

Advanced Internet



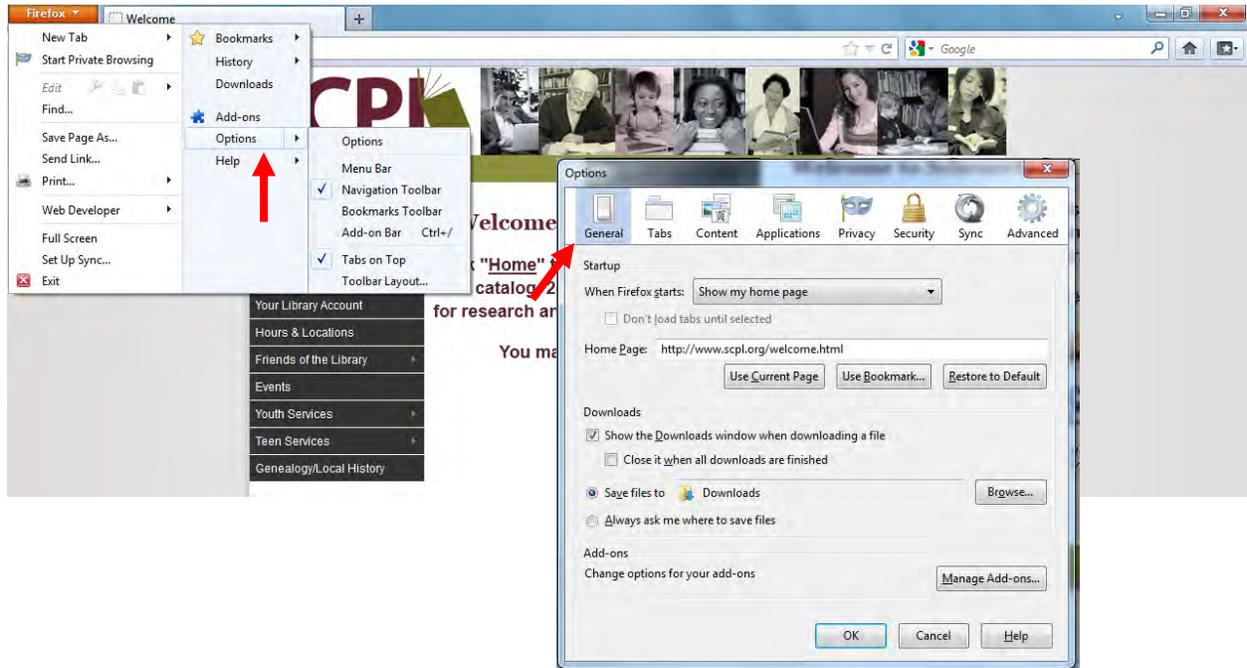
Location: Central Library, Technology Room

Visit Schenectady County Public Library at <http://www.scpl.org>

Home Page: Be creative! There is more to life than your Search Engine.

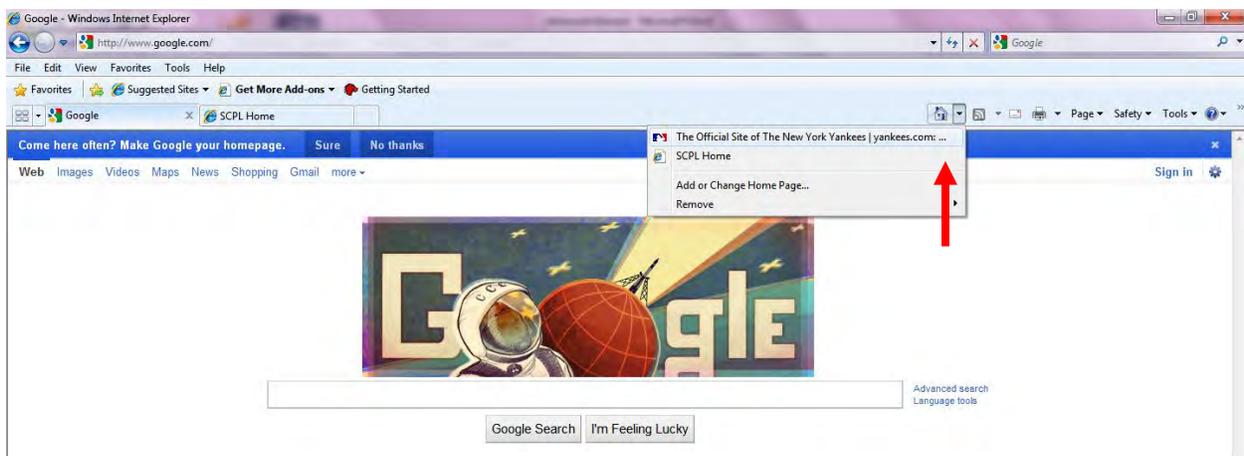
Do you have a favorite sports team page, cooking show page, or perhaps news network? Make that page your homepage with just a few simple clicks of your mouse!

