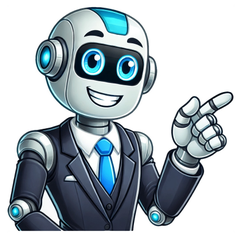
I'm not a robot



Manage your browsing data Install Norton Private Browser to help take control of your browsing, protect your personal data, and shop more safely online. Manage your browsing data Install Norton Private Browser to help take control of your browsing and protect your personal data. Manage your browsing data Install Norton Private Browser to help take control of your browsing and protect your personal data. Managing your internet history is a delicate balance between preserving your privacy and keeping track of your digital life. If youre wondering how to restore deleted browser history, there are several methods you can try.Keep reading to learn how to recover deleted internet history. Then install Norton Private Browser to help you take control of your browsing data. Written by Luis Corrons Published: September 01, 2022 4 min read Recoveringdeleted internet history can be straightforward if you know what youre doing. Hereshelp. There are many reasons why you would want to recover deleted internethistories. These range from anxious parents worried about whether theirchildren are visiting inappropriate websites or to simply wanting to recoverthe forgotten URL of a website you used which was useful, but you thought youdnever visit again, until you remembered it. The good news, or bad news, depending on your point of view? Somewhere on thecomputer there will be a record, including the internet history. Internet history is stored in the Windows Registry. There isalso a chance that the history gets stored in internetcookies. To recover deleted internet history, these two resources are targeted. Thereare several ways to do this, some of them simple, some a bit technical andcomplex. Recoverdeleted internet history through System Restore Theeasiest method is to do a systemrestore.If the internet history was deleted recently, then system restore will recoverit. To get system restore up and running you can go to the start menu and doa search for system restore which will take you to the feature. Alternatively,go to Start, click on Programs, and then Accessories. Youll see a System Tools option and System Restore will be in there.Select the date youd like to restore your computer to and sit back and waituntil it does its thing. When finished the computer will reboot, and if you checkyour browser the internet history should be in there. See lost internet history through desktop search programs Sometimesthough system restore options are disabled. This can happen, for example, ifyou have a second-hand computer thats had a previous life in a corporateenvironment. Its not common but does happen. In this case, you can use desktopsearch programs. Thereare quite a few out there and this link takes youthrough to a webpage that lists some of them, though feel free to do your ownresearch. If you can remember a few keywords that you want to search for in theinternet history, type them into the search box and they should be recovered. Cookies showyou the way Internetcookies are alsoanother good method to access internet history. A cookie is a small textfile that stored in your internet browser. They store your user information tofor the websites you visit. Some of us thing of them as spying tools butactually in most instances they remember your account and browsing historymaking it easier for you when you revisit websites. Theres a great wikiHowpage herethat shows in very simple terms how to access cookies on Internet Explorer,Firefox, Chrome, and Safari browsers. If you can see the cookies, you know whatthe internet history is. Otheroptions Ifyouve tried these options and are still struggling, there are other optionstoo. The first is to install professional recovery software, at a cost. Anotheroption is to call in a professional who is skilled in recovering lost data.This typically involves removing the hard drive from your computer and sendingit off. However, its also worth checking with your local computer shop beforeyou do that, they might just be able to help. Of course, it always makes sense to get into the habit of backing up your data, which just may remove the need to search for internet histories. And worried parents might want to consider security software thatincorporates parental controls. Norton 360 with LifeLock, all-in-one, comprehensive protection against viruses, malware, identity theft, online tracking and much, much more.Try Norton 360 with Lifelock. Luis Corrons is a Security Evangelist for Gen (Avast, AVG, Avira, Norton) & leads boards at AMTSO & MUTE. He is a prominent speaker at industry events. Editorial note:Our articles provide educational information for you. Our offerings may not cover or protect against every type of crime, fraud, or threat we write about. Our goal is to increase awareness about Cyber Safety. Please review complete Terms during enrollment or setup. Remember that no one can prevent all identity theft or cybercrime, and that LifeLock does not monitor all transactions at all businesses. The Norton and LifeLock brands are part of Gen Digital Inc. How to View Deleted Browsing History: A Step-by-Step Guide We have all done it at some point deleted our browsing history thinking it would remain private and secure. But, with the increasing importance of online security and the rise of snooping, its essential to know how to view deleted browsing history. This article will walk you through the various ways to recover and view deleted browsing history, whether its on your personal