

What is Browser "Cache"?

Definitions:

Browser

A web Browser (commonly referred to as a **Browser**) is a software program for displaying an Internet page from the World Wide Web. The major web Browsers are Apple Safari, Firefox, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Microsoft Internet Explorer and Opera.

Cache

Browser Cache (pronounced CASH) is a temporary storage location on your hard drive for files downloaded by your Browser to display websites. Files cached locally include any documents that make up a website, such as html files, graphic images and other multimedia content. The benefit of a cached document is faster web page display speed. The problem with cache is maintaining a clean cache to avoid displaying an out-of-date web page.

Cache History:

A web cache is an information technology for the temporary storage (caching) of web documents, such as HTML pages and images, to reduce bandwidth usage, server load, and perceived display delay. A web cache system stores copies of documents passing through it; subsequent requests may be satisfied from cache storage.

Over 20 years ago, when web page downloads were very slow, web cache was invented to achieve faster web page display speeds. With fiber optics in use today, including "Oak Crest Connect", download speeds are so fast that cache is not necessary.

Cache Problems:

If you have never cleaned or setup cache handling, then you may have a problem and not be aware of what is happening. This problem can be explained with the following scenario.

Sample: Go to the OCV Computer Group web site "www.oakcg.org" and search for a lesson on the "Docs" page: <http://www.oakcg.org/Pg!Docs.htm>

Click on the "B. Starter" link at the top of the page. You will see a list of 8 Exercises. Let's use "Exercise #2 Keyboard" as an example. Place the cursor over the "Exercise #2" link but don't click on it. In the lower left corner of the screen border, you should see the name of the file displayed if you clicked on the link.

As of 10/05/2016, the name of the file is
[http://www.oakcg.org/Basic-Begn/BB-2-F16\(Keybd\).doc](http://www.oakcg.org/Basic-Begn/BB-2-F16(Keybd).doc)

If you had clicked on this link prior to 10-05-2016, the file name shown on your screen would be from last year

[http://www.oakcg.org/Basic-Begn/BB-2-F15\(Keybd\).doc](http://www.oakcg.org/Basic-Begn/BB-2-F15(Keybd).doc)

Please note the year change from 16 to 15. Why is the year different? If your status screen shows "F15" instead of "F16" it means you displayed the page from cache and not the new file name on the web server.

The solution for fixing cache is shown on the following pages.

There are six major Internet Browsers with four used primarily with the Windows Operating System. The four are as follows:

1. Microsoft Internet Explorer (for all Windows Operating Systems)
2. Microsoft Edge (for Windows 10 only)
3. Goggle Chrome
4. Firefox

This document will deal primarily with how to maintain your Browser cache to provide you with the best possible Internet experience. Detail instructions are provided for each Browser.

Clear Cache - Microsoft Internet Explorer

When you open Internet Explorer below, if you do not see the Menu bar at the top then right click a blank area in the top right of the screen and make sure there is a check box in front of "Menu bar" and "Status bar".

For Windows XP and Internet Explorer 8:

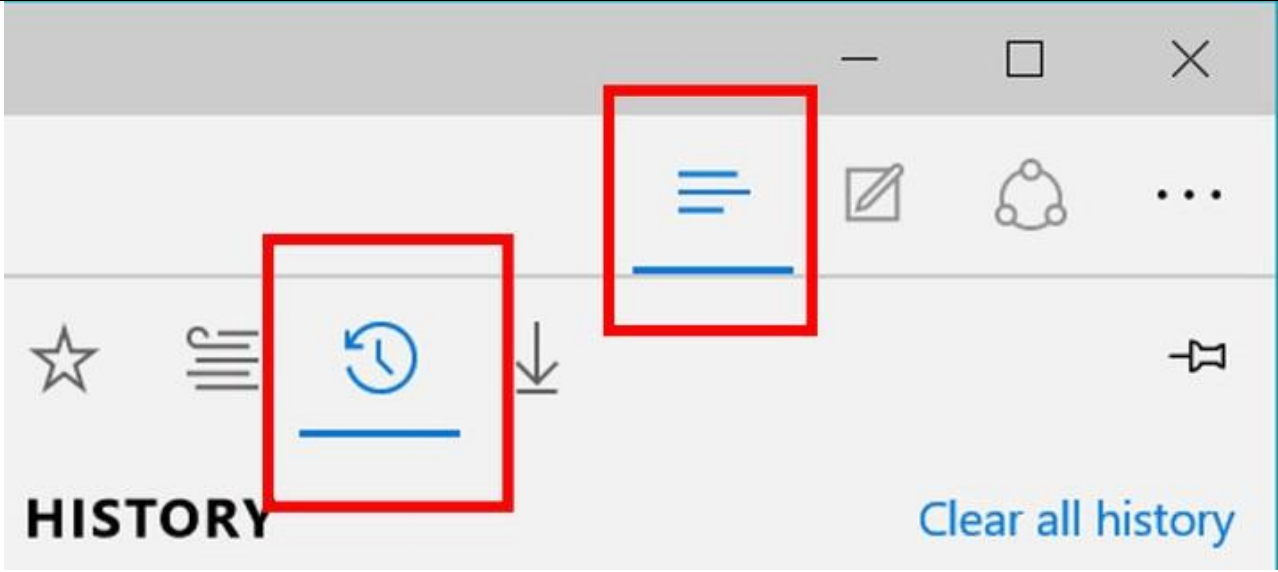
1	Open Internet Explorer - The Big Blue "e" with yellow halo
2	From the Tools menu choose Internet Options
3	On the General tab, under Browsing history, click Delete
4	Un-check the "Preserve Favorites website data" box
5	Check "Temporary Internet Files" box
6	Click Delete
7	When finished, click OK to return to your Internet Explorer window
8	Close the Internet Explorer window and reopen
9	Flush cache on the current page by holding the "CTRL" key and pressing "F5".