Open your browser and **click** on the Tools > Options feature.



In Options > General, enter web address that you would like for your home page. Click OK.

In the event you have the homepage option through the Home icon, you can complete the same tasks using that dropdown menu.



Ready ... Set ... Change your Search Engine

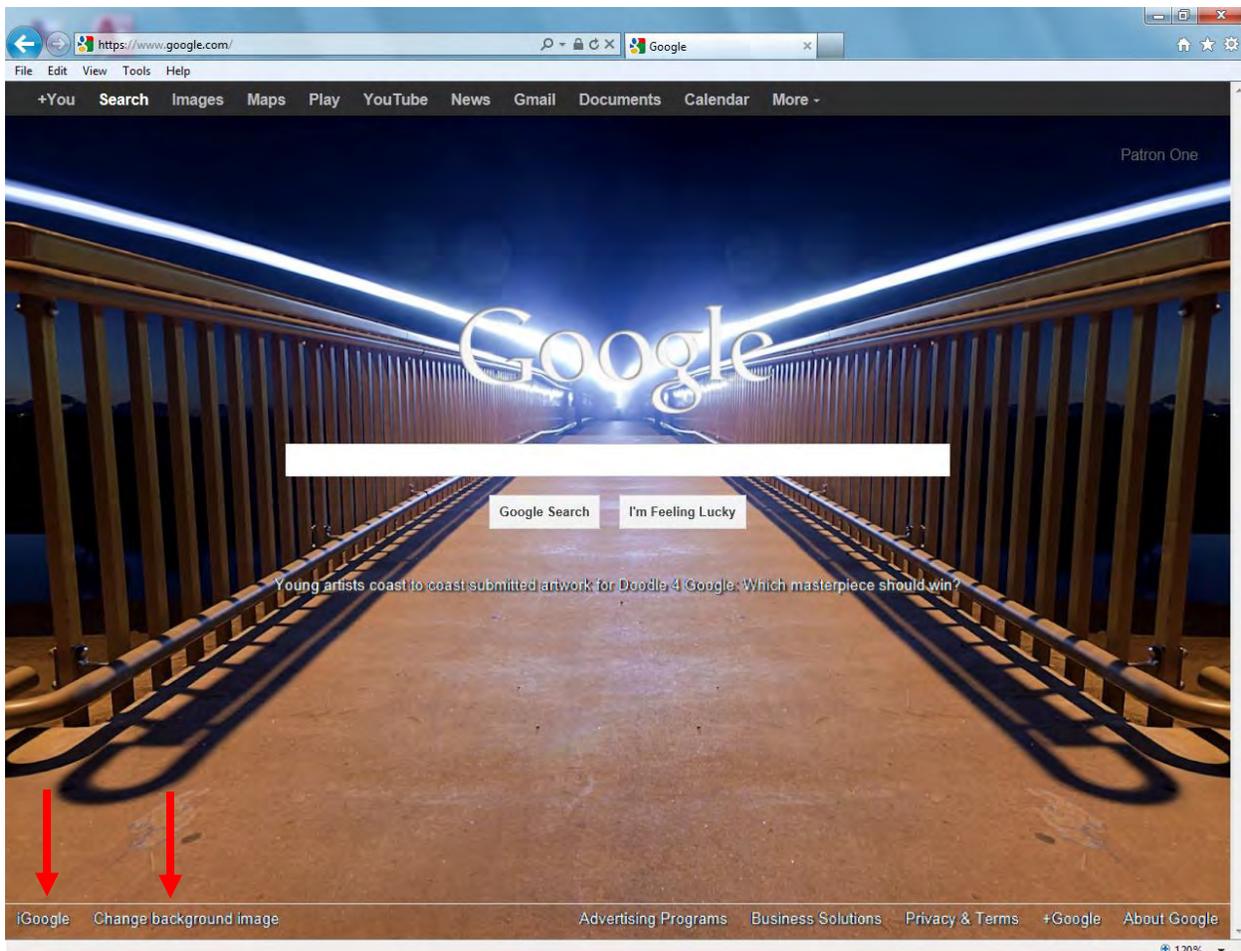
There is a number of interesting search engines – each with their own special features. Many people will have their favorite search engine as their homepage.

The search engine may have a link you can use to make that search engine your homepage OR follow the same procedures outlined above for changing your homepage.