computer or mobile devices. Recovering Deleted Browsing History on Desktop Method 1: Using Built-in Browser Tools Most popular browsers, such as Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, and Microsoft Edge, have built-in features to recover deleted browsing history. Heres how: Google Chrome:Open Google Chrome and type chrome://settings/ in the address bar Click on the three vertical dots in the top-right corner and select "Show advanced settings" Scroll down to the "Privacy and security" section and click on "Clear browsing data" Click on "Choose what to clear" and select "browsing history" Click on "Clear data" to recover your deleted browsing history Mozilla Firefox:Open Mozilla Firefox and type about:konami in the address bar (Note: this only works on newer versions of Firefox) Press Enter to access the "About:konami" page Scroll down to the "History" section and click on "Recover deleted browsing history" Microsoft Edge:Open Microsoft Edge and type edge://settings/appsettings/ in the address bar Click on "Utilities" and select "Clear navigation data" Click on "Clear browsing data" to recover your deleted browsing history Method 2: Using Third-Party Software There are several third-party software available that can help you recover and view deleted browsing history. Some popular options include: RecoverMyFilesDownload and install RecoverMyFiles Follow the on-screen instructions to scan your computer for deleted files Select the "History" file type and choose the specific location where your browsing history is stored Preview and recover the deleted history files Disk DrillDownload and install Disk Drill Follow the on-screen instructions to scan your computer for deleted files Select the "Files" option and choose the specific location where your browsing history is stored Preview and recover the deleted history files Recovering Deleted Browsing History on Mobile Devices Method 1: Using Built-in Features Most smartphones and tablets have built-in features to recover deleted data, including browsing history. Heres how: Google Chrome for Android:Open Google Chrome Tap the three horizontal lines in the top-right corner Select "Settings" Scroll down to "Privacy" and toggle "Deleted history" on Safari for iOS:Open Safari Tap the three horizontal lines in the top-right corner Select "Settings" Tap "Clear history and website data" and select "Show exactly whats being cleared" Toggle "Clear deleted history" on Microsoft Edge for iOS and Android:Open Microsoft Edge Tap the three horizontal lines in the top-right corner Select "Settings" Scroll down to "Privacy" and toggle "Deleted browsing history" on Method 2: Using Third-Party Apps There are several third-party apps available that can help you recover and view deleted browsing history on your mobile devices. Some popular options include: Data RescueDownload and install Data Rescue Grant it permissions to access your browser data Select the specific browser (e.g., Google Chrome, Safari, etc.) and follow the on-screen instructions Preview and recover the deleted history files CBZ RecoveryDownload and install CBZ Recovery Grant it permissions to access your browser data Select the specific browser (e.g., Google Chrome, Safari, etc.) and follow the on-screen instructions Preview and recover the deleted history files Safety Tips and Precautions When recovering and viewing deleted browsing history, its essential to be cautious to avoid compromising your online security and privacy. Here are some safety tips to keep in mind: Avoid installing third-party software or apps unless you trust the source and read reviews Regularly back up your important data to prevent data loss Use strong, unique passwords and enable two-factor authentication (2FA) whenever possible Keep your operating system, browser, and antivirus software up-to-date Be mindful of your online privacy and security practices Conclusion Viewing and recovering deleted browsing history can be a delicate process, and its essential to be cautious and responsible. By following the steps outlined in this article, you can recover and view your deleted browsing history on your desktop and mobile devices. Remember to prioritize online security and privacy, and take necessary precautions to protect your data. Important Note: Recovering deleted browsing history may not always be possible, especially if the files have been deleted for an extended period or have been overwritten by new data Third-party software or apps may not always be reliable or effective Always back up your important data to prevent data loss and take regular system backups References: Your friends have asked us these questions - Check out the answers! Download Article Download Article To recover Internet history, you need to understand certain important aspects. One of them is where the Internet history get stored. The Internet history gets stored in the Windows Registry. There are also chances that the Internet history may get stored as Internet cookies too. The ways to recover deleted Internet history is, hence, meant to target these system resources and get the history. 