

A Content Script is a part of Chrome extension development that allows the extension to read or modify the contents of a web page the user visits. Content Scripts are injected into web pages and run in the context of that page, enabling them to interact directly with the page's DOM and execute JavaScript as if it were part of the page itself. They are used for tasks like DOM manipulation, page analysis, or adding new functionality to web pages. Content Scripts can also access the user's local file system directly to store custom data or settings.

In contrast, a Background Script runs in the background, independent of any specific web page, and acts as the central processing unit of the extension. It can manage tasks across different tabs and windows, listen for browser events, and manage the extension's lifecycle. Background Scripts do not have direct access to the content of web pages like Content Scripts do, but they can communicate with Content Scripts to exchange information or trigger actions on the web page.