SOFTWARE & TECH

How To Turn Off Pop Up Blocker

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Introduction: Understanding Pop Up Blockers and When to Disable Them

Pop up blockers are a standard feature in nearly every modern web browser. Designed to prevent intrusive advertisements and unwanted windows from interrupting your browsing experience, these tools have become an essential part of online privacy and security. However, there are legitimate scenarios where a pop up blocker can actually hinder your workflow. For example, online banking portals, e commerce checkout processes, document previews, and certain web applications rely on pop ups to deliver critical content or complete transactions. When a pop up is blocked without warning, you might find yourself unable to log in, view a receipt, or access a file. Knowing **how to turn off pop up blocker** is therefore not just a technical skill—it's a practical necessity for anyone who uses the internet for more than casual browsing.

This article will guide you through the process of disabling pop up blockers in the most popular browsers—Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge, and Apple Safari—on both desktop and mobile devices. We'll also explore temporary workarounds, such as allowing pop ups for specific sites instead of turning off the blocker entirely. By the end, you'll have a clear understanding of how to manage this setting without compromising your online safety.

Why You Might Need to Disable the Pop Up Blocker

Before diving into the step by step instructions, it's important to recognise that not all pop ups are malicious. Legitimate websites often use pop ups for:

- Authentication and login windows – Many banking and government portals open a separate window for multi factor authentication.
- Payment gateways – Third party payment processors may open a pop up to securely process credit card details.
- Document viewers – Some sites use pop ups to display PDFs, terms of service, or contracts.
- File downloads – Certain download managers trigger a pop up to initiate the download.
- Web applications – Project management tools, CRM systems, and collaborative platforms often rely on pop ups for notifications or input forms.

When a crucial pop up is blocked, you might see a small icon (like a crossed out window or a red "X") in the address bar. Clicking that icon usually reveals the blocked content and gives you the option to allow it. However, if you find yourself repeatedly needing to unblock pop ups on a particular site, it may be more efficient to permanently disable the blocker for that domain or, in some cases, globally.

Keep in mind that disabling the pop up blocker entirely can expose you to unwanted advertising and potential security risks. Therefore, it is generally recommended to allow pop ups only on trusted websites. The instructions below cover both approaches: turning off the blocker completely and creating exceptions.

How to Turn Off Pop Up Blocker in Google Chrome (Desktop)

Google Chrome is the most widely used browser worldwide, so knowing how to adjust its pop up settings is invaluable. Follow these steps:

1. Open Chrome and click the three dot menu icon in the top right corner of the window.
2. Select Settings from the dropdown menu.
3. In the left sidebar, click Privacy and security.
4. Choose Site Settings from the options.
5. Scroll down to the Content section and click Pop ups and redirects.
6. You will see a toggle at the top labelled Blocked (recommended). To turn off the pop up blocker entirely, toggle this switch to the off position (grey).

To allow pop ups only on specific sites (recommended):

- In the same “Pop ups and redirects” settings page, click the Add button next to Allowed to send pop ups and use redirects.
- Enter the full URL of the website (e.g., https://www.example.com) and click Add.
- Any pop ups originating from that domain will now be permitted, while all others remain blocked.

Google Chrome on Android and iOS

Mobile Chrome also has a pop up blocker, and the steps are similar but simplified:

1. Open Chrome and tap the three dot menu (Android) or the three dot icon (iOS).
2. Go to Settings.
3. Tap Site settings (on some versions it may be labelled Content settings).
4. Tap Pop ups and redirects.
5. Toggle the setting to Blocked (off) if you want to disable the blocker entirely. You can also add site specific exceptions from here by scrolling down to the Allowed section.

On an iPhone or iPad, the setting is under **Chrome** !**Settings** !**Content Settings** !**Block Pop ups** Sliding the switch to the left turns off the blocker.