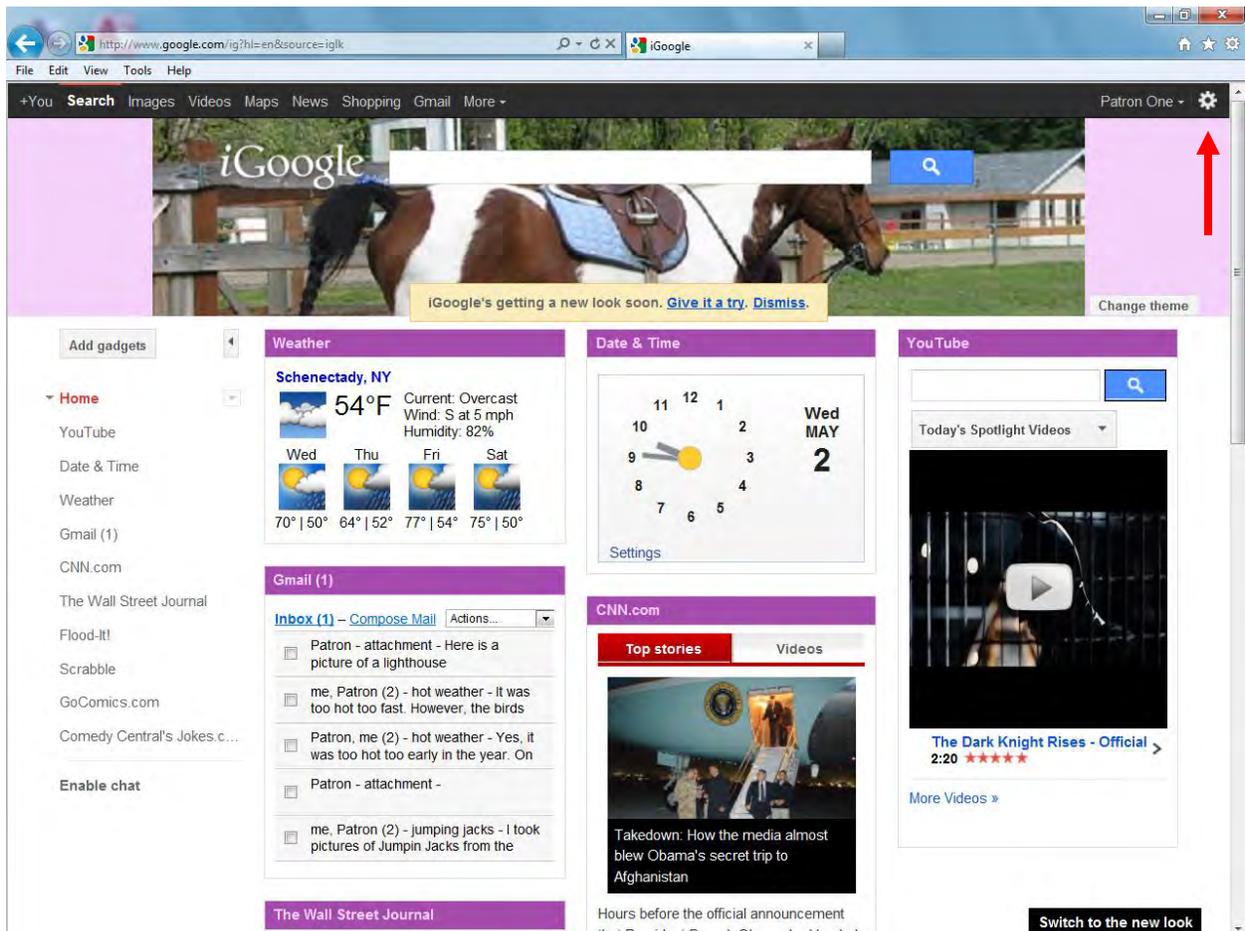
Examples of search engines include: Ask.com; Baidu.com (Chinese); Bing.com; Google.com; Yahoo.com; Yandex.com (Russian). For more search engines and metasearch engines, visit <http://en.wikipedia.com>

Get Personal with Google

Like many others, you may like Google as your homepage but would like to personalize the page. You can do that through I-Google or by changing the background screen. (Note: gmail account required.)

