

# Contents

<b>Getting Started with Mozilla Webextensions</b>	<b>1</b>
Why Web Extensions . . . . .	3
References . . . . .	3
<b>Running WebExtension in Firefox</b>	<b>4</b>
Step by Step procedure for running WebExtension . . . . .	4
Step1: Go to the directory which has contents of Extension . . . .	4
Step 2: We have to compress all the contents into Zip . . . . .	4
Step 3: Open about:addons . . . . .	6
Step 4: Install Addons . . . . .	6
Step 5: Run the Extension . . . . .	6
References . . . . .	7

## Getting Started with Mozilla Webextensions

During 2015 Firefox team has made an exciting very big announcement to Firefox add-ons, they have brought a new extension API's called WebExtension [1]. This update has lot of exciting announcements for developers.

1. Review process will become faster
2. Development is easier, and the Addons will be compatible with Chrome and Opera.

You can find the whole information regarding this update in Add-ons Blog [2]

The next step is to download the Firefox Browser and install them. You can either go for developer Edition [3] or Nightly [4]

So as of now Firefox Will allow only the add-ons which are signed when you start the browser. So for development purpose we have to change the settings.

1. Open the browser
2. in the URL bar type about:config
3. In the search bar of that page type xpinstall.signatures.required , you will see the image as like below. By default it will be true
4. You can double click on it or else right click and select toggle. So it will be set to false

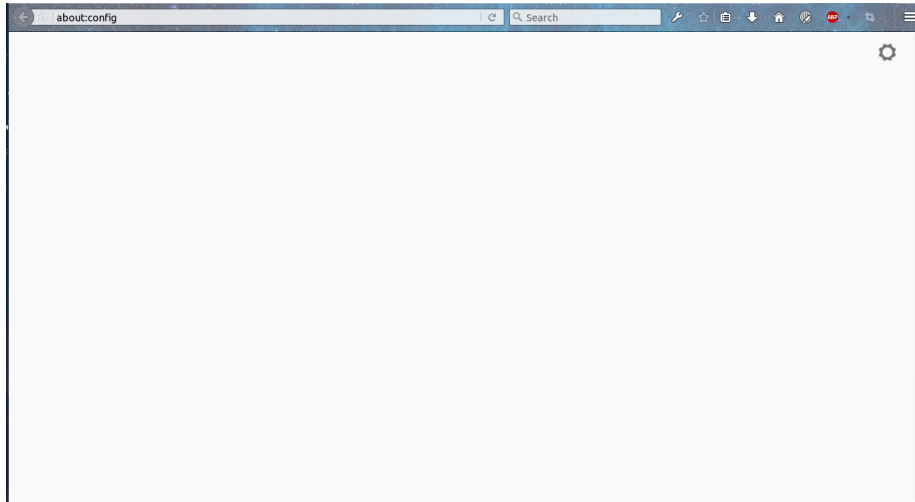


Figure 1: config in URL bar

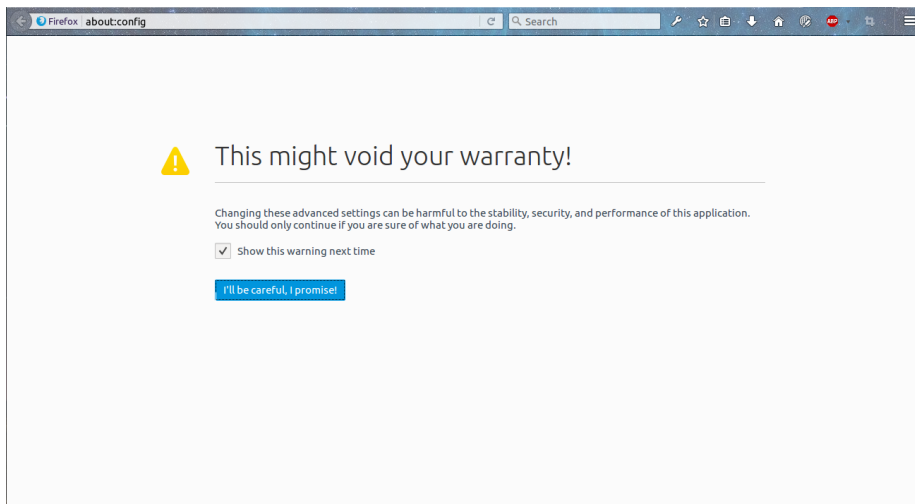


Figure 2: Warning

Search: <input type="text" value="xpinstall.signatures.required"/>			
Preference Name	Status	Type	Value
xpinstall.signatures.required	user set	boolean	false

Figure 3: Signature

## Why Web Extensions

One of the Main reason, to get started with Web Extensions is easier to develop. Previously I have tried developing some Chrome Extensions during my free time, so since the same thing is used here, it will be very easier for me to get started and develop well. So I write once for Firefox Addons and it will support multiple platforms.

