

NTRLS IT: Real Stories
How to set IE8 to not remember history

Issue / Problem:

Internet Explorer 8 keeps history unless you set a few options in the browser.

Background Information you should know about:

What is IE8? Internet Explorer 8 is the latest web browser from Microsoft and can be installed on XP or Vista and comes with Vista. More info can be found about it by going to <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/internet-explorer/default.aspx?WT.srch=1>. What is History in IE8? IE will remember where you have been and also save cached info on your hard disk anytime you go to a website. So to keep your info private, especially if this is a public computer, it would be a good idea to set the browser to forget all this stuff so the next person that comes along to use the computer won't have access to your information you may have left behind.

Resolution / How we solved the problem:

After installing IE8, you may want to setup the browser to forget all history when you close it, especially for public access computers. Here is a list of instructions you can do for your browser to set it to forget all history and keep cache files from staying on the hard drive:

1. Open the browser and right click on the border and add the MENU check mark option. Then click on the TOOLS menu and go to the Bottom and click INTERNET OPTIONS. You can also go to the control panel and then click on INTERNET OPTIONS.
2. You should now be on the screen with multiple menu tabs across the top that read General, Security, Privacy, Content, Connections, Programs and Advanced. The only menus you really need to use are the first and last one, General and Advanced.
3. On the first tab labeled "General", you will see section called "Browsing History" in the center and a button labeled "Delete" and also a check mark option for "Delete History On Browser Exit". Check this check box and then click the button labeled "Delete..." and you will see a list of things to delete for when the browser is closed.
4. Uncheck the first item labeled "Preserve Favorites Website Data," then check all the other buttons, and then click the delete button at the bottom.
5. Wait for the browser to clear all the data on the next screen and then hit apply at the bottom of internet options screen -- but don't close it and do not hit OK. If you did, then simply start over with step one and skip steps 3 and 4 and go straight to step 6.
6. Next click on the tab at the top labeled "Advanced".

7. On the Advanced tab, in the section called "Settings", scroll all the way down until you see the section labeled "Empty Temporary Internet Files folder when browser is closed". Put a check mark in this option.
8. Now click the button at the bottom labeled "Apply" and then click the button labeled "OK"
9. You have now successfully set IE to forget all browser history whenever the browser is closed.
10. If you are using any kind of drive protection software, make sure you disable it before following these steps and then re-enable it after you're done.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at abeatty@ntrls.org.