

# 10 Must have Firefox extensions

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Firefox is a great browser, and even better, when it comes to plug-ins or extensions. I use countless extensions in a day-to-day basis, so I'll mention the ones that I like the most for development, or personal use. Please comment and recommend others, because I'm sure that there are many out there that are great and I'm missing out.

## **Live HTTP Headers** (sniff http traffic, great for AJAX)

I use this extension every single day, it monitors every single http packet and it's extremely easy to use. I can see banner calls, JavaScript loading, Ajax calls, you name it. It is not as complete as Ethereal, but it's much simpler and therefore more useful for an everyday basis.

<http://livehttpheaders.mozdev.org/>

## **Web Developer** (most tools web developers need)

The name is self-explanatory, it has every single utility that a web developer needs. Web Developer just released version 1.0, after a full year of development. I will not even name everything because it does a lot. The functions I use everyday are viewing CSS, JavaScript, and response headers, but again, there will be something in there for you; I guaranty it.

<http://chrispederick.com/work/webdeveloper/>

## **RoboForm** (fill up forms, save passwords)

I use this to store my unlimited passwords for hundreds of sites I use. It is also extremely useful when you're developing forms and need to test out data... or even if you're just browsing and this one site requires you to fill up a bunch of unnecessary fields, just click one button and RoboForm will do it for you. It also has a built-in password generator that I use sometimes, and protected notepads... I only wish there was a way to synchronize my profile at home and at work.

<http://www.roboform.com/>

## **FasterFox** (improve performance)

FasterFox is awesome. It allows you to customize network performance, although I just set it to max and leave it alone. The other reason that I love this extension is completely unrelated: you can right click the task icon and clear your cache. Although this sounds silly, I found that Firefox always caches your SWFs and there is no other way to refresh than clearing your cache. If you're a Flash Developer, or have to deal with some, this fact alone is worth installing it.

<http://fasterfox.mozdev.org/>

## **Console2** (better JavaScript / CSS Console)

Firefox 1.5 modified a little the JavaScript console, yes, now it's the JavaScript / CSS console, and keeps throwing errors that you do not really need to see. It may be useful for someone, but it is a pain for me. Console2 made a good job by allowing you to filter your errors and only display the ones relevant to you.

<http://forums.mozillazine.org/viewtopic.php?t=318102>

## **Sage** (nice RSS reader)

I am now actually using SharpReader, but until not too long ago, Sage was one of the best and easiest to use RSS readers that I could find. It is already built-in my browser, so I don't have to open any other software, and I really like the way it displays my feeds.

<http://sage.mozdev.org/>

### **Customize Google**

It adds a bunch of little features, such as the Google suggest, which is working great... I don't know why it's still on Beta. It also adds direct links to Google Images, and remove banners from your gmail.

<http://www.customizegoogle.com/>

### **foXpose** (Mac-like page split)

I barely use this, but I still think it's great. This extension adds a little icon to the bottom-left corner of your browser, and allows you to see all your tabs simultaneously in a Mac-style view.

<http://viamatic.com/firefox/>

### **Session Saver** (save current tabs, cookies)

So if you're a web developer, saving your cookies may be a bad idea... but this extension doesn't force you to do it, it allows you to. What I like the most of this, is that if FF ever crashes, or say Windows crashes, you can open FF and all your tabs will still be there.

<http://adblock.ethereal.net/alchemy.cgi/SessionSaver>

### **Page Saver** (save image of full length web page)

If you need to send screen shots, print-screen will only save the viewable area, and saving to a pdf may not include all the elements of the page... this extension allows you to save exactly what you see to a PNG. When you install it, it is set to save 25% of the viewable resolution by default, which I found crappy. I recommend changing it to 100%, and if you need to scale it down you always can.

<http://pearlcrescent.com/products/pagesaver/>