SOFTWARE & TECH

How To Change Homepage In Google Chrome

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How to Change Homepage in Google Chrome: A Complete Step-by-Step Guide

Your browser homepage is the first thing you see when you open Google Chrome. For many people, it sets the tone for the browsing session—whether you want a quick search bar, your favorite news site, or a productivity dashboard. But sometimes, the default homepage isn't what you need. Maybe you're tired of seeing the same old new tab page, or you want to launch directly into your email or a work project. Whatever the reason, knowing **how to change homepage in Google Chrome** is a simple yet powerful way to personalize your online experience.

In this guide, we will walk you through every method, from the basic settings to advanced tweaks. You will learn how to set a custom homepage on desktop (Windows, macOS, Linux) and on mobile devices (Android and iOS). We'll also cover common troubleshooting tips so your new homepage sticks. Let's get started.

What Is a Homepage in Chrome vs. the New Tab Page?

Before we dive into the steps, it’s helpful to understand two terms: **homepage** and **new tab page**. In Chrome, the homepage is the page that loads when you click the home button or when you start the browser (if you’ve set it to open that way). The new tab page is what appears when you open a new tab. These can be the same or different.

When you change the homepage, you are deciding which URL appears when you press the home icon. You can also choose whether Chrome opens that page on startup. So, if you want **how to change homepage in Google Chrome**to open a specific site every time you launch the browser, you actually need to adjust both the homepage setting and the startup setting. We'll cover both below.

How to Change Homepage in Google Chrome on Desktop (Windows, Mac, Linux)

Method 1: Using Chrome’s Settings Menu (Easiest Way)

This is the most straightforward approach and works across all desktop operating systems.

1. Open Google Chrome on your computer.
2. Click the three vertical dots in the upper-right corner (the Chrome menu).
3. Select Settings from the dropdown.
4. In the left sidebar, click Appearance.
5. Look for the section labeled Show Home Button. Toggle it on if it isn’t already.
6. Below that, you will see a text field labeled Enter custom web address. Type or paste the URL you want as your homepage (for example, https://www.google.com or https://www.bbc.com/news).
7. That’s it. The home button will now open your chosen page when clicked.

Note: If you prefer Chrome to open this page automatically when you start the browser, you need an extra step. Under **On startup** (in the Settings menu), select **Open a specific page or set of pages**, then click **Add a new page** and enter the same URL.

Method 2: Using the Home Button Directly

If you already have the home button visible, you can change the homepage without digging into full settings.

1. Make sure the home button is visible. If not, go to Settings > Appearance and enable Show home button.
2. Right-click the home button icon (a little house) located to the left of the address bar.
3. Choose Change home page address from the context menu.
4. A small dialog box appears. Enter the new URL and click Save.

This method is quick but only changes the homepage linked to the button, not the startup page.

Method 3: Using Chrome Flags for Advanced Users

Chrome Flags are experimental features. One flag lets you force a custom homepage that overrides other settings. Use this only if the standard methods aren’t working.

1. Type chrome://flags in the address bar and press Enter.
2. In the search box, type homepage.
3. Look for Show Home Button or Home page flags (names may change over time).
4. Set the flag to Enabled and enter your preferred URL in the provided field.
5. Click Relaunch to restart Chrome with the new setting.

Be careful: Flags are experimental and may affect browser stability. Reserve this method for situations where the standard settings are locked (e.g., by an organization).

How to Change Homepage in Google Chrome on Android

On mobile, Chrome’s interface is different, but you can still set a custom homepage. However, note that Chrome for Android normally uses the New Tab page as the home screen. There isn’t a visible home button by default.

1. Open the Chrome app on your Android phone or tablet.
2. Tap the three-dot menu in the top-right corner (or bottom-right, depending on your version).
3. Go to Settings.
4. Under Basics, tap Homepage.
5. Toggle on Homepage if it isn’t enabled.
6. You will see two options: Open new tab page or Enter custom web address. Choose the latter.
7. Type the URL you want (e.g., https://www.wikipedia.org).
8. Tap Save or simply go back. A home icon will now appear in the top toolbar. Tapping it opens your custom page.