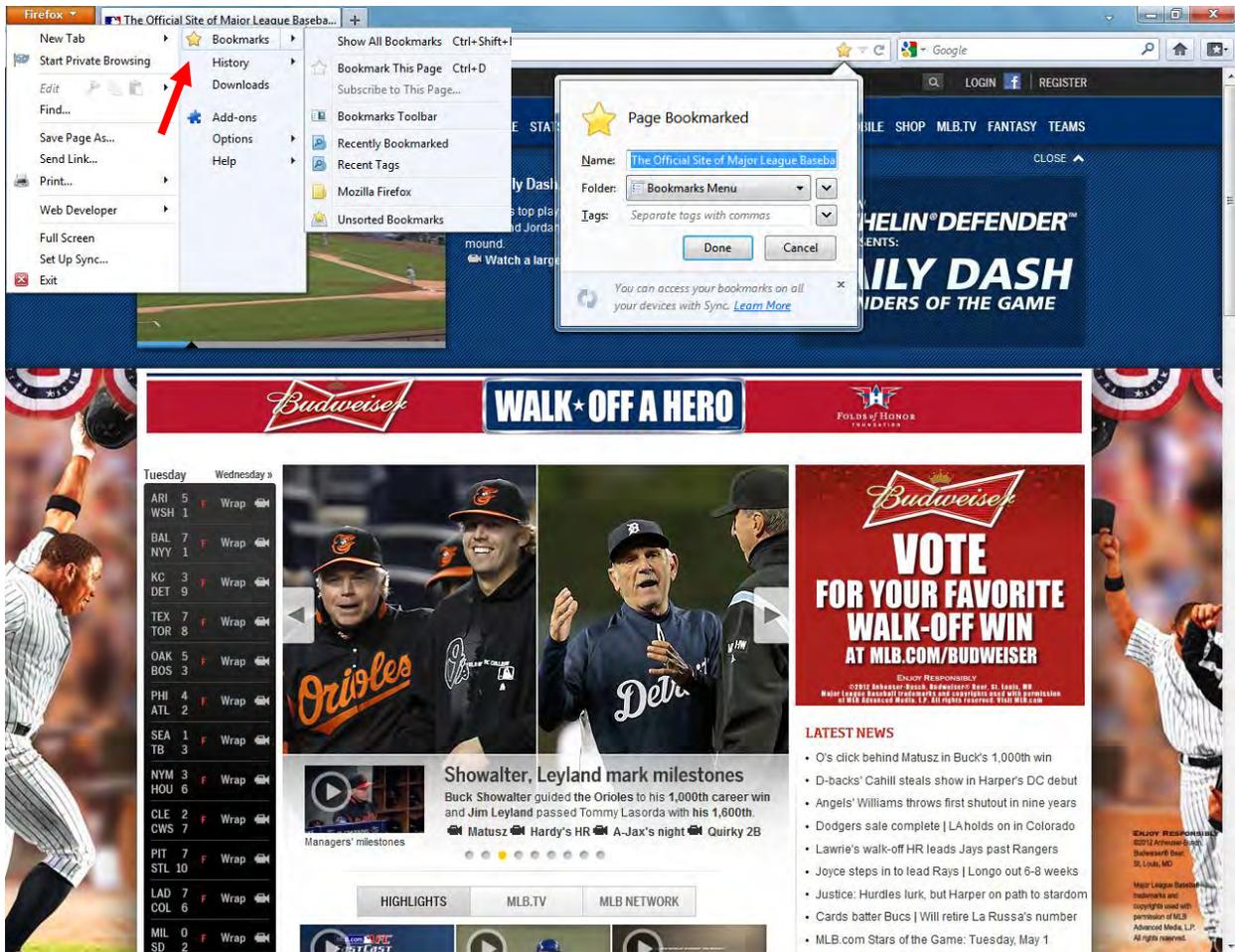


iGoogle allows you to add a theme and special interest features to your homepage.



Favorites Make Life Easier!

Your browser toolbar (or shortcut feature) has a tab called Favorites (or Bookmarks if you are using Firefox). You can save your favorite links in Bookmarks and organize them into folders that reflect your personal needs. For example, you are a baseball enthusiast. You visit the major league baseball site frequently.



