# Task 7: Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions

**Objective:** To learn how to identify potentially harmful browser extensions and remove them to ensure browser security and better performance.

**Tools Used:** Any modern web browser (Google Chrome / Mozilla Firefox).

## Steps Taken:

1. Accessed the browser's extension manager from settings.

2. Reviewed all installed extensions and noted their purpose.

3. Checked each extension's requested permissions and developer credibility.

4. Used McAfee Web Advisor to validate suspicious or lesser-known extensions and websites.

5. Classified extensions into three categories: Trusted, Suspicious, and Unused.

6. Removed extensions that were either suspicious, unused, or required excessive permissions.

7. Restarted the browser to apply changes and observed performance improvements.

8. Researched how malicious extensions can affect users (data theft, phishing, ads injection, slow browsing).

9. Documented all actions taken along with final list of retained and removed extensions.

## Table:

| Extension Name | Developer/Source | Permissions Requested Status | (Kept/Removed) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Adblocker Plus (Legit) | Eyeo GmbH | Access to browsing data | Kept | Trusted, widely used |
| PDF Converter Free | Unknown Developer | Read/Change data on all websites | Removed | Suspicious, unnecessary |
| Shopping Assistant Pro | Unknown | Access to browsing history, cookies | Removed | Collected user data, unused |
| Grammarly | Grammarly Inc. | Access to website content | Kept | Trusted, useful for writing |
| Video Downloader HD | Unknown | Download and modify data from websites | Removed | Potential risk of malware |
| McAfee® Web Advisor | McAfee LLC | Access to browsing activity for protection | Kept | Provides safe browsing protection |

## **Summary:**

During this task, multiple browser extensions were reviewed using both manual inspection and McAfee WebAdvisor validation.

- 3 suspicious/unnecessary extensions were identified and removed.
- 3 trusted and useful extensions were retained (AdBlocker Plus, Grammarly, McAfee WebAdvisor).
- The removal of unnecessary add-ons improved browsing speed and reduced privacy risks.
- The exercise provided hands-on experience in identifying threats and managing browser security effectively.

## Outcome:

✓ Improved awareness of browser security risks.

✓ Learned how to validate extensions using permissions, reviews, and McAfee WebAdvisor.

✓ Browser performance enhanced after removal of harmful add-ons.

✓ Strengthened skills in proactive cybersecurity practices.