

Issues that Arise from having Foolish Browser Settings



Probably, you have chosen to use Chrome, Safari, Edge, or some other web browser that makes money by stealing your personal data. Most browsers default to less-secure settings regarding your surfing behavior. Partly this is to make money off of you more easily, and partly it's because they know that you just don't care about security anyway, especially in cases where it hinders your convenience.


I am not able to change your browser settings... only you can do that. Most browser makers make this as hard as possible, because if you change these settings, they don't make as much money off of you.


Auto-Fill


There are two main ways that your chosen browser settings might impact this class. The first is related to "auto-fill". You will be submitting answers to CAPA problems in boxes on a web form. In principle, if you leave a box blank, it doesn't submit an answer when you click "submit all answers". However, if you have foolishly enabled "auto-fill" in your browser, then your browser will secretly re-enter whatever answer you already tried on a previous attempt, without asking your permission first. Of course, this will be a wrong answer, because if you got it right the last time, you wouldn't even be able to submit a new answer. This will count as one of your tries. Since this problem is because of YOUR personal choice of browser settings, there is nothing I can do to fix it or give you "extra" tries. But, YOU can prevent it! Here's how to do it in Chrome (other browsers will have similar methods...)

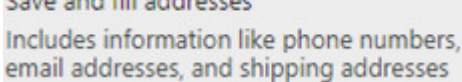
To disable auto-fill in Chrome:

1. Click on three dots in upper right corner:  

2. Go to "settings":  Settings

3. Go to "Autofill and passwords":  Autofill and passwords





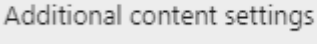


4. Open "Addresses and more":  Addresses and more

5. Move the slider to off/left: 
Save and fill addresses
Includes information like phone numbers,
email addresses, and shipping addresses

(see next page for information about caching web sites...)

Cache

Did you know that when you visit a website, your browser doesn't generally reload most of the information? By default, when you visit most web sites, your browser stores a complete copy of that web site on your own hard drive. This makes it *seem* like your browser is loading stuff faster, because it's not really getting the images, etc. from the internet anyway! This process is called "caching". Again, most browser developers make it very hard for you to adjust your cache settings, because it can make your web experience slower when you're actually getting your info from the web for real. However, info on the class website is periodically updated throughout the semester. If you are really only looking at a cached copy of the website, you won't see the updated info... it will be just an old copy that you stored on your hard drive! To minimize the harm of caching in Chrome:

1. Click on three dots in upper right corner: 
2. Go to "settings":  Settings
3. Go to "Privacy and security":  Privacy and security
4. Go to "Site settings":  Site settings
Controls what information sites can use and show (location, camera, pop-ups, and more)
5. Go down pretty far to "additional content settings":  Additional content settings
6. Go down pretty far to "On-device site data":  On-device site data
Site data is deleted from your device when you close all windows
7. Choose the second or third option:
  Delete data sites have saved to your device when you close all windows
Sites will probably work as you expect but won't remember you after you close all Chrome windows