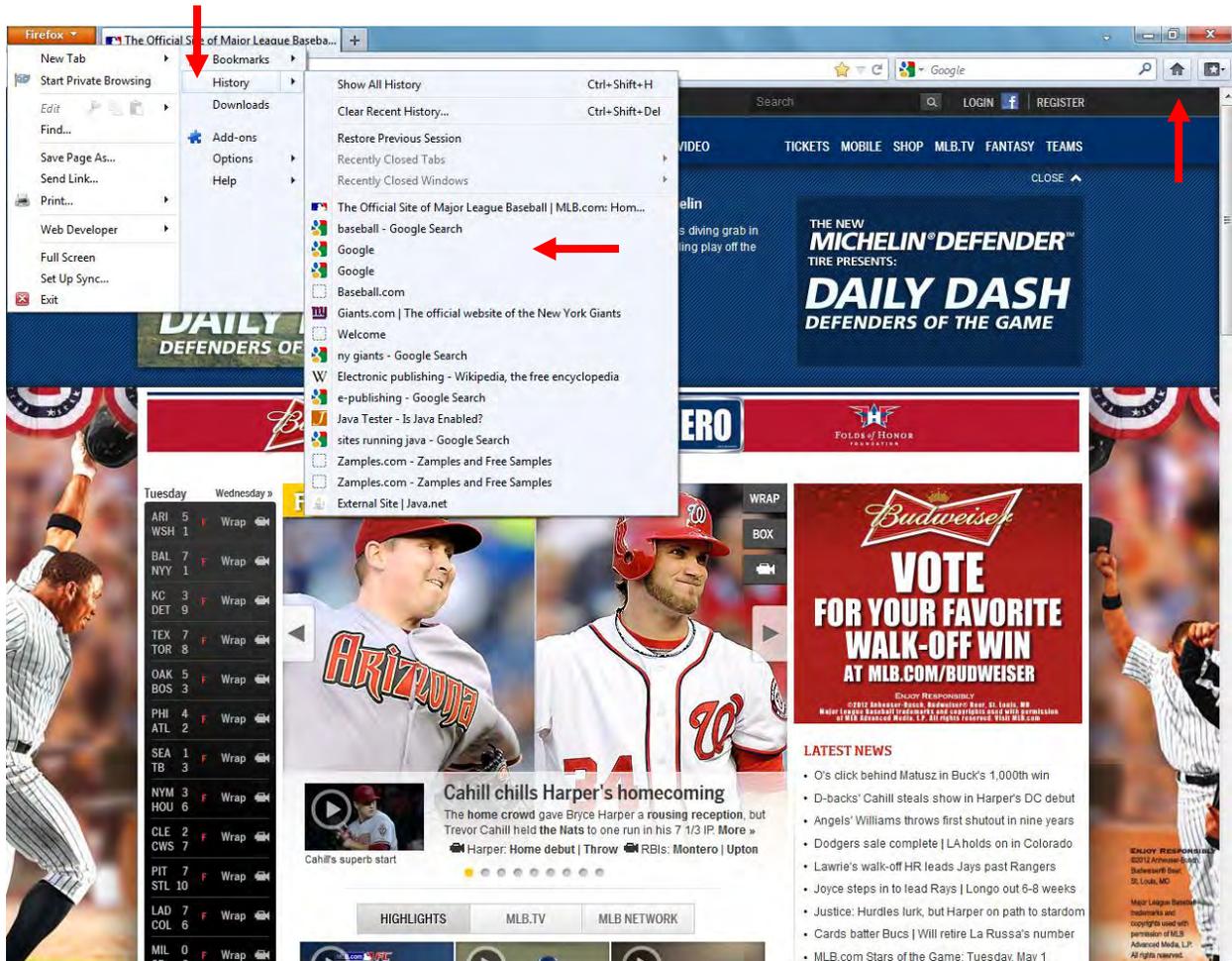
Click **Bookmarks** > **Add to Bookmarks**.

You can either **click Add** OR **click New Folder** where you will continue to add websites that reflect your interest in baseball.

Notice the yellow Star. You can select the **Bookmark Toolbar** as an added convenience feature.

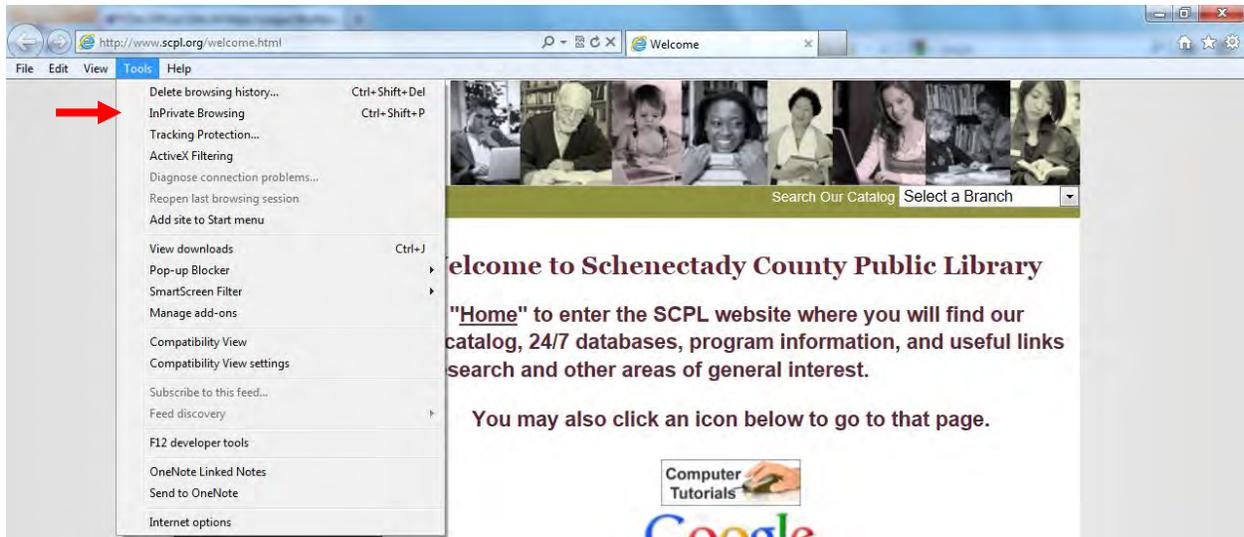


You can also revisit web pages using the directional arrows, history and address bar dropdown arrows.



