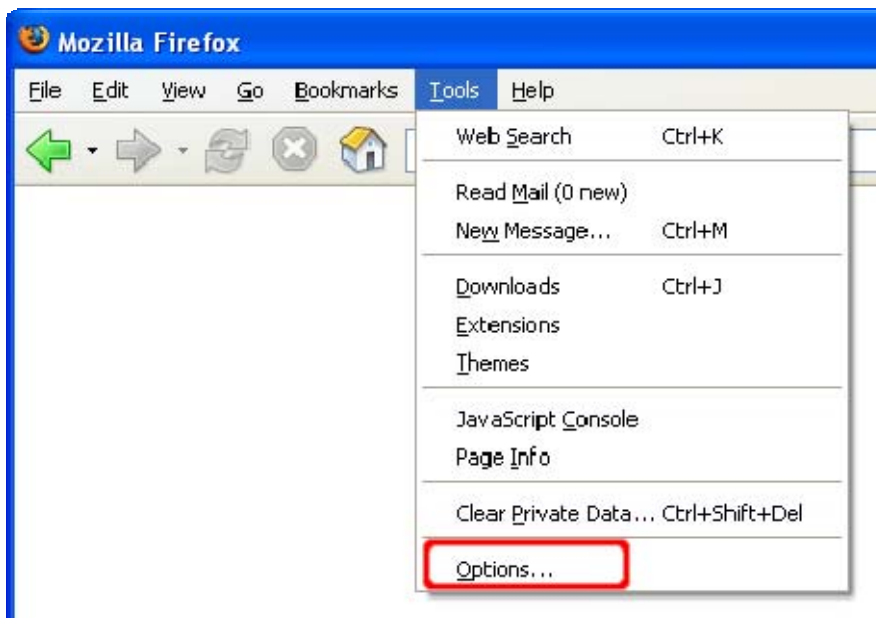


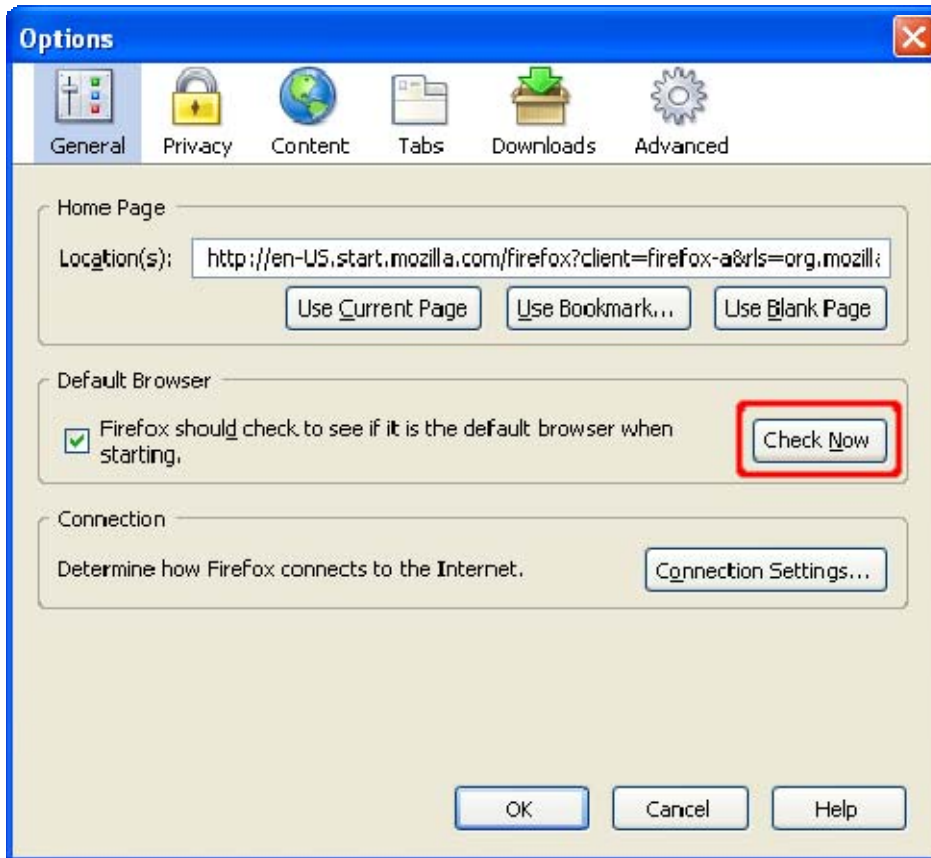
How to Secure the Firefox Web Browser on Windows XP

Following are steps to disable various features in Mozilla Firefox. Note that some menu options may change between versions or may appear in different locations depending on the host operating system. You should adapt the steps below as appropriate.