Turning Off Pop Up Blocker in Mozilla Firefox

Firefox provides a straightforward way to manage pop ups. Here is how to do it on the desktop version:

1. Click the hamburger menu (three horizontal lines) in the top right corner and select Settings.
2. In the left panel, choose Privacy & Security.
3. Scroll down to the Permissions section.
4. Check the box next to Block pop up windows is enabled by default. To turn off the pop up blocker entirely, uncheck this box.

To add site specific exceptions:

- Click the Exceptions button next to the “Block pop up windows” checkbox.
- In the new window, type the address of the website you trust and click Allow.
- You can also remove previously allowed sites from this list. Click Save Changes when finished.

Firefox on Android

1. Open the Firefox app and tap the three dot menu.
2. Select Settings.
3. Under Advanced, tap Block pop up windows.
4. Toggle the switch to the off position to disable the blocker. For site specific exceptions, you may need to visit the site first and then tap the shield icon in the address bar to change permissions.

On iOS, Firefox settings are similar: go to **Settings** !**Block Pop ups** and toggle it off.

How to Disable Pop Up Blocker in Microsoft Edge

Microsoft Edge is built on the same Chromium engine as Chrome, so the settings are very similar. Here are the steps for Windows and Mac:

1. Click the three dot menu (Setings and more) in the top right corner.
2. Choose Settings.
3. In the left sidebar, click Cookies and site permissions.
4. Under All permissions, select Pop ups and redirects.
5. Toggle the switch at the top to turn off the blocker (switch to the left).

To allow pop ups for specific sites in Edge:

- In the same “Pop ups and redirects” page, click Add next to Allow.
- Enter the website URL and click Add.
- You can also remove sites from the Block list if you have previously blocked them.

Microsoft Edge on Mobile (Android/iOS)

The mobile version of Edge mirrors the desktop approach:

1. Open Edge and tap the three dot menu at the bottom (Android) or top (iOS).
2. Tap Settings !’ Site permissions.
3. Tap Pop ups and redirects and toggle the switch off.

Turning Off the Pop Up Blocker in Apple Safari

Safari, Apple’s native browser on macOS and iOS, also blocks pop ups by default. The procedure differs slightly between operating systems.

Safari on macOS

1. Open Safari and click Safari in the top menu bar.
2. Select Preferences (or press Cmd + ,).
3. Click the Websites tab at the top of the Preferences window.
4. In the left sidebar, scroll down and click Pop up Windows.
5. You will see a list of currently open websites. For each site, you can set the pop up behaviour to Allow, Block, or Block and Notify (the last option shows a prompt when a pop up is blocked).
6. To disable the blocker globally, change the dropdown at the bottom of the window (labelled When visiting other websites) to Allow.

Alternatively, if you want to turn off pop up blocking for all sites, you can go to the **Security** tab in Safari Preferences and uncheck **Block pop up windows**. Note that in newer versions of macOS, this option may be located under the **Websites** tab instead.

Safari on iPhone and iPad

1. Open the Settings app on your iOS device.
2. Scroll down and tap Safari.
3. Under the General section, locate the toggle for Block Pop ups.
4. Slide the switch to the off position (green is on, white/grey is off).

On iOS, there is no built in way to allow pop ups per site from the Settings app. However, when you are on a website that needs pop ups, you can temporarily tap the **aA** icon in the address bar and select **Website Settings** !’ toggle off

Block Pop ups for that site only.

What About Other Browsers?

While Chrome, Firefox, Edge, and Safari cover the vast majority of users, you may also use alternatives such as Opera, Brave, or Vivaldi. The settings are usually found under **Privacy & Security** or **Site Settings**. In Opera, for example, you can type opera://settings/content/popups directly into the address bar to access the pop up controls. Brave includes a similar option in its **Shields** panel; you can often disable the shield for a specific site or adjust the "Block Pop ups" toggle in the Brave settings.

Temporary Workarounds: What to Do When You Only Need One Pop Up

If you prefer not to change your permanent settings, there are quicker ways to unblock a single pop up:

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