CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2012 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1422

Project Title

Which Web Browser Is the Fastest?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My goal is to recommend the web browser that will change your Internet experience by testing Safari, Google Chrome, and Firefox using online webpage stopwatch to find out which is fastest. This is all tested on the same Internet connection and the same computer to ensure a consistent measurement.

Methods/Materials

I pulled up a website loading timer and typed in the following websites: Google, MSN, New York Times, ESPN, Ebay, Yahoo, Facebook, Twitter, Netflix and Gamefly. Then I opened up Safari, Google Chrome, and Firefox. I tested each of these websites 10 times on each web browser. Then, taking all of the data, I discovered a mean.

Results

The fastest browser was Safari. The second fastest was Google Chrome, then Firefox. My hypothesis that Firefox would be the fastest was not supported based on my test results.

Conclusions/Discussion

All of these browsers have their pros and cons. Google Chrome separates each tab into its own process, making your system safe, but also takes a long time to refresh if you leave a tab idle for too long. Firefox is a speedy browser and has unique features, but does not offer any thumbnail previews or mouse gesture compatibility. Safari has a fast start up and navigation speed, but this browser does not have anti-phishing. Phishing is the activity of defrauding an online account holder of financial information by posing as a legitimate company, so some of the things you might click on might infect your computer. Although an important factor to the browsing experience, I did not test any security related aspects.

Summary Statement

My project is to determine which web browser is fastest by testing Safari, Google Chrome, and Firefox using an online webpage stopwatch and ten different websites.

Help Received

My mom helped with some cutting and gluing on my display board and my dad double checked my data results to make sure they were right (he made no changes).