For Windows Vista, 7, 8, 8.1 and 10:

1	Open Internet Explorer - The Big Blue "e" with yellow halo
2	From the Tools menu choose - "Delete browsing history"
3	Uncheck "Preserve Favorites website data"
4	Check "Temporary Internet Files" box
5	Click Delete
6	Wait for completion and Clear the Finished box at the bottom.
7	Close the Internet Explorer window and reopen
8	From the Tools menu choose "Internet Options".
9	On the "General" tab, remove the check mark from the "Delete browsing history on exit" box. Only place a check mark in the box if you do not want others to discover your browsing history.
10	On the "General" tab, click the "Settings" button to the right of the "Delete" button at the bottom of the menu. (Do not click the "Delete" button, it was completed earlier.)
11	On the "Temporary Internet Files" tab, select the "Every time I start Internet Explorer" button.
12	Click "OK" twice and you're done.
13	Flush cache on the current page by holding the "CTRL" key and pressing "F5".

Clear Cache - Microsoft Edge

Windows 10 Only:

1	Open Microsoft Edge - The Big Blue "e" without the yellow halo
2	 <p>Click the "Hub" icon, the 3 horizontal lines in the top right corner of the screen.</p>
3	Click the "History" icon. It looks like a clock with a counter-clockwise arrow.
4	Click the link labeled "Clear all history"
5	Place a check mark in the "Browsing history" box
6	Place a check mark in the "Cached data and files" box
7	Just below the "Clear" button, slide the "Always clear this when I close the browser" button to the "On" position.
8	Close the Microsoft Edge window and reopen.
9	Flush cache on the current page by holding the "CTRL" key and pressing "F5".

Clear Cache - Google Chrome

For Windows 7, 8, 8.1 and 10:

1	Open Google Chrome
2	Click on the 3 vertical dots in the top right corner of the screen
3	Click on "More tools"
4	Click on "Clear browsing data"
5	On the line "Obliterate the following items from:" use the drop down arrow to select "the beginning of time"
6	Place a check mark in the following boxes: a. "Browsing history" b. "Download history" c. "Cached images and files"
7	Click the "Clear browsing data" button
8	Close the Google Chrome window and reopen
9	Flush cache on the current page by holding the "CTRL" key and pressing the "Reload" button in the top left corner of the screen.

Clear Cache - Firefox

For Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 8.1 and 10:

1	Open Firefox
2	Click on the "History" link in the top menu. If the Menu bar is not visible, then right click at the top of the main screen and select "Menu Bar".
3	Click on "Clear Recent History"
4	If the "Details" list is not shown, then click on the drop-down arrow link next to details.
5	From the "Time range to clear" drop-down menu, select the desired range. To clear all, select "Everything". If you have never before clicked on "Everything", then do so now.
6	Place a check mark in the following boxes (recommended): a. "Browsing & Download History" b. "Form & Search History" c. "Cookies" d. "Cache" e. "Active Logins"
7	Click the "Clear Now" button
8	Close the Firefox window and reopen
9	Flush cache on the current page by holding the "CTRL" key and pressing "F5".