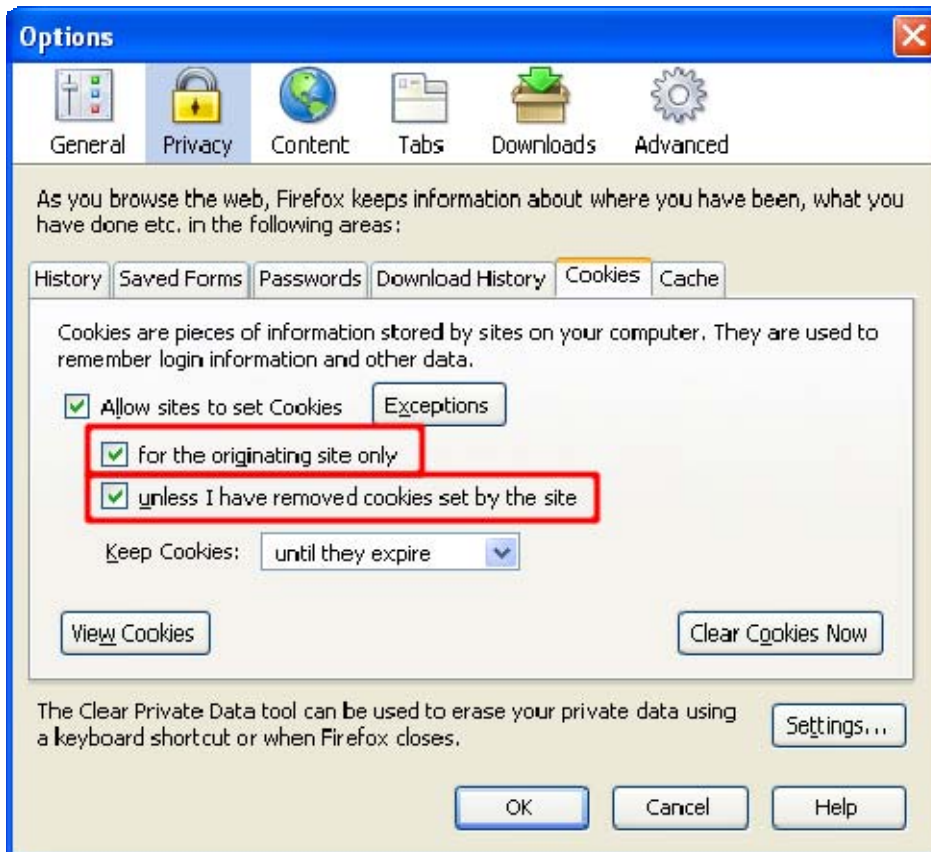
To edit the settings for Mozilla Firefox, select **Tools**, then **Options**.