Security Issues

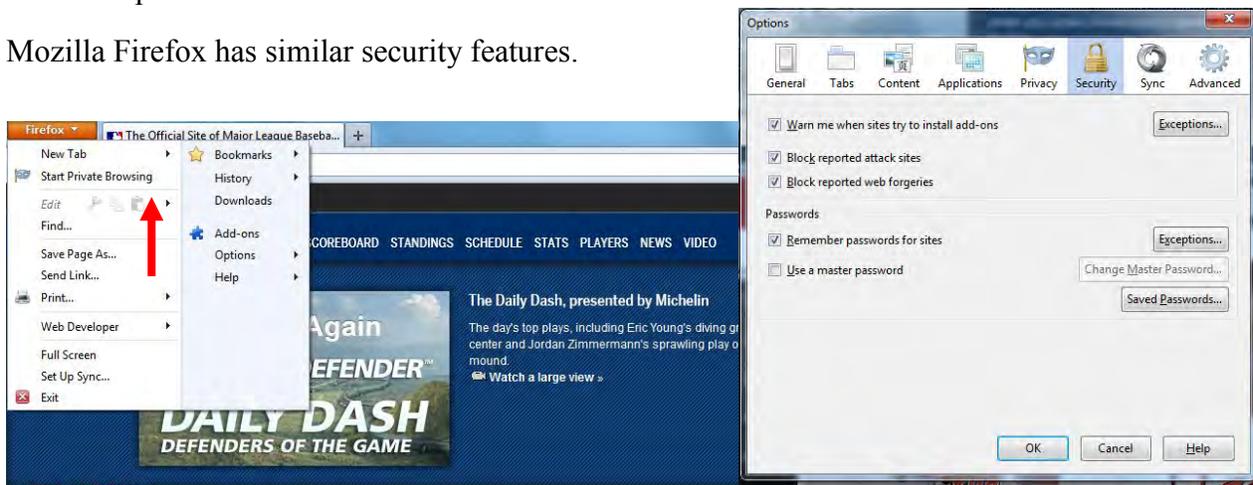
Internet Explorer stores the following types of information as you browse the internet: 1) temporary internet files, 2) cookies (small text files websites put on your computer to store information about you and your preferences), 3) browsing history, 4) information you entered into websites or the address bar, and 5) saved web passwords. You may want to delete that information if you are using a public computer or have other privacy concerns. You can also use Internet Explorer's InPrivate Browsing feature to avoid leaving a history as you browse.

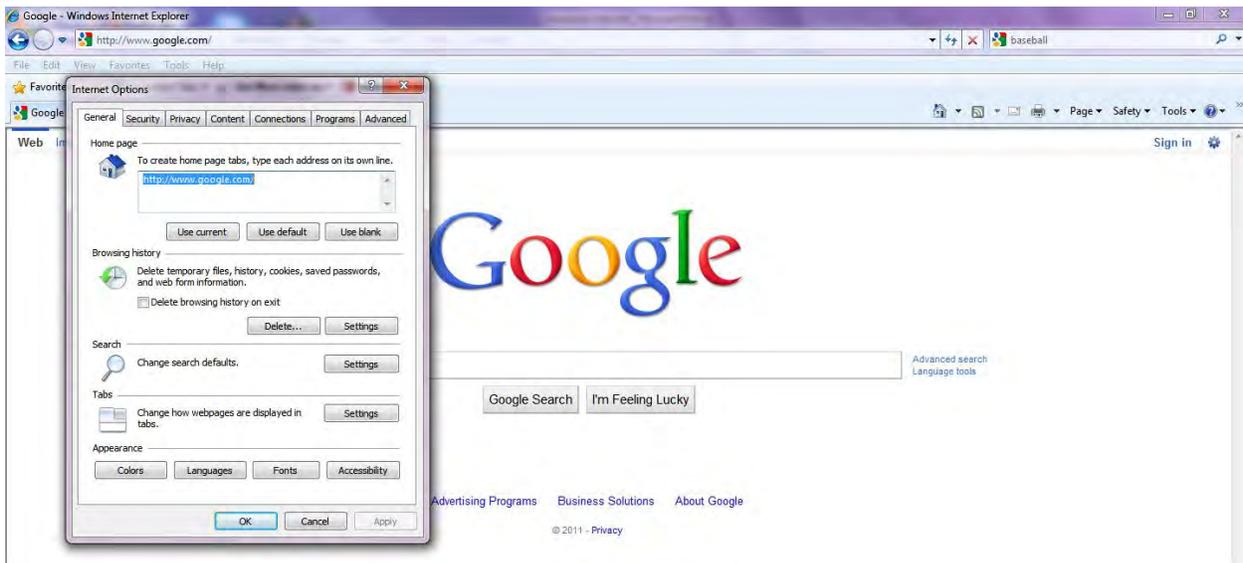


To delete browsing history or to use the InPrivate Browsing feature, **click Tools** . The InPrivate browsing feature opens a new window. The protection of InPrivate is only in effect as long as that window is open. You can open as many tabs as you want and they will all be protected. If you open a new window, that window will not be protected. To end the InPrivate session, close the InPrivate window.

Other security and privacy features include the InPrivate Filtering and Filtering Settings, Pop-up Blocker, and SmartScreen Filter. For an overview of Security and Privacy options, click Tools > Internet Options.

