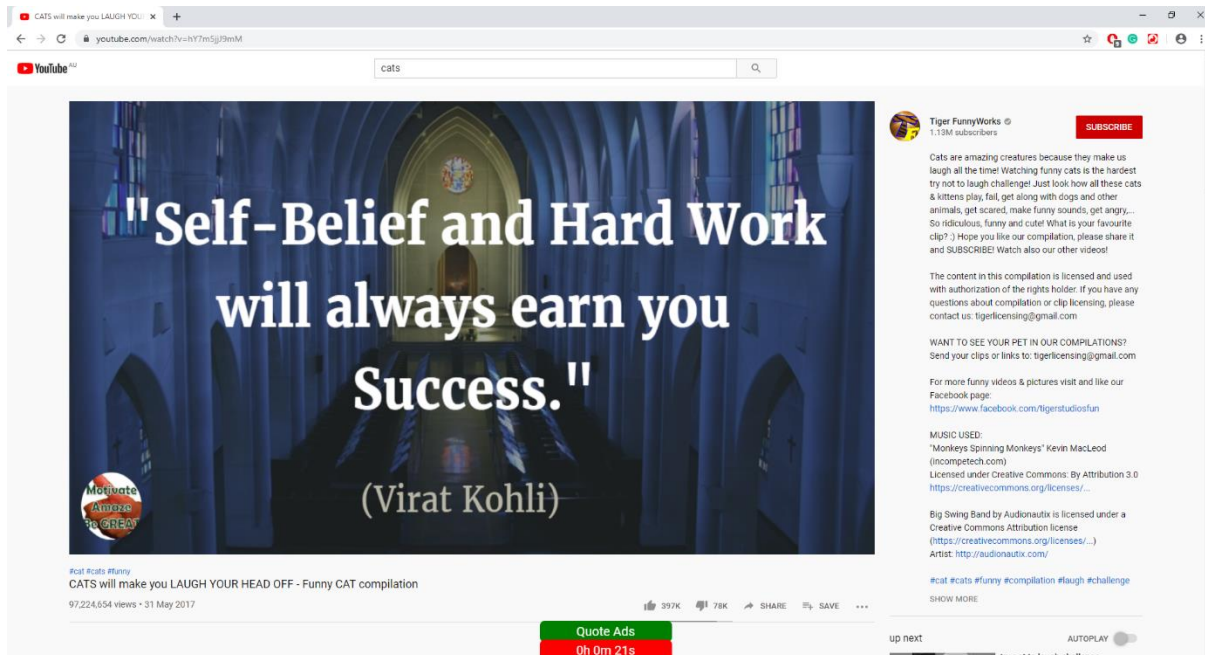
Quotes

After 70% of the session length elapses, the timer imbeds motivational quotes and jokes in between video thumbnails on the watch page, and on the side of the page for the search results page.

Thumbnails are also modified so that when the mouse hovers over them, a tiny text quote appears.
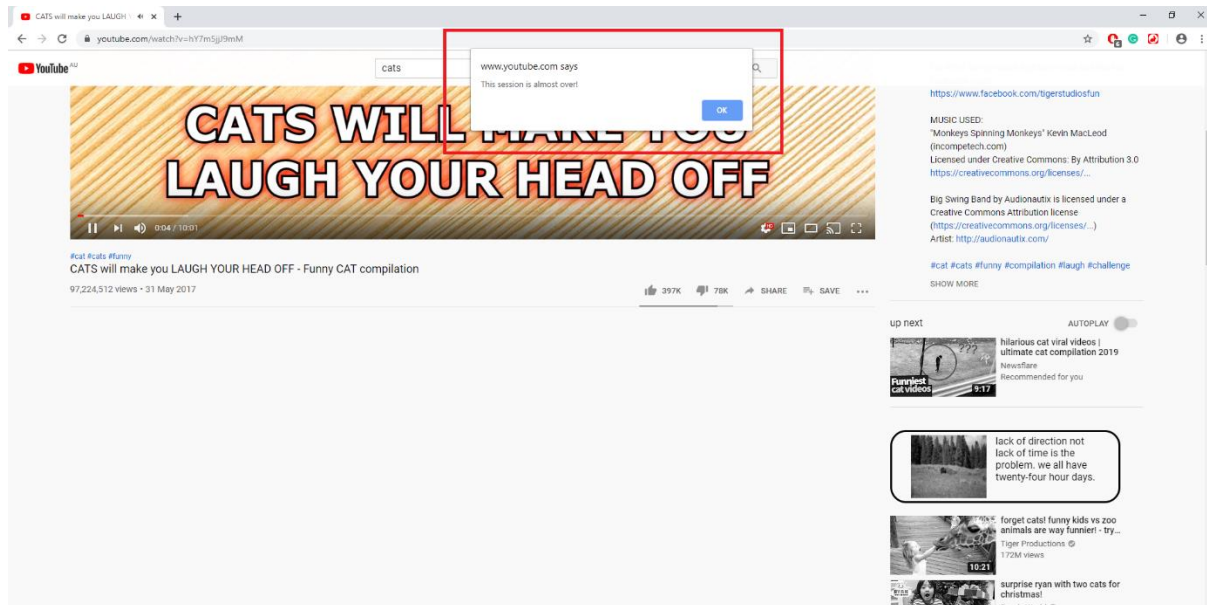
Quote Ads

After 80% of session length elapses, the timer pauses a video, and covers it with a motivational image, that can be removed either by waiting for it to fade away, or by clicking on it.

At this stage of the timer, whenever a user starts a new video, this sort of ad will appear before the video starts.
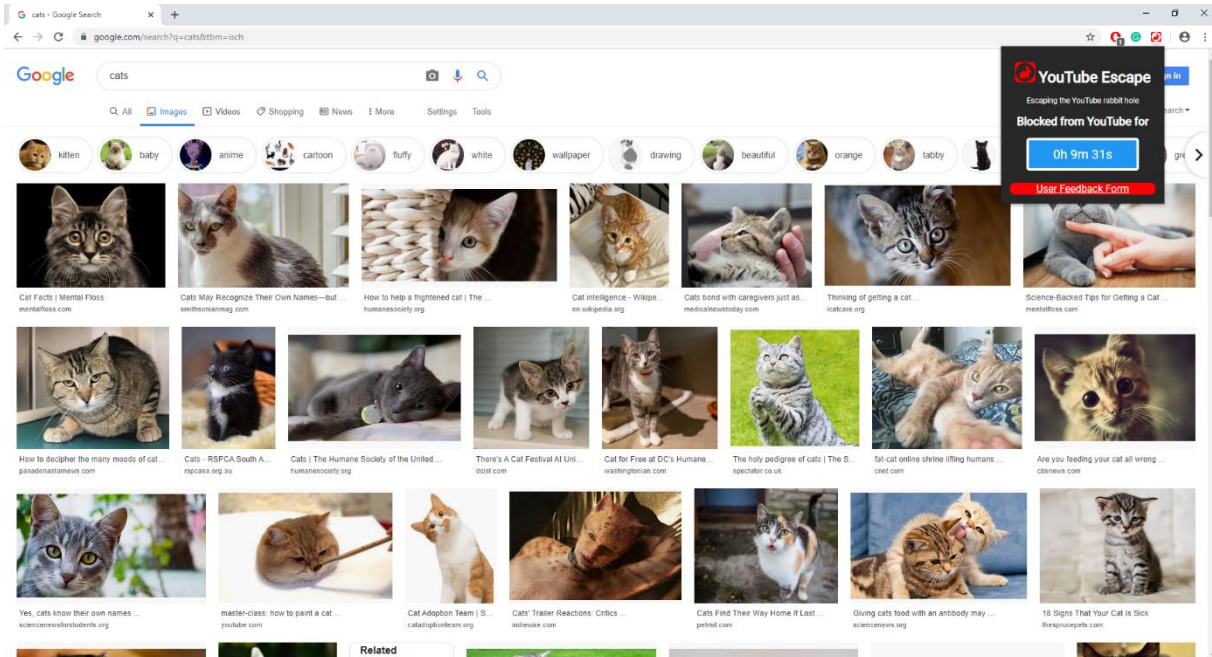
Complete Restrictions

After 90% of session length has elapsed, the timer hides all distracting buttons and video thumbnails so that the user can no longer search for new videos or scroll through suggested video recommendations.

A warning also pops up to notifying the user that the timer is close to kicking them off from YouTube.

2   Timer

Blocked

When the session length expires, the timer kicks the user off YouTube and blocks them from going back on the site until the break time has elapsed.

NOTE: Toggling the ON/OFF button on the extension menu to OFF will disable all the above features except for the final stage where the user gets blocked from YouTube for a specified time.