# News Title: US officials threaten to break up Google

**Article:**

US officials have confirmed they are considering breaking up Google's "illegal monopoly" of internet searches.

The tech giant could face restrictions on its own products - including its Chrome browser, Play Store and Android operating system, the US Justice Department said.

It comes after a judge found in August the company had broken anti-trust laws to ensure its dominance of online searches.

She added the move would risk the privacy and security of users, hamper the development of its artificial intelligence products and "break" software such as Android.

The government's announcement comes [following earlier reports](https://news.sky.com/story/us-authorities-considering-breaking-up-google-reports-13196828) that officials were considering moves to tackle Google's monopoly.

Meanwhile, in a separate case on Monday, a judge ordered Google must open up its app store to greater competition, including making Android apps available from rival sources.

Judge James Donato said the firm should stop requiring its own payment system to be used for apps on the Play Store.

The ruling follows a court battle between [Google and Epic Games](https://news.sky.com/story/fortnite-back-on-mobile-phones-after-epic-games-row-with-google-and-apple-13197913), which makes the popular video game Fortnite, over in-app purchases.

**Key Fact**: Google facing break-up threat

**Reason for Choosing this article**: Google acts as one of the biggest IT companies in the world, its break-up might have a great impact to the IT industry, which contains both risks and opportunities.

**Related Theories:** Corporate structure, Monopoly

**Further exploration:**

1. What makes US officials consider Google as a company that has illegal monopoly
2. What Google are supposed to do with upcoming restrictions.
3. Why Baidu or Alipay in China did not face the same problem