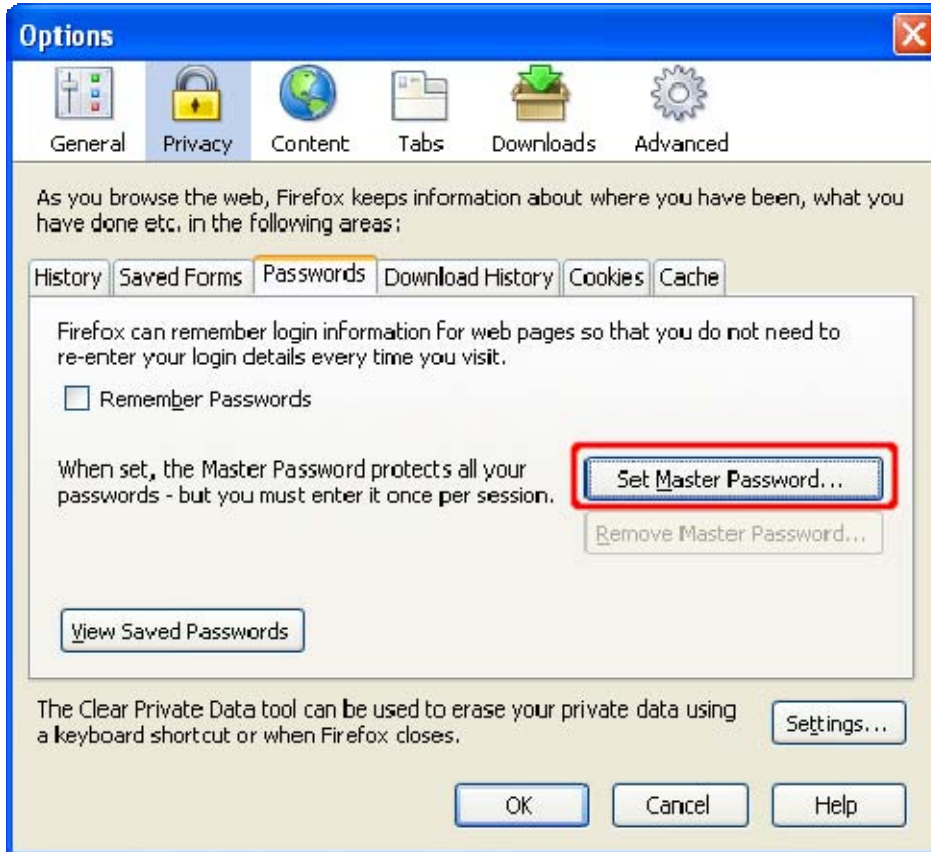
You will then see an Options window that has a row of categories along the top. The first category of interest is the **General** category. Under this section, for instance, you can set Firefox as your default browser.



Under the Privacy category, you can select the Cookies subcategory. Here you can disable cookies or change your preferences for how the browser handles them. In general, we recommend enabling cookies **for the original site only**. Additionally, by enabling the option **unless I have removed cookies set by the site**, a web site can be “blacklisted” from setting cookies when its cookies are removed manually.



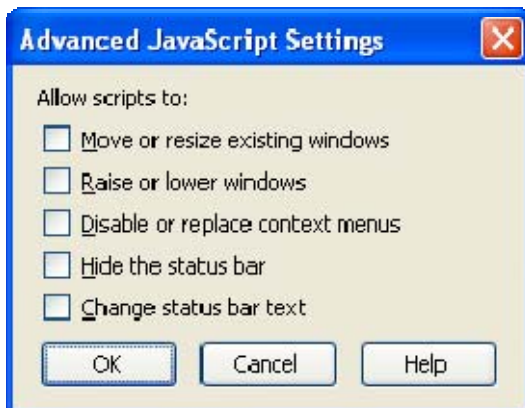
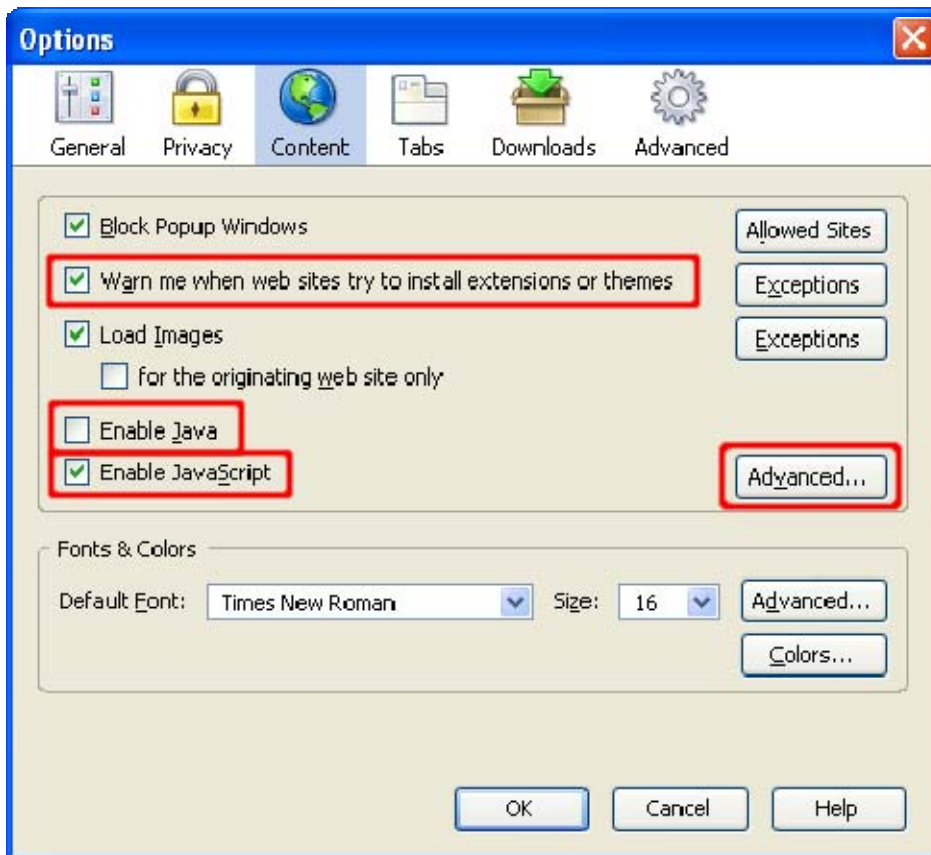
Many web browsers will allow you to store login information. In general, we recommend against using such features. Should you decide to use the feature, ensure that you use the measures available to protect the password data on your computer. Under the **Privacy** category, the **Passwords** subcategory contains various options to manage stored passwords, and a **Master Password** feature to encrypt the data on your system. We encourage you to use this option if you decide to let Mozilla Firefox manage your passwords.



