

The first chapter of the book introduced me to web browsers and their basic functions. There was quite a bit that I did not know about, such as the HTML tags and the Chrome omnibox being able to be used for calculations. Even though using a web browser is second nature to me, as I use one every day, chapter 1 goes to show that there is still so much that my browsers could do that I still do not know about. Overall, even though I know basic web browser functions like the back of my hand, I have gotten new information from the chapter and I have learned new information about my web browser and have more knowledge of how other browsers like Firefox and Edge work.

The first part of the chapter goes over a recap of how the internet works. As mentioned in Appendix A, computers are connected to a network and the Internet is all of these networks connected to each other. The World Wide Web, the most common part of the Internet, is a collection of files that are stored in web servers and accessed by a web browser, which is the software that allows computers to access the files. The most common web browsers today include Google Chrome, Firefox, and Microsoft Edge. These files are able to be easily accessed with webpages created with Hypertext Markup Language, or HTML for short. This language uses tags to display text in a certain way, such as `<b>` for bold lettering, and `<i>` for italics. The most important tag, called an anchor tag, links HTML webpages to each other. These links usually appear as blue text or purple text if the user already visited the site. I have never really known HTML, so it was interesting to know about

Next, Chapter 1 goes over the basic functions of the web browser. At the top of the screen, there is a URL for a webpage, which is a unique address consisting of a transfer protocol, the domain name, and optionally, the path of the webpage file. The user could enter this address in an address bar on the top of the screen. However, most people get to webpages by using a search engine. There are also back and forward buttons that allow the user to go back to a previous page and to the page after that. When people want multiple webpages open on their browser, they can have them in different tabs. Also, people could change their homepage so that a certain page could be opened when the browser opens and bookmark or favorite pages so that they could be accessed easily. If someone wants to look at what pages they viewed in the past, there is a search history. Moving onto privacy, there are what is called cookies, which is a text file that stores information from someone's visit to a website, like login information. If someone does not want cookies or their browsing history to be saved, there is a private web browsing mode, which does just that. And if the user needs help with using the browser, there is a help page that will answer many questions about using the browser. I have heard about cookies for as long as I can remember, but I have never known what they mean.

The second half of the chapter moves into the advanced features of web browsers and how to browse more efficiently. In Chrome, there is what is called an omnibox, which could be used as a way to perform calculations and conversions. If a user is navigating a webpage in a foreign language, Chrome also has Google Translate integrated so that the user can easily translate the webpage into their own language. There are also extensions that can be used to further enhance the user's web browsing experience. The Chrome Web Store is the place to get these extensions. Here, the user can also get themes to customize their web browser to what he or she wants. Users can also save time by using the space bar to scroll up and down webpages and zoom in to view webpages better. Microsoft Edge and Firefox also have features that are unique to them. Edge has a reading view that gets rid of all of the visuals and just gives the user the text in the webpage. The user can also write notes on webpages and save them to the computer. Firefox is open-source, which means that anyone who knows how to code can modify the browser to their liking. Firefox, like Chrome, also has extensions, which are called add-ons, that could help the user have a better browsing experience. The browser also has a find button, in which the user can find a certain phrase throughout the webpage.