

# Identify and Remove Suspicious Browser Extensions

**Objective:** Learn to spot and remove potentially harmful browser extensions.

**Tools:** Any web browser (Google Chrome or Firefox)

**Deliverables:** List of suspicious extensions found and removed (if any)

## ***Step 1 – Open your browser’s extension/add-ons manager***

In Chrome: Type `chrome://extensions/` in the address bar and press Enter. In Firefox: Press `Ctrl+Shift+A` or type `about:addons`. Navigate to Extensions to view all installed extensions.

## ***Step 2 – Review all installed extensions carefully***

Check each extension’s name, icon, publisher, and description. Flag anything unfamiliar, unused, or suspicious.

## ***Step 3 – Check permissions and reviews***

In Chrome, click Details under an extension to see permissions. Look for high-risk permissions like 'Read and change all your data on all websites'. Check ratings and reviews in the Chrome Web Store or Firefox Add-ons site.

## ***Step 4 – Identify suspicious or unused extensions***

Categorize each extension: Keep, Remove, or Test Later based on trust, necessity, and permissions.

## ***Step 5 – Remove suspicious or unnecessary extensions***

In Chrome, click Remove under the extension and confirm. In Firefox, use the three-dot menu → Remove.

## ***Step 6 – Restart browser and check for performance improvements***

Close all browser windows completely, then reopen. Check if speed, stability, and security improved.

## ***Step 7 – Research how malicious extensions can harm users***

Malicious extensions can steal data, hijack sessions, inject ads, track browsing, mine cryptocurrency, or spread malware.

## ***Step 8 – Document steps taken and extensions removed***

Keep a log with Date, Browser, Extension Name, Action, and Reason for removal or retention.

Example Documentation Log:

Date	Browser	Extension Name	Action	Reason
14-Aug-2025	Chrome	Free VPN for Chrome - VPN Proxy VeePN	Removed	VPN with high permissions; possible track
14-Aug-2025	Chrome	McAfee® WebAdvisor	Kept	Trusted vendor; safe if using McAfee suite
14-Aug-2025	Chrome	Session Share	Removed	High-risk: can steal cookies and hijack account