Resetting your web browser's cache

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What is a web browser's cache?

The cache is nothing more than a place on your hard disk where the browser keeps things that it downloaded in case they're needed again. It is a temporary storage area where frequently accessed data can be stored for rapid access. Once the data is stored in the cache, it can be used in the future by accessing the cached copy rather than re-fetching or recomputing the original data.For instance, when you first visit a page, the browser will download the logo so that it can be shown. Every time that you visit a different page on the site, the logo doesn't need to be downloaded again; as long as the same logo is displayed,it's already here.

Do I need to clear my web browser's cache?

Yes, you should. The cache folder has a definite size and limit. If the number of items it stores gets too large, then your current browsing session could suffer as page elements could appear as broken. An overloaded browser cache could also slow down browsing because by default it looks to the cache folder for downloaded files.

How do I delete the cache?

Here are some shortcuts for deleting your cache from different web browsers

Web browser	PC	Mac
Firefox	CTRL+Shift+Del > click on Clear Now	Command+Shift+Delete > select the time range > click on Clear Now
Chrome	CTRL+H > click on Clear browsing Data	Command+Y > click on Clear browsing data
Internet Explorer	CTRL+Shift+Del	Not applicable
Safari Unlike other browsers, Safari does not offer short cuts for deleting your cache. But it can still be done pretty quickly!	Open Safari and click on "Safari" in the menu field. Select "Reset Safari." Check off the items you want cleared and then click "Reset."	Open up "Safari" and click on "History" located in the menu bar. Click on "Clear History" then click on "Clear."

You can choose to the time-frame in which to delete your cache as well as if you want to delete your browsing history.

For additional information on resetting other web browsers or devices click here Refresh Your Cache.