1Use the System Restore tool to get the deleted history back. Here's what you have to do: 2Click on Start and go to Programs. In the 'Programs' menu, click on 'Accessories' and then go to 'System Tools'.The 'System Tools' option will give way to various options. One of them is the 'System Restore'. Advertisement 3Select that option, then pick a date that precedes the date when you cleared your Internet history.4Reboot and check your browser, the history should be right there. Advertisement 1Keep in mind that there are cases in which the restore option of system recovery is disabled. In such cases, you can use a desktop search program. There are many desktop search programs available like Yahoo desktop search, Google desktop search, etc.If you remember a few keywords of what you want to search for in the Internet history, you can type it there in the search box and get it recovered. 1Perform this procedure if the history was deleted a long time ago. Using System Restore would be pointless, as you'd end up losing too much recent data in the process. If you have intentionally deleted the Internet history and are now in a desperate need to get it back, then this is what can help you.A desktop search will also not be of much help in such cases. The log files are where all the operations that you perform in your system are stored. A look into the log files can also let you recover deleted Internet history.All Windows computers have this file extension that stores arbitrary data, the .DAT extension. In our scenario, the system uses a file called 'index.dat', that stores all the information of the operations you have performed.2Click on the Start menu, and go to the Control Panel.3Look for Folder Options and click on the icon. You will have three tabs in this window, the second of which is View.4Inside the View tab, look for, and select, the Show hidden files and folders option. There will be another check box under it called "Hide protected operating system files" (Recommended).Remove the check in its box. Apply changes and exit the window.5Go to My Computer and use the search tool to find all instances of index.dat in the C drive and the C drive only.You should now have multiple index.dat files in the search results.To read a .dat file, we need to know the software that created the file. Sometimes, .jpg, .avi, .doc, etc. file extensions get renamed to .dat. In our case, we need to get the software that programmers used to create the index.dat files to read them.Try using Notepad through the Open With option, but more than half the information displayed will be garbage that you won't understand.6Google index.dat reader, or directly go to a software downloading site that you trust (like Softpedia or CNET) and get the reader. WinSpy is an example of such a reader.7Use the reader to view the index.dat files, in which you'll have all the information of the sites that you have accessed, when you accessed them and for how long.8In case of Firefox, it is the 'history.dat' file, which needs to be checked out. Advertisement 1Remember this information:Whenever we browse the Internet, certain cookies get downloaded and stored into our systems, without our knowledge. A look into these cookies can give you a fair idea of the web pages you have viewed.Find the option for recovering deleted cookies under one of the tabs in the 'Internet Options' dialog box of your browser. 1Consider the other options that you can resort to. Depending on how important the data is, and what lengths you are prepared to go to in order to recover it, there are two things you can try.Install professional recovery software, which may cost a bit, but stands a better chance of recovering any lost data.Opt for professional data recovery services. Not only does this option cost a lot, it also means that you will have to send your hard disk to them.2Perform regular backups. Regular backups is always the best option to avoid a scenario where recovering deleted data becomes too difficult or impossible.3If you do follow the guidelines given here, make it a point to remember every step you take, so it becomes easier to retrace them, if need be. Advertisement Ask a Question Advertisement This article was co-authored by Yaffet Meshesha. Yaffet Meshesha is a Computer Specialist and the Founder of Techy, a full-service computer pickup, repair, and delivery service. With over eight years of experience, Yaffet specializes in computer repairs and technical support. Techy has been featured on TechCrunch and Time. This article has been viewed 198,688 times. Co-authors: 11 Updated: December 9, 2024 Views:198,688 Categories: Internet Browsers | Data Recovery PrintSend fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 198,688 times. If you want to clear Windows Search or device search history, this article will guide you through the steps. You can delete the Taskbar search history from Windows Settings. You can also turn off the search history collection from the Registry Editor.Whenever you search for an app or anything else using the Taskbar search box, Windows stores the information. It does that to provide better and quicker information by adapting to your search behavior. Also, it shows the recent search items when you press Win+S or click on the Taskbar search box. For instance, if you have searched for Notepad recently, you can find it when you click on this search icon or box. If you do not want to keep this information visible, here is what you can do to make it disappear.Clear Windows 11 Search History & remove Recent ActivitiesIn Windows 11, the steps to clear the search history and remove recent activities are different from Windows 10. We have listed these steps below:Right-click on the Start menu and select Settings.After the Settings app is launched, select Privacy & Security from the left pane.Now, click on the Search permissions tab on the right side. This tab is available in the Windows permissions section.Scroll