

# ***Catnip! A Web Extension Experience***



**It's more cats.  
For your browser.**

# First, a demo

Let's install and run Catnip!



# manifest.json

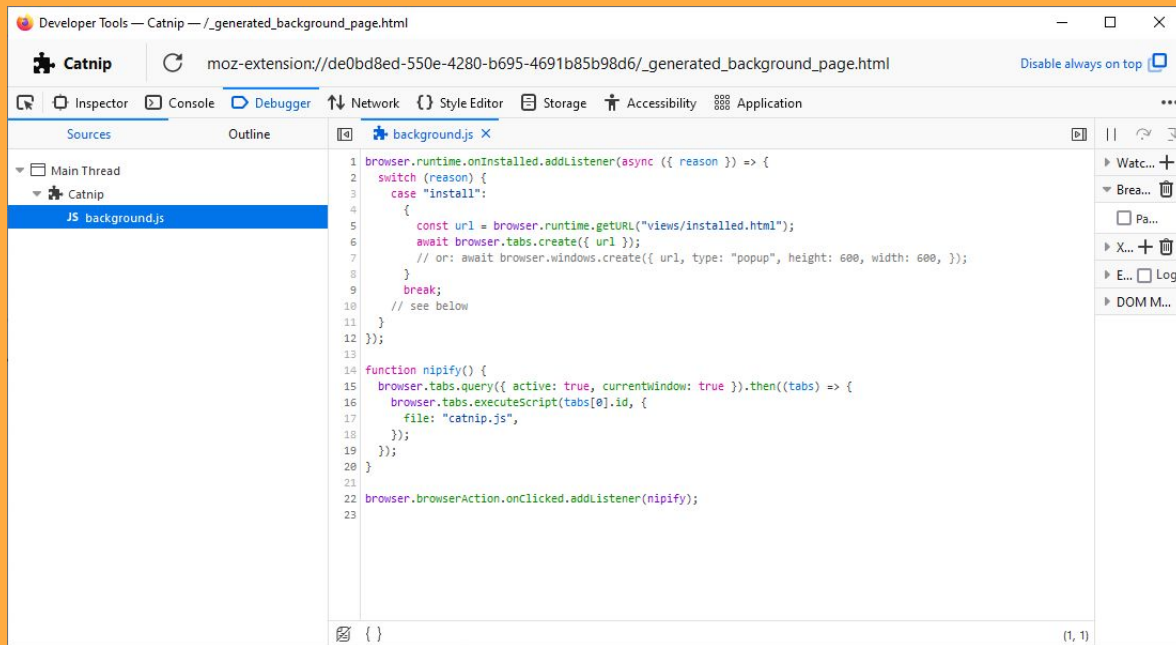
```
{
  "manifest_version": 2,
  "name": "Catnip",
  "version": "1.0",
  "description": "Catnip gives you a button that replaces all images on your active browser tab with images of cats.",
  "permissions": ["activeTab"],
  "icons": {
    "48": "icons/cat-48.png"
  },
  "background": {
    "scripts": ["background.js"]
  },
  "browser_action": {
    "browser_style": true,
    "default_icon": {
      "48": "icons/cat-48.png"
    }
  }
}
```

# Injecting catnip via *background.js*

```
function nipify() {  
  browser.tabs.query({ active: true, currentWindow: true }).then((tabs) => {  
    browser.tabs.executeScript(tabs[0].id, {  
      file: "catnip.js",  
    });  
  });  
}  
  
browser.browserAction.onClicked.addListener(nipify);
```

Disclaimer: Please do not inject cats with catnip. Only inject your browser tabs with Catnip.

# Inspecting *background.js* in a console



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# Injecting catnip via *background.js*

```
function nipify() {  
  browser.tabs.query({ active: true, currentWindow: true }).then((tabs) => {  
    browser.tabs.executeScript(tabs[0].id, {  
      file: "catnip.js",  
    });  
  });  
}  
  
browser.browserAction.onClicked.addListener(nipify);
```

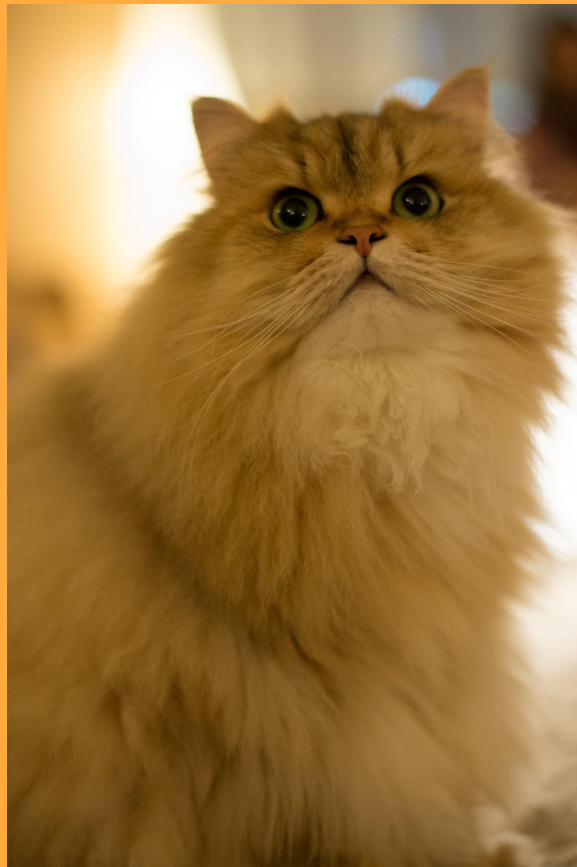
Disclaimer: Please do not inject cats with catnip. Only inject your browser tabs with Catnip.

# catnip.js

```
var catLinks = [  
  "https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5e/Sleeping_cat_on_her_back.jpg",  
  "https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6d/Persian_cat_in_the_car.png",  
  "https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b6/Felis_catus-cat_on_snow.jpg",  
  "https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a9/Female_domestic_cat_black_and_white_05.jpg",  
  "https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/19/Cat_yawn_with_exposed_teeth_and_claws.jpg",  
  ...  
];  
  
var imgs = document.getElementsByTagName("img");  
  
for (var i = 0; i < imgs.length; i++) {  
  // selects a random entry from catLinks  
  let catLink = catLinks[Math.floor(Math.random() * catLinks.length)];  
  imgs[i].src = catLink;  
}
```

# Next steps

1. Self-host the extension on my own website.
2. Develop cross-browser versions.





# That's pretty much it!

Here are some quick takeaways:

1. Browsers are a great platform for building on. Extensions are way simpler than building web apps from scratch.
2. Small-scope projects like this are great for practicing DevOps skills.
3. Recursers are so helpful! Don't *await* to ask for help. (hahaha.)
4. There really can never be too many cats on the internet.



***Thank you for the nips!***



<https://github.com/tal-z/catnip>