

# What is a web browser?

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A *web browser* is a program on your computer that allows you to access websites on the [internet](#).

The web is written in a computer language called HTML (HyperText Markup Language). Browsers translate this so that we can read it easily.

There are many browsers available. If you're using a Windows PC, your machine probably came with the browser Internet Explorer. If you are using an Apple Mac, you'll have been supplied with Safari. No matter which browser you're using, you'll find that they all do more or less the same job.

Here are the most popular browsers:

- **Microsoft Edge (Microsoft)**
- **Safari (Apple)**
- **Firefox (Mozilla)**
- **Chrome (Google)**
- **DuckDuckGo**

## **Browsers' benefits and key features:**

- They're free to download.
- You can have more than one on your computer.
- They all work in a similar way.
- They allow users to explore websites anywhere on the internet.
- Can be personalised by allowing users to [add favourites](#) or [set a different home page](#) (the first page that you see when you open your browser).

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Digital Unite

[0800 228 9272](tel:08002289272)

[du@digitalunite.com](mailto:du@digitalunite.com)

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