down till you find the History section.Click on the Clear device search history button to delete the recent search history on Windows 11.If you do not want Windows 11 to store your search history on your device, you can turn off the Search history on this device button.Clear Windows 10 Search History & remove Recent ActivitiesTo clear device search history in Windows 10, follow these steps-Press Win+I to open Windows Settings on your computer.Go to the Search option.Make sure you are in the Permissions & History tab.Find out the History section.Click on the Clear device search history button.First, you have to open Windows Settings on your computer. PressWin+Ito open it quickly.After that, click on theSearchoption and make sure you are in thePermissions & Historytab.Here you will find a heading calledHistory. If so, click on theClear device search historybutton.Now, your Windows Search history has been removed.For confirmation, you can click on the Taskbar search box to check ifRecent items are available. If not, they have been removed.If you want to prevent Windows 10 from keeping the search history locally, you can click on the toggle to turn it off.Using Registry EditorYou can also use Registry Editor to prevent Windows 11/10 from saving your search history. Before getting started with the Registry Editor process, it is recommended to create a System Restore point.Now, press Win+R, type regedit, and hit theEnterbutton.Click theYesbutton in the UAC prompt to open Registry Editor.After that, navigate to this path-HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettingsRight-click on SearchSettings > New > DWORD (32-bit) Value and name it as IsDeviceSearchHistoryEnabled.Keep the Value dataas 0. If it is already there, double-click on it to theValue dataas 0.Click theOKbutton to save the change.If you want Windows 11/10 to save your search history, change the Value data from 0 to 1.Now, Windows wont store the Windows Search history locally.Hope it helps.Can I delete Quick Access?Quick Access is a placeholder where you can pin the most recently used files and folders for easy access. You can unpin the files and folders from Quick Access anytime. For this, right-click on the file and folder that you want to remove and select Remove from Quick Access.Please note that removing the files and folders from Quick Access will not clear your Windows Search history. To clear your search history on Windows 11/10, you must follow the steps described above in this article.Where do files go when removed from Quick Access?Removing the files and folders from Quick Access does not delete them from your system. Your files remain stored in the directory where you have saved them. Device LinksAndroidiPhoneWindowsDevice Missing?Have you ever accidentally deleted your browsing history in Google Chrome? Do you wish you could recover a list of the sites youve visited? Fortunately, there are multiple ways to recover your deleted history. This article shows you how to do it on your desktop, iPhone, and Android device. Weve compiled a list of step-by-step methods to help you recover your Chrome browsing history. Not all of them may work for you, so you should try each one. Hopefully, one of these methods will get the job done. If youre using Google Chrome, youre most likely logged into your Google account at all times. When using another browser like Firefox or Safari, you may need to log in. If you check your browsing activity within your Google account, you will find the websites youve visited in the past. Keep in mind that this process enables you to view your browsing activity. Any browsing history you accidentally deleted in this section will remain deleted from Google Chrome. Open any browser and go to your Google account.Click on Data & Privacy in the vertical sidebar.In the Things youve done and places youve been tab, click Web & App Activity.Now, click on Manage all Web & App Activity. The results are similar to your browsing history. You can also see what keywords youve used to search for in the past. Note: If the setting Include Chrome history and activity from sites, apps, and devices that use Google services on the Activity controls page is unchecked, you wont be able to access your Chrome history with this method. If you cant access your browsing history by checking your Google account activity, you can restore your browsing activity within Windows Explorer. Open Windows Explorer and go to Local Disk (C:), the usual default location for app installations.Now, open the Users folder.Next, go to [Username] (the name of your user profile).Click on the View tab, then ensure the Hidden Items checkbox is checked.Open the AppData folder.Now, navigate to Local.Next, right-click on the Google folder.In the pop-up menu, select Properties.Click on the Previous versions tab in the dialog box.Select the previous version you want to restore and click Apply.Finally, click OK. Youve now restored your browsing history to the previous version. If you dont have a prior browsing version, you can recover your history using a data recovery program. This method requires you to download and install a third-party app. Go to the Recuva download page and click the Download button to get the free version.Open the folder where youve downloaded Recuva and launch the installation.Select Run Recuva. Follow the on-screen instructions using the Recovery Wizard.Select All files and then click Next.Select the specific location using this path: C:\Users\[Username]\AppData\Local\Google.Click