

Firefox 3 (Release Candidate) Release Notes

Released: May 16, 2008

This Firefox 3 Release Candidate is a preview release of Mozilla's next generation Firefox browser and is being made available for **testing purposes only**.

Preview releases are published to collect feedback from Web developers and our testing community before advancing to the next stage in the release process. The final version of Firefox 3 will be released when we qualify the product as fully ready for our users. Users of the [latest released version of Firefox](#) should not expect all of their add-ons to work properly with this preview release.

Please see below for an extensive list of [features and enhancements](#) found in Firefox 3, as well as [known issues](#) and [frequently asked questions](#). As always, we appreciate your feedback either through this [feedback form](#) or by filing a bug in [Bugzilla](#).

- **Can save passwords after a successful login.**
- **Simplified add-on installation:** the add-ons whitelist has been removed making it possible to install extensions from third-party sites in fewer clicks.
- **New Download Manager:** the revised download manager makes it much easier to locate downloaded files, and you can see and search on the name of the website where a file came from. Your active downloads and time remaining are always shown in the status bar as your files download.
- **Resumable downloading:** users can now resume downloads after restarting the browser or resetting your network connection.
- **Full page zoom:** from the View menu and via keyboard shortcuts, the new zooming feature lets you zoom in and out of entire pages, scaling the layout, text and images, or optionally only the text size. Your settings will be remembered whenever you return to the site.
- **Podcasts and Videocasts** can be associated with your media playback tools.
- **Tab scrolling and quickmenu:** tabs are easier to locate with the new tab scrolling and tab quickmenu.
- **Save what you were doing:** Firefox will prompt users to save tabs on exit.
- **Optimized Open in Tabs behavior:** opening a folder of bookmarks in tabs now appends the new tabs rather than overwriting.

download and install a Firefox customization from the thousands of Add-ons available from our [community add-ons website](http://en-us.www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/3.0/releasenotes/community-add-ons-website). When you first open the Add-ons Manager, a list of recommended Add-ons is shown.

- Easy to use Download Actions: a new Applications preferences pane provides a better UI for configuring handlers for various file types and protocol schemes.





Improved Platform for Developers

- New graphics and font handling: new graphics and text rendering architectures in Gecko 1.9 provides rendering improvements in CSS, SVG as well as improved display of fonts with ligatures and complex scripts.
- Color management: (set `gfx.color_management.enabled` on in `about:config` and restart the browser to enable.) Firefox can now adjust images with embedded color profiles.
- Offline support: enables web applications to provide offline functionality (website authors must add support for offline browsing to their site for this feature to be available to users).
- A more complete overview of [Firefox 3 for developers](#) is available for website and add-on developers.

Improved Performance

- Speed: improvements to our JavaScript engine as well as profile guided optimizations have resulted in continued improvements in performance. Compared to Firefox 2, web applications

Removing Firefox 3 won't remove your bookmarks, web browsing history, extensions or other add-ons. This data is stored in your *profile folder*, which is located in one of the following locations depending on your operating system:

 Windows Vista	Users\<UserName>\AppData\Roaming\Mozilla\Firefox
 Windows 2000, XP, Server 2003	Documents and Settings\<UserName>\Application Data\Mozilla\Firefox
 Mac OS X	~/Library/Application Support/Firefox
 Linux and Unix systems	~/.mozilla/firefox

Any version of Firefox that you install after removing Firefox 3 will continue to use the data from this profile folder.

Extensions and Themes

Extensions installed under previous versions of Firefox may be incompatible and/or require updates to work with Firefox 3. Please report any issues to the maintainer of the extension.

to a new tab restores them ([bug 425844](#))

Linux and Unix

- If your screen resolution is 800x600 or smaller, you may not be able to see the "Accept" button on the End User License Agreement. Keyboard commands can be used to accept the agreement ([bug 433298](#))
- Ubuntu users who download and install Firefox may find that they cannot install add-ons without first deleting their extensions.rdf file ([bug 433371](#))
- Users running Ubuntu 7.10 may need to update their certificate databases in order to submit crash reports ([bug 407748](#) for instructions)
- The mouse button assignments for Back and Forward have changed, users may need to reconfigure their pointing devices ([bug 420294](#))
- Incompatibilities between NVIDIA drivers and some versions of the X server cause scaled images to render incorrectly ([bug 411831](#))
- The Orca screen reading software does not read some text, such as the save password notification, site identity information, or the default prompt text in search fields - these are known problems with Orca (see [Gnome bug 533109](#) and [533125](#))

Troubleshooting

If you're interested in helping us test pre-release builds, you might want to join our [beta test mailing list](#).

2. Why haven't you responded to the mail I sent you?

Use the [newsgroup](#). The Firefox team reads it regularly, and your email may have gotten lost.

3. Where can I get extensions and themes (add-ons)?

[Extensions](#) and [Themes](#) can be downloaded from [Firefox Add-ons](#).

4. Who makes Firefox 3?

Lots of people. See Help->About Mozilla Firefox, Credits for a list of some of the people who have contributed to Firefox 3.

5. Where's the Firefox 3 source code?

A tarball of the Firefox 3 source code is available for [download](#). The latest development code can be