Very excited for this new journey of learning.

## References

- [1] <https://wiki.mozilla.org/WebExtensions>
- [2] <https://blog.mozilla.org/addons/2015/08/21/the-future-of-developing-firefox-add-ons/>
- [3] <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/developer/>
- [4] <https://nightly.mozilla.org/>

END OF PANDOC CHAPTER

## Running WebExtension in Firefox

In this section we will be exploring more how to run an Firefox WebExtensions.

I will be showing this demo with the help of the small extension I have written before, feel free to download it from github [1], you can clone whole repo [2]. I personally use web-ext [3] tool for packing my extension, but for basic learning it is not mandatory.

### Step by Step procedure for running WebExtension

#### Step1: Go to the directory which has contents of Extension

In my case it will look like the below. The content showed below is the contents of Extension, which the link is shared above.

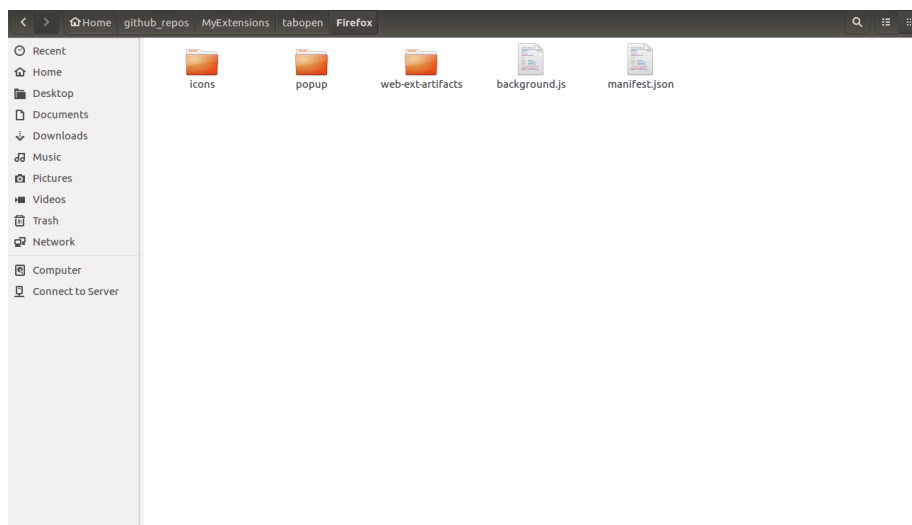


Figure 4: Directory Image

#### Step 2: We have to compress all the contents into Zip

- Select all the folders and files
- Make it to a zip, anyname.zip

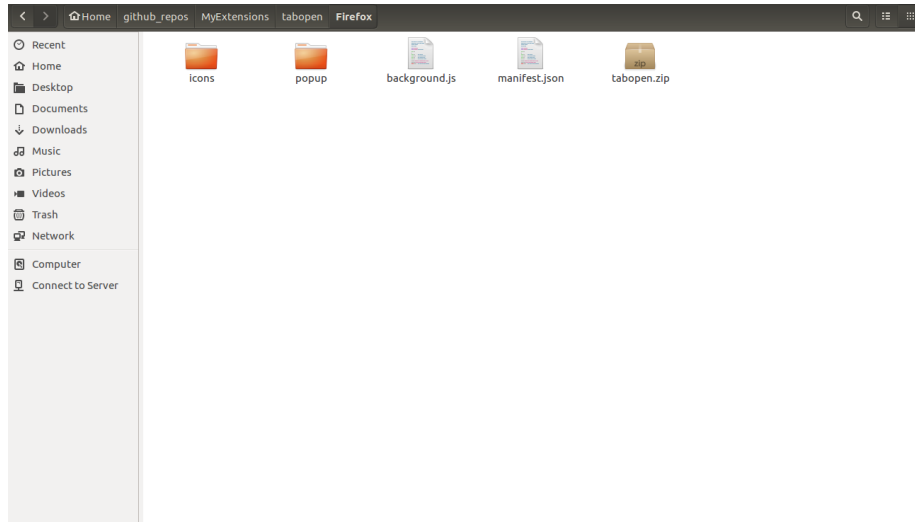


Figure 5: Directory Image

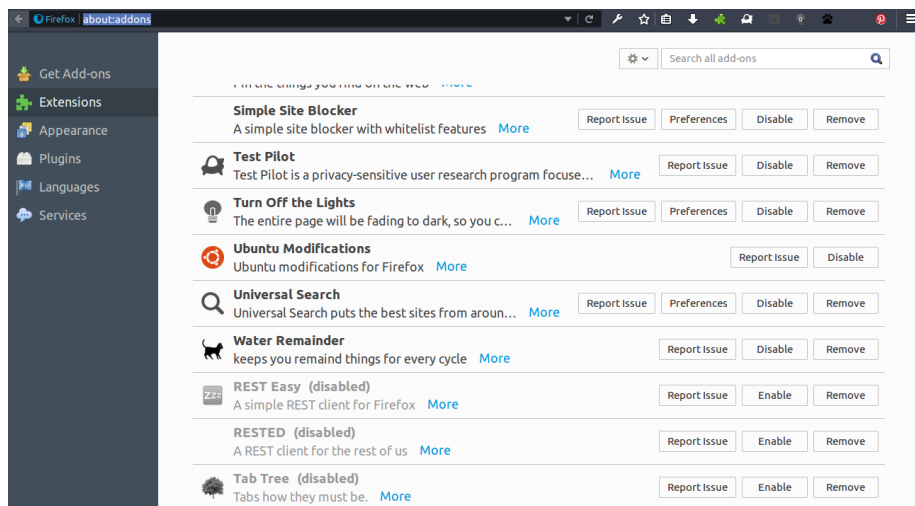


Figure 6: Directory Image

### Step 3: Open about:addons

### Step 4: Install Addons

- Click on Tools for all add-ons (the icon - which is like Setting icon )
- Select Install Add-on From File ..
- Make sure you have set the file type to all files
- Choose the Zip which you created in step 2

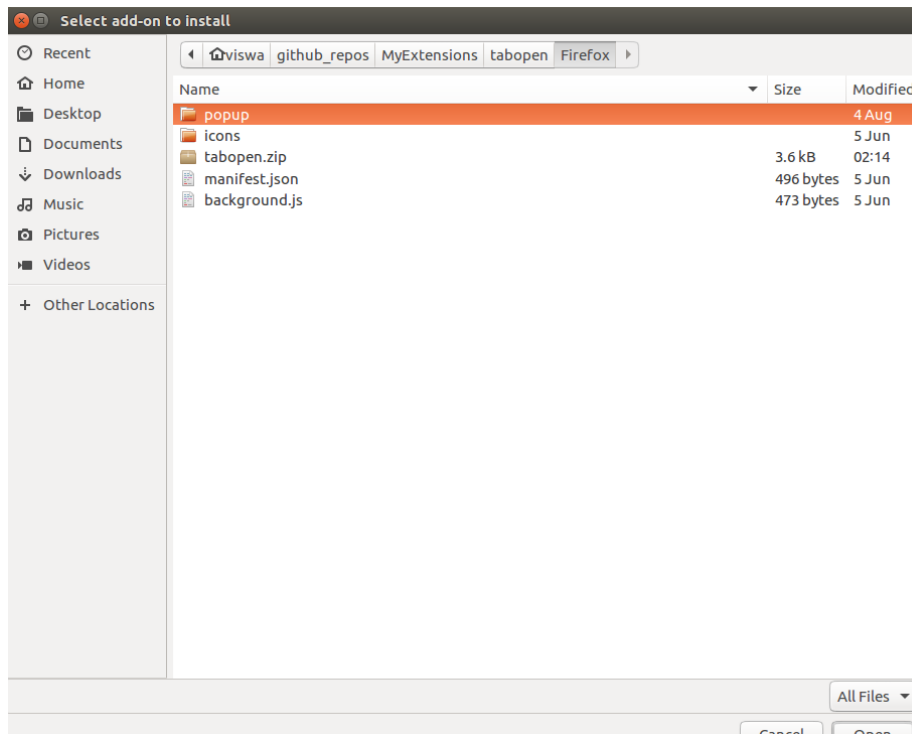


Figure 7: Choose the Zip file

- You will get a pop-up notification after selecting at left corner
- In that pop-up click Install button
- Now your Extension is installed.