Next.Click on Start and wait for Recuva to recover deleted files from the specified location.Browse the files to find the data you need to recover. The history JSON file should be listed. If not, try a Deep Scan. in the above steps.Check the boxes next to each file you want to restore (history for this process), then click on Recover.Choose the location to save the recovered file(s), then click OK. Selecting a different drive (or partition at the least) is best. Never choose the exact location the file previously existed.A completion report screen appears. Click OK to close the window.Open Windows Explorer, navigate to your predefined recovery folder, then copy the history file.Paste the history file into the C:\Users\[Username]\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default folder. Another way to restore your Google Chrome history is by restoring DNS Cache using the Command Prompt. Press the Windows key + R together to open the Run program, type in cmd, then click OK.Now, type ipconfig/displaydns and press Enter. With this method, youll gain access to your recent browsing history. A drawback to this process is that you can only see the domains youve visited rather than exact web pages. Before you download any third-party app to extract the file with your Chrome browsing history, there is a simple way you can view it. Viewing is essential to confirm that your Chrome history actually disappeared. If youve signed in to Google Chrome with your Google account the first time you launched the app on your iPhone, you can access your browsing history from within your Google account. This process is critical to confirm that you actually lost your Chrome history. After confirming that your browsing history is missing, you can move on to recovering it in the next section. Heres how to view your existing Chrome history on iPhone/iOS devices. Open the Chrome app on your iPhone.Type in My account and then tap go.Click on the first search result and then tap Go to Google Account or Manage your Google Account if youre already logged in.Tap Web & App Activity at the top of this new page.Scroll down and tap on Manage all Web & App Activity.Next, scroll down and review your web activity. While viewing the My Activity screen, youll find your browsing history. If youre logged in on other devices with the same Google account, youll see your browsing activity on those devices. There arent many options when it comes to recovering Chrome history on iPhone/iOS. After all, it is a Safari-targeted device. If you search online for how to recover Chrome history on iPhone or iOS, youll find several websites stating how to do it. However, those websites all copy each others information, and content tends to get mixed up. In other words, a website may show steps to recover Chrome history using iPhone, but they got it confused with information on removing them from Safari. Even though they say Chrome, it is actually Safari steps. As for iOS and iPhone ways to recover Chrome history, you can use a third-party data recovery app that allows scanning iPhones utilizing a PC, such as iBeesoft iPhone Data Recovery. If you accidentally deleted your Chrome history, a data recovery tool may recover lost data from the internal storage on your iPhone or other iOS devices. Aside from third-party iPhone recovery tools, you also have iCloud at your fingertips, assuming you used it to back up your iPhones data. On your computer, go to the iBeesoft iPhone Data Recovery download page (it may not work under a VPN). Choose Windows or the macOS version.Now open up the downloaded file, and follow the on-screen instructions.Connect your iPhone to your computer.When the Trust this Computer? prompt on your iPhone appears, tap Trust.Launch iBeesoft iPhone Data Recovery on your computer.Select the Recover from iOS tab. Youll find your iPhone here.Now, click Scan. Once the scan process is over, find the file that contains your Chrome browsing history, which should be titled history. The methods for recovering your deleted Chrome history on iPhone also apply to Android devices. If you signed in to Chrome the first time you launched the app, you could access your browsing history through your Google account. Open the Chrome app on your Android.Type in My account and tap go.Click on the first search result and log into Google with the correct account if you arent already. Then, tap on Manage your data & privacy.Tap on Web & activity.Tap on Manage all Web & App Activity.Scroll down and view your web activity. Here, youll find the browsing history of your Google account across all devices, including your Android device. Note: If you havent signed in to your Chrome browser or dont want to, youll have to use a recovery tool like EaseUS MobiSaver For Android. Whether or not you do it intentionally, deleting your browsing history prevents you from finding web pages youve visited in the past. Now you know how to recover your deleted browsing history. Not all the methods we described may work for you, so remember that your Google account keeps track of your browsing history. You can access your Google account on any device and find the web page you need. Apart from this, weve shown you how to view and delete your search history. You can remove individual web pages or your entire browsing history with a few taps or clicks. How did you recover your deleted history in Google Chrome? Did you find another viable method? Let us know in the comments section below. How can you recover Chrome History on Windows? At