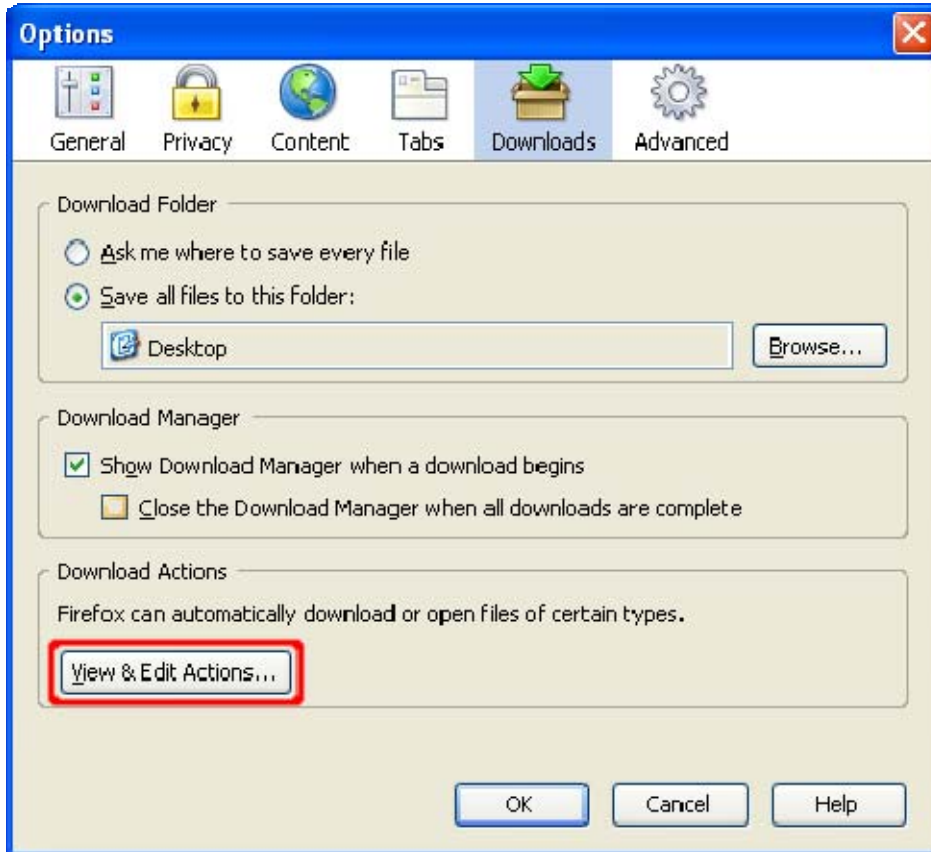
The **Content** category has an option to **Enable Java**. Java is a programming language that permits web site designers to run applications on your computer. We recommend disabling this feature unless required by the site you wish to visit. Again, you should determine if this site is trustworthy and whether you want to enable Java to view the site's content. After you are finished visiting the site, we recommend disabling Java until you need it again.

The **Warn me when web sites try to install extensions or themes** option will display a warning bar at the top of the browser when a web site attempts to take such an action.

