Firefox

From Marcy Zitz
Your Guide to Family Internet
http://familyinternet.about.com/od/sharingacomputer/gr/firefox.htm

Guide Rating - 5

The Bottom Line

Firefox is a free browser that has many great features and is very customizable.

Manufacturer's Site
http://www.mozilla.org/products/firefox/

Pros
• Tabbed browsing
• Built in pop up blocker
• Imports favorites and other settings

Cons
• Large download on dial up

Description
• Has tabs to handle multiple sites open at the same time instead of multiple windows.
• Comes with a built in pop up filter to get rid of those annoying pop ups.
• Has great security that prevents ActiveX controls from running.
• Comes with built in Google search built in plus has "smart keywords" built in.
• Integrates RSS feeds with live bookmarks so you read headlines and updates from your favorite sites.
• Customize tool bars, buttons, sizes and more.
• Downloads are automatically saved to your desktop so they are easy to find.

Guide Review - Browser Review - Firefox

If you are looking for a new browser, Firefox just may be the browser you are looking for. The extra features that it comes with makes browsing the Internet an enjoyable experience.

Downloading and installing the program is very simple. After you start the program, it asks you if you want to import favorites, settings, history, and passwords from Internet Explorer or prior versions of Netscape.

When you first open the program you can easily use it without having to figure out much. Of course the nice thing is that you can start customizing it if you desire.

One of the nicest features is the tabbed browsing experience. Instead of looking through multiple windows on the bottom of your screens, all open browser windows are clearly visible and accessible with tabs. You can quickly and easily switch between the different sites.

A huge plus with Firefox is the RSS feeds that are live bookmarks. This site has RSS feeds and when you enable it, all my latest headlines from the front page will show in your bookmarks. For more information on this great feature be sure to read about live bookmarks at their site (link is listed under suggested reading).

The bottom line is that whether you want to just be able to use a secure browser or you want to completely customize your surfing, Firefox is definitely worth a try.

Opera

From Marcy Zitz
Your Guide to Family Internet
http://familyinternet.about.com/od/sharingacomputer/gr/opera.htm

Guide Rating – 4.5

The Bottom Line

Opera is a great browser that loads pages fast and has a lot of extras that make browsing the Web fun.

Manufacturer's Site
http://www.opera.com/

Pros
• Loads Web pages fast
• Has many extras that makes it worth the price

Cons
• Only free to try

Description
• Loads pages fast.
• Has tabs to handle multiple sites open at the same time instead of multiple windows.
• Comes with a built in pop up filter to get rid of those annoying pop ups.
• Has built-in mail client.
• Imports your existing bookmarks, contacts, and e-mails.
• Built-in Google search.
• You can use skins to modify the appearance.
• Advanced security.
• Built-in RSS newfeed reader.
• Built-in IRC chat.

Guide Review - Browser Review - Opera

Opera is a great browser that is available for a small fee after a free trial period. You might might find that the cost is worth it.

Downloading and installing the program is easy and you can import all your settings from Internet Explorer and your email client.

Opera has a great user interface that is easy to navigate and doesn't require a huge learning curve if you are used to Internet Explorer. The extras such as tabbed browsing and pop up blocking make browsing Web pages enjoyable.

The best thing about Opera is that you will probably notice that pages load faster on the same connection that you are using. It has very good security features and doesn't bog down your computer by using huge amounts of memory.

Opera is definitely worth a try if you are in the market for a new browser.

Manufacturer's Site
http://www.opera.com/

Crazy Browser

From Marcy Zitz
Your Guide to Family Internet
http://familyinternet.about.com/od/sharingacomputer/gr/crazybrowser.htm

Guide Rating - 4.5

The Bottom Line

Crazy browser is great if you are used to Internet Explorer and you want to soup up your Internet browsing.

Manufacturer's Site
http://www.crazybrowser.com/

Pros
• Tabs for viewing several sites at one time.
• Can open several sites at one time by organizing desired groups.
• Built in pop up filter.

Cons
• Can be hard to get used to.
• Favorites are alphabetically organized.

Description
• Has tabs to handle multiple sites open at the same time instead of multiple windows.
• You can organize groups of sites that can be opened all at once with just a click.
• Comes with a built in pop up filter to get rid of those annoying pop ups.
• Very configurable to allow clicked links to open in a new tab or on the same tab.

Guide Review - Crazy Browser

If you are like most Internet surfers, chances are you just use Internet Explorer as your favorite browser because it came with your computer. And like most surfers, you have become used to the experience and may have a hard time adjusting to change or you are satisfied so you haven't even thought of switching. Crazy Browser may be the new browser you are looking for because it is so similar to Internet Explorer but the add-ons make it great.

One of the greatest features in Crazy Browser is that you don't have to open multiple windows to have several different sites open at the same time. Instead you have tabs that you click on to switch from site to site.

Another great feature is groups. You can set up several different groups of sites that all open on different tabs with just one click. I find it great and I have set up several groups like news, where I open up all my local news sites all at once and I can read each one with just clicking through the tabs.

One of the nicest things about Crazy Browser is that it is very customizable. You can set how you want new links to open - either in the same tab or in a new tab.

The one thing that I found hard to get used to is that your favorites list will only stay in alphabetical order.

Crazy Browser is freeware and definitely worth a try for more customized browsing of the Internet.