the beginning of this article, there are four ways you can recover your Chrome history. These include checking your Google account activity, restoring the previous version of your Google folder, using a data recovery tool, and using the DNS cache.You can apply either of these methods to your Windows PC and recover your Chrome history. Feel free to scroll up to the beginning of this article and see which way works for you the best. How do I check Google Chrome history after I deleted it? If youve already deleted your browsing history in Google Chrome, you can still access it via your Google account. The only requirement is that you need to have been signed into Chrome with your Google account during the browsing history period.1.Go to your Google account.2.Click on Data & personalization in the vertical sidebar.3.In the Activity controls section, click Web & App Activity.4.Click on Manage activity.You can check your browsing history here. If you have more devices linked to your Google account, youll see the browsing history on all devices. How do I delete search history on Google Chrome? If you dont want to recover your browsing history but want to delete it, you can do so within the browser. Since weve explained how to recover your Chrome browsing history on PC, iOS, and Android, well show you how to delete your search history on all three devices.Delete Search History on Windows1.Open your Chrome browser.2.In the top-right corner of the screen, click on the horizontal ellipsis (three vertical dots).3.Hover your cursor over History.4.Click History in the extended menu.5.Click Clear browsing data in the left sidebar.6.Select the time range you want to delete from your browsing data.7.Check Browsing history and click Clear data.Delete Search History on iPhone1.Launch the Chrome app.2.In the bottom-right corner of the screen, tap on the horizontal ellipsis (three horizontal dots).3.Tap History.4.Tap Edit and select the sites you want to delete from your browsing history.5.Tap Delete.Note: If you want to delete your entire browsing history, tap Clear Browsing Data after step 3.Delete Search History on Android1.Launch the Chrome app.2.In the bottom-right corner of the screen, tap on the horizontal ellipsis (three horizontal dots).3.Tap History.4.Tap the small x icon to remove a web page from your history.Note: If you want to delete your entire browsing history, tap Clear Browsing Data after step 3. IntroductionAccidentally deleting your browsing history from your Windows computer can sometimes feel like a disaster, especially when you need to access specific information within those deleted files. Fortunately, there are several approaches you can use to recover your deleted browsing history.In this article, we will discuss three effective methods for restoring your lost history, including using system restore, checking DNS cache, and employing third-party software.1. Using System RestoreSystem Restore is a built-in Windows feature that allows you to revert your computers state (including system files, applications, etc.) to an earlier point in time. To use System Restore to recover deleted browsing history, follow these steps:Step 1: Open the Start Menu by clicking on the Windows icon and type system restore in the search bar.Step 2: Click on Create a restore point, then click on the System Restore button.Step 3: Select a restore point from the list preferably one created before you deleted your browsing history.Step 4: Follow the on-screen instructions and wait for the process to complete.Once finished, restart your computer and check if your browsers history is restored.2. Checking DNS CacheThe DNS cache temporarily stores information relating to website addresses youve visited recently so that your browser can load websites more quickly. By checking the DNS cache for entries, you can piece together a list of websites you have visited recently:Step 1: Press Win + R keys on your keyboard to open the Run dialogue box.Step 2: Type cmd and press Enter to open Command Prompt.Step 3: Type ipconfig /displaydns and press Enter.Youll now see a list of websites visited recently along with other related information. Although this method doesnt provide complete browsing history details, it can help you recall website URLs youve accessed recently.3. Using Third-Party SoftwareThere are numerous third-party software applications on the market that specialize in recovering deleted browsing history. These tools can retrieve information from different browsers and even provide in-depth details about your activity.Some popular third-party recovery software options include Recuva, EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard, and MiniTool Power Data Recovery. Installing the software of your choice and following the provided instructions should help you restore your lost browsing history.ConclusionLosing important browsing history can be a frustrating experience, but with these three methods at your disposal, theres a good chance youll be able to recover that lost information. Whether its through using Windows System Restore feature, checking the DNS cache, or employing third-party software, dont despair you may still find what youre looking for. Something went wrong. Wait a moment and try again. Download Article Restore & recover search history that you deleted on Google Download Article You may find yourself needing to recover your deleted internet history to determine what a previous user was browsing, to discover a lost URL, or simply to retrieve deleted information. While your internet history may be deleted on your browser, your Windows computer caches this information and it can be accessed in a variety of ways. By far the simplest method to locate your deleted history is through your Google Account. If you have a Google Account and were using it during the session you wish to access, proceed to that method. If, however, you were not using Google the process can be a little more complicated. Luckily, there are caches built into your machine from which you can access your lost history. Perform a full system restore to find and recover deleted history on a Windows computer. This can recover recently deleted information, such as internet and browser history. You can flush the DNS cache, a third-party recovery software, or your browser settings. 