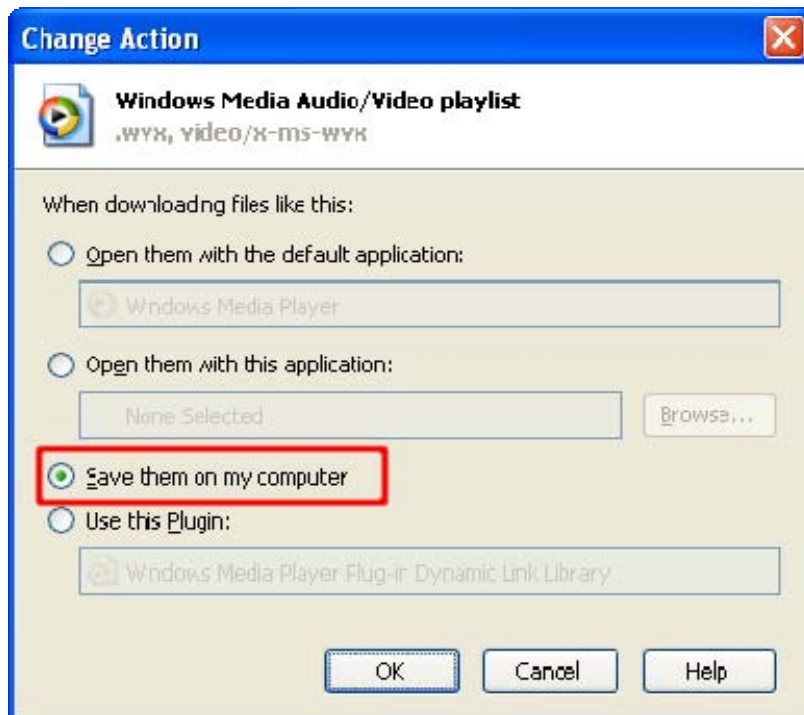
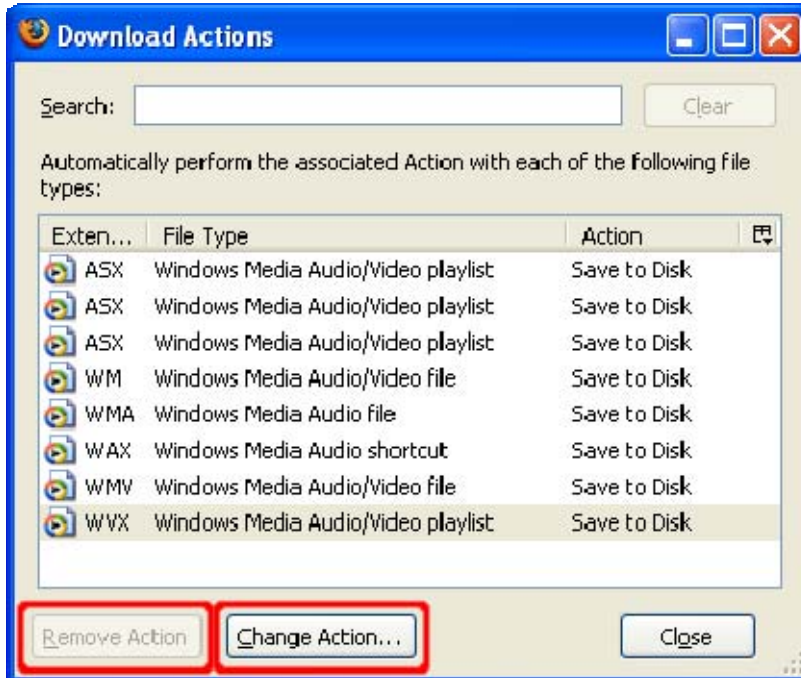
Press the **Advanced** button to disable specific JavaScript features. We recommend disabling all of the options displayed in this dialog.



The **Downloads** section has an option to modify actions taken when files are downloading. Any time a file type is configured to open automatically with an associated application, this can make the browser more dangerous to use. Vulnerabilities in these associated applications can be exploited more easily when they are configured to open automatically. Click the **View & Edit Actions** button to view the current download settings and modify them if necessary.



The Download Actions dialog shows the file types and the actions the browser will perform when it encounters a given file type. For any file type listed, click on either **Remove Action** or **Change Action....** If you click on **Change Action....**, select **Save them on my computer** to save files of that type to the computer. This helps prevent automated exploitation of vulnerabilities that may exist in these applications.



Firefox 1.5 includes a feature to **Clear Private Data**. This option will remove potentially sensitive information from the web browser. Select **Clear Private Data...** from the **Tools** menu to use this privacy feature.