Mozilla Firefox has similar security features.





For more information about security and privacy features, explore the Help feature and research credible websites.

Browsers

A **web browser** or **Internet browser** is a software application designed to help the user perform a single or multiple similar tasks such as retrieving, presenting, and traversing information resources on the world wide web. The primary purpose of the web browser is to bring information to the user.

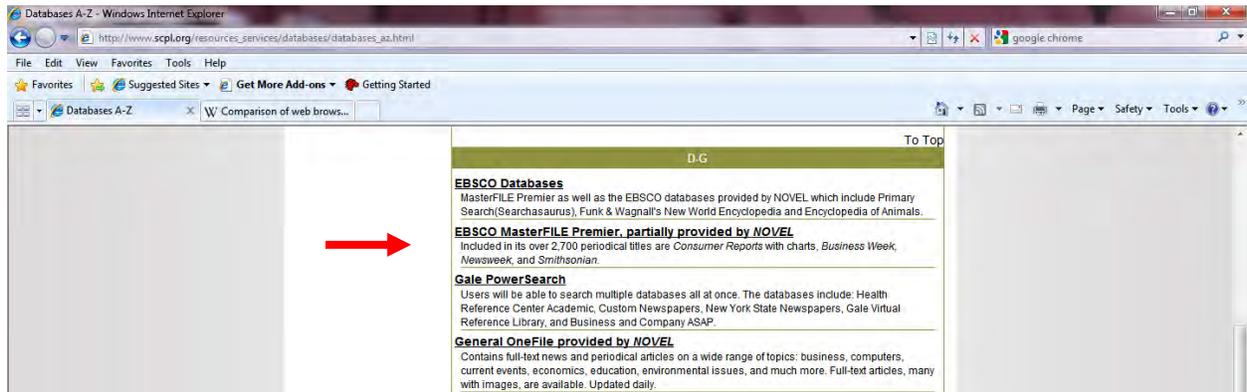
Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome are three popular browsers. Each browser has special features, policies, and designs that appeal to different users.

Windows Internet Explorer, developed by Microsoft, has been the most widely used browser since 1999 although its popularity has been declining in the face of renewed competition from other web browsers, and was about 45% as of February 2011. It is included in the Windows operating system. Mozilla Firefox, as of March 2011, was the second most widely used browser. Google Chrome is a web browser developed by Google and first released in September of 2008. All three operate in the Windows environment. Firefox and Google Chrome also run on a Mac.

When selecting your browser, consider such issues as what features does it have that meet your needs; how easy is it for you to navigate; what kind of security features does it offer; how quickly does it start up and load the web pages; and what kind of Help/Support does it offer.

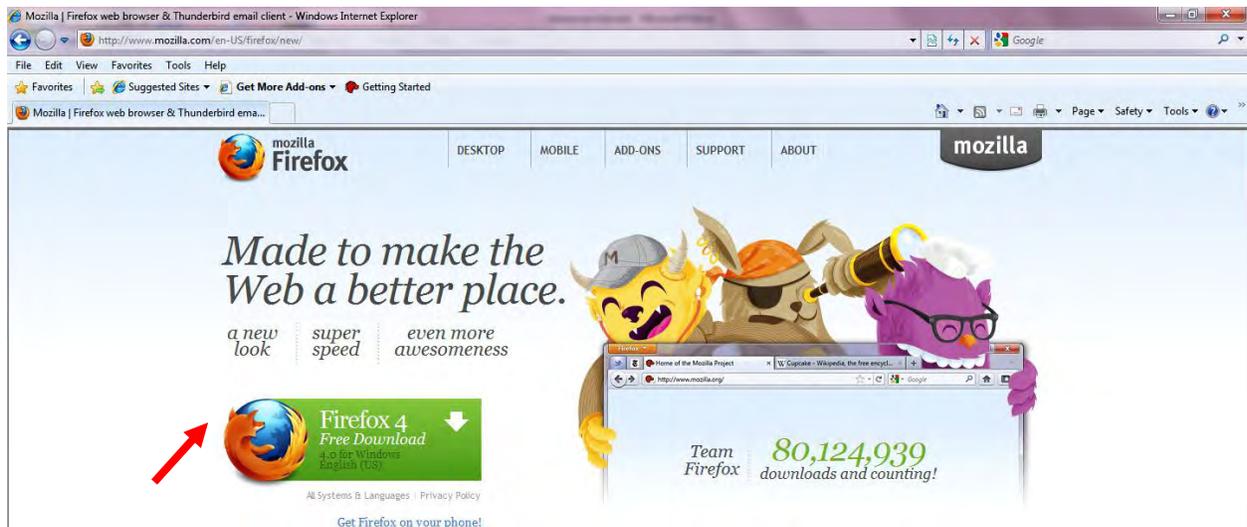
Investigate browser features using your search skills. Wikipedia has helpful articles that range from average to more technical in difficulty. An easy-to-understand comparison chart can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_web_browsers Also, a top-ten rating and comparison review appears at <http://internet-browser-review.toptenreviews.com/> Many more

websites as well as print resources are available. Your library periodical database would be a great resource! (http://www.scpl.org/resources_services/databases/databases_az.html)



Browser Choices?