If you want Chrome to open this page on startup, go to **Settings** > **Startup** (if available) and select **Open a specific page**. Not all Android versions have this option.

How to Change Homepage in Google Chrome on iPhone and iPad

Chrome for iOS works similarly to the Android version, but the homepage setting is more limited. As of recent updates, you can set a custom homepage that appears when you tap the home icon.

1. Launch Chrome on your iPhone or iPad.
2. Tap the three-dot menu at the bottom-right corner.
3. Select Settings.
4. Under Homepage, toggle the switch on.
5. By default, it uses the New Tab page. Tap Custom and enter the web address you desire.

6. Tap Save.
7. Now, when you tap the home icon (a house) in the toolbar, it will load your custom page.

Unlike on desktop, iOS Chrome does not allow you to set the homepage as the startup page. You can only choose to open a specific page on startup by going to **Settings** > **Startup** and adding a URL there.

How to Make Chrome Open a Specific Page on Startup (Desktop)

Many people confuse the homepage with the startup behavior. If you want Chrome to automatically open a particular website every time you launch the browser, follow these steps:

1. Open Chrome Settings (three dots > Settings).
2. In the left menu, click On startup.
3. Select Open a specific page or set of pages.
4. Click Add a new page.
5. Enter the full URL (e.g., https://www.reddit.com) and click Add.
6. You can add multiple pages—Chrome will open each in a separate tab on startup.
7. Optionally, remove the default options like “Open the New Tab page” if you no longer want them.

Now, every time you start Chrome, your chosen page(s) will load automatically. This is perfect for people who check the same sites daily.

Common Problems and Solutions When Changing Homepage in Chrome

Problem: The Home Button Is Missing

If you’ve followed the steps but don’t see the home button, make sure you toggled on **Show home button**under Settings > Appearance. On mobile, you may need to check if the home icon is enabled in the toolbar settings.

Problem: The Homepage Keeps Changing Back

This usually happens due to malware or a browser extension that hijacks your settings. Run a virus scan, review your extensions (Chrome > More tools > Extensions), and remove any suspicious ones. Also, check if Chrome is managed by your organization—settings may be locked.

Problem: The Homepage Doesn’t Load After I Set It

Make sure you typed the URL correctly, including the “https://” part. If the webpage itself is down or very slow, Chrome may time out. Try a different, reliable URL to test.

Problem: I Want to Remove the Homepage Completely

If you don’t want a custom homepage, you can disable the home button entirely. Go to Settings > Appearance and toggle off **Show home button**. Alternatively, set it to the default New Tab page.

Advanced Customization: Using Extensions to Control Homepage

If you want even more control over **how to change homepage in Google Chrome**, consider using extensions. For example:

- New Tab Redirect – Allows you to set any page as your new tab page.
- Homepage Controller – Lets you define multiple homepages that rotate or open based on time.
- Speed Dial 2 – Replaces the new tab page with visual bookmarks and your favorite sites.

Be careful when installing extensions—only use reputable ones from the Chrome Web Store to avoid security risks.

Why You Should Personalize Your Chrome Homepage

Changing your homepage isn’t just about aesthetics. It can boost your productivity by taking you directly to your most-used tools. For instance:

- Set your work email as the homepage so you start your day without extra clicks.
- Use a custom dashboard like Momentum or Todoist to see your tasks and goals.
- Choose a search engine that you prefer, such as DuckDuckGo or Bing.
- Bookmark a news aggregator to stay informed instantly.

In short, a tailored homepage reduces friction and helps you jump into what matters most.

Conclusion

Knowing **how to change homepage in Google Chrome**is a small but impactful skill. Whether you use a desktop PC, a Mac, or a mobile device, Chrome offers flexible options to set a custom homepage that appears when you click the home icon or start the browser. By following the step-by-step instructions in this guide, you can take control of your browsing environment in just a few minutes.

Remember to also configure the startup setting if you want Chrome to open your chosen page automatically. And if you ever run into issues—like the homepage changing back—check for malware or conflicting extensions. With your new homepage in place, you'll enjoy a more personalized and efficient web experience every time you open Chrome.

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