### Step 5: Run the Extension

For most of Extensions you will get the icon in the tool bar itself. So for this a page like icon will be coming at toolbar, if every code is run properly. Click on

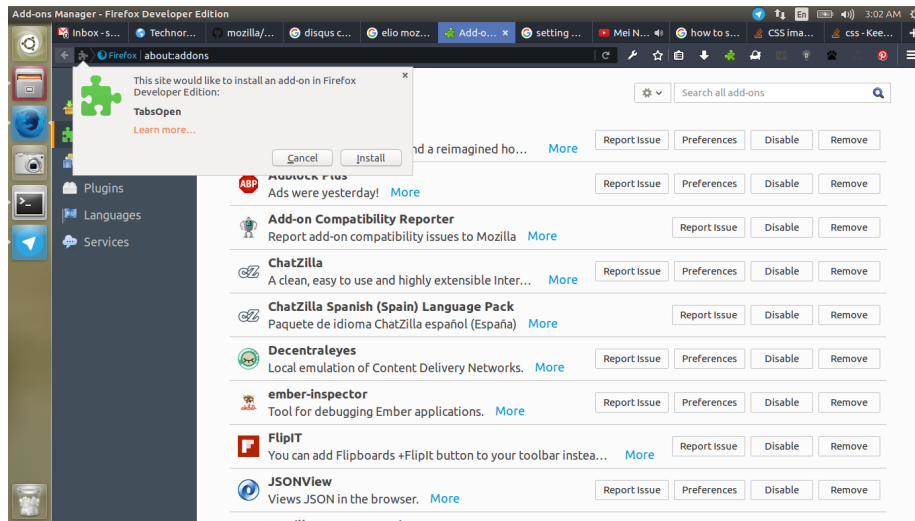


Figure 8: Choose the Zip file

that icon.

So on Selecting any one of the three websites, it will open a new tab and open the site. As of now it is in static mode.

In future, based on user usage we can show top 3 websites there.

Follow for amazing journey of Building WebExtensions.

## References

- [1] <https://github.com/iamVP7/MyExtensions/tree/master/tabopen/Firefox>
- [2] <https://github.com/iamVP7/MyExtensions/>
- [3] <https://github.com/mozilla/web-ext> END OF PANDOC CHAPTER

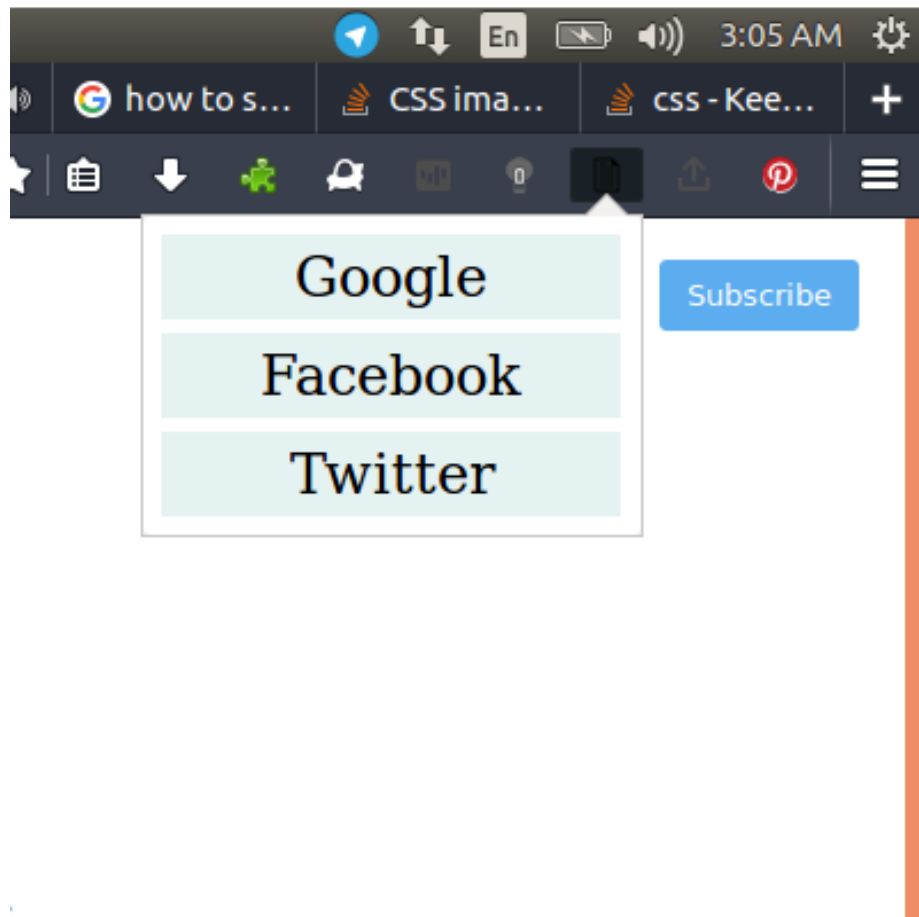


Figure 9: Choose the Zip file