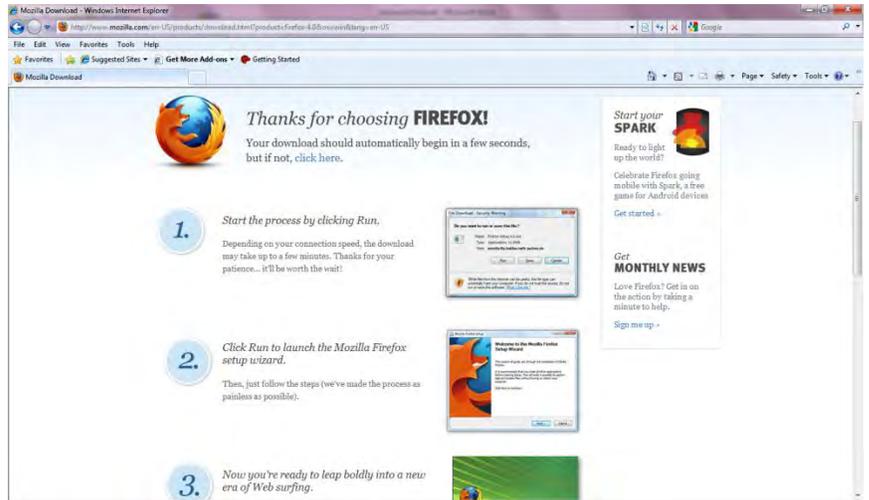
Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome offer alternatives to Internet Explorer for the PC user.



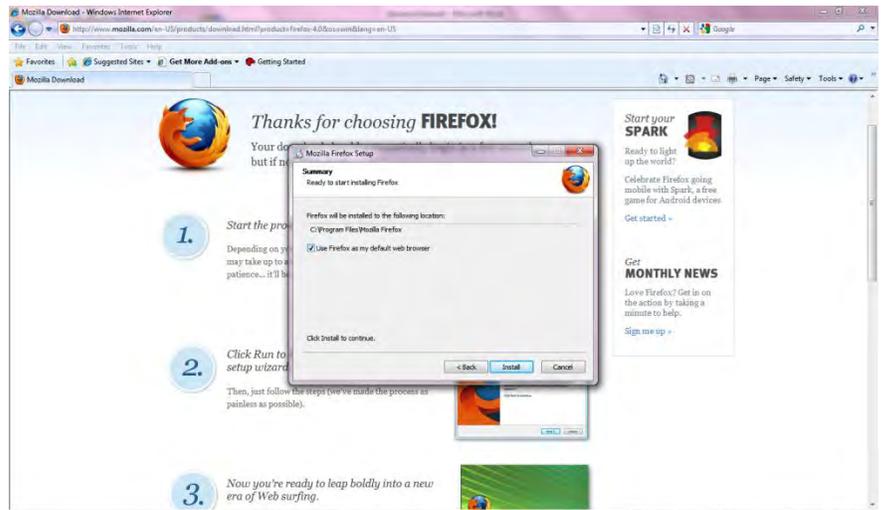
Go to the browser website. Almost without exception, there will be a *Free Download link*

The setup wizard should quickly take you through the download process. If the File Download screen does not appear, follow the directions on the "Thanks for choosing FIREFOX!" page.

During the download process you will be asked whether you want to make Firefox your default browser. You may choose to deselect that option. **Click Install** and continue to finish and launch Firefox.



Once you have downloaded the program you will want to read the Getting Started Page to personalize the look of the page, add toolbars (click the down arrow on the Firefox tab), navigation bar, and other features. Be patient with yourself. Read. Try different features.



For example, you can change the top banner (persona) to one of over 180,000 designs,



For More Information, visit

<http://www.seniorsguidetocomputers.com>

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-vista/Change-Internet-Explorer-Privacy-settings>

<http://www.microsoft.com/security/pc-security/spyware-what-is.aspx>

<http://www.google.com/chrome/index.html>

<http://www.pcworld.com>

<http://www.scp.org> database search using EBSCO Masterfile Premier. Includes Consumer Reports, Computer Weekly, Computer World PC World, Technology Review, TWICE: This Week in Consumer Electronics

<http://www.homeandlearn.co.uk/index.html>

<http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/legal/privacy/firefox.html>

Now You Try It:

1. Explore Security settings through Tools and Internet Options.
2. Create Bookmarks (Favorites) folder. Add websites to folder. Delete folder.
3. Change the homepage to a website of your choice. Restore previous homepage.
4. Customize IGoogle, Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome