Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions

Objective

To identify, evaluate, and understand the risks associated with browser extensions and ensure that only safe and legitimate extensions remain installed.

Tools Used

• **Browsers:** Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox

Steps Taken

1. Opened the browser's extension/add-on manager:

- Chrome: chrome://extensions/
- o **Firefox:** about:addons

2. Reviewed installed extensions carefully.

o Checked names, developers, and installation sources.

3. Checked permissions and legitimacy.

 Verified extension descriptions and reviews on the Chrome Web Store and Mozilla Add-ons page.

4. Identified potential risks.

 Looked for unnecessary permissions such as "Read and change all your data on all websites."

5. Decided whether to keep or remove each extension.

 All installed extensions were found to be legitimate and useful for cybersecurity learning purposes, so none were removed.

6. Restarted browsers to check for performance.

No performance issues detected.

7. Researched how malicious extensions can harm users.

- o Malicious extensions can steal cookies, passwords, or browsing data.
- o They can redirect traffic, inject ads, or track user behavior.

8. Enabled automatic updates and security checks for extensions.

- Ensured that all extensions are set to update automatically to receive the latest security patches and bug fixes.
- Verified that no third-party or developer mode extensions are enabled to minimize security risks.

Extensions Reviewed

Google Chrome

Extension Name	Purpose	Legitimacy	Action
Cookie-Editor	Used to view, edit, and manage browser cookies for web testing and cybersecurity labs.	✓ Safe and legitimate.	Kept
Hunchly 2.0	Used for web capture and OSINT investigations.	✓ Safe (official tool).	Kept
Wappalyzer - Technology Profiler	Identifies website technologies (CMS, frameworks, analytics tools).	✓ Safe and legitimate.	Kept
BuiltWith Technology Profiler	Similar to Wappalyzer; detects technologies used by websites.	✓ Safe but redundant.	Kept

Mozilla Firefox

Extension Name	Purpose	Legitimacy	Action
FoxyProxy	Used to manage proxies during penetration testing and cybersecurity analysis.	✓ Safe and legitimate.	Kept

Screenshots

Chrome Extensions:

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•	Hunchly 2.0	꾸	:
•	Wappalyzer - Technology p	꾸	:
~^~	Manage extensions		

Firefox Add-ons:

Manage Your Extensions

Enabled



Easy to use advanced Proxy Management tool for everyone

Findings

- All installed extensions are verified and legitimate.
- None show signs of suspicious activity or excessive permissions.
- Browser performance remains stable after review.

Risks of Malicious Browser Extensions

- Can **steal sensitive data** such as cookies, passwords, or browsing history.
- May inject advertisements or malicious code into websites.
- Can **redirect users** to phishing or scam pages.
- Might track user behavior without consent.

Outcome

- Gained awareness of how to identify and verify browser extensions.
- Confirmed that all extensions currently installed are safe and necessary for cybersecurity learning.
- Improved understanding of how malicious extensions can compromise browser security.

Conclusion

No suspicious extensions were found.

All installed extensions are legitimate, educational, and useful for cybersecurity purposes.

Browser security awareness improved after completing this task.