1Go to "Start" and select "Run." In the search bar enter cmd without the quotation marks. Select OK. While someone may be able to delete their browsing history, the DNS Cache stores this information. It should be noted that this method may be confusing because it saves history from everything connected to the internet, such as apps, and not just your browser.[1] 2Wait for the Command Prompt to open. This will be a black window where you can enter ipconfig/displaydns. Hit Enter. Advertisement 3Recover your deleted history. Once you have entered the command, you will be shown your internet history. Advertisement 1Search for reliable recovery software. A recommended option is Recuva or Data Recovery Wizard. Once you have downloaded the free software, start the program. In this tutorial, we will walk through using Recuva but most of the software can be navigated in similar ways.2Click Next on the Welcome to the Recuva Wizard page. If this page does not appear after you start the software, go to Options and then select Show Wizard at Startup.3Select the type of files you are trying to recover. In this case, deleted Internet history. Once you have done so, hit Next. This will prompt the File Location Page to appear.4Select the location where you want the software to run its search. Click Start and then wait for the scan to complete. This may take a few moments.5Select Recover. Once the scan is complete, you will have the option to recover the files and choose a destination for them on your computer. After you have chosen their location, select OK. Advertisement 1Access Google's Browser History. This is by far the easiest method but it will only work if you were signed in to your account during the browsing session you wish to access.2Sign in to your Google Account. Go to www.google.com/history and enter the information for the account that you were browsing with.3Review your browsing history. From this page, you will be able to see your browsing history according to time and date. If you wish to delete your history, simply click on the cog icon in the upper-right hand corner of the screen and select Remove Items.[2] Advertisement Add New Question Question How can I find out who accessed my laptop with a Verizon air card? Reverse the IP address and check out the person. Question A teenager used my laptop and, when I got it back, I could not use Firefox and found that it was made compatible with XP when it had been Windows 7. I'd like to find what the history of use was at the time the other person used my computer. What can I do? There is a reset point. Find that option, save all the other stuff that you a added, or made after that data and then let your PC/laptop apply the earlier data for you. Then download Firefox and update it till you get the version that suits your needs and is for you the best option. Question Where could I find a video file that was recording from Microsoft Lifecam that was interrupted? It would depend on where you set Lifecam to save videos. By default, videos are saved in the LifeCam folder under "My Pictures" on the C: drive. See more answers Ask a Question Advertisement This article was co-authored by wikiHow Staff. Our trained team of editors and researchers validate articles for accuracy and comprehensiveness. wikiHow's Content Management Team carefully monitors the work from our editorial staff to ensure that each article is backed by trusted research and meets our high quality standards. This article has been viewed 2,777,755 times. Co-authors: 85 Updated: April 25, 2025 Views:2,777,755 Categories: Data Recovery | Windows PrintSend fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 2,777,755 times. Need personalized advice? Share your issue and get tips from others in our community section. Visit Forum We all rely on our search history to keep track of our twisted internet trail. Without it, many of us would be hard-pressed to recall the sites we found in our rambling search. But if this history gets accidentally deleted, how can you get it back? In this guide, we will explore all methods for recovering deleted history on Google Chrome. Keep reading to find out more. Can You Recover Deleted History on Google Chrome?In some cases, yes. Google Chrome stores browsing data in a dedicated database file on your computer. Even if this file is deleted, it may still be possible to recover it using the same methods employed to restore deleted photographs or documents. There are other ways to view your browser history too, like the sync feature or the Google Activity dashboard.How to Recover Deleted Chrome History on PC or LaptopFrom direct methods like data recovery software to indirect methods like the DNS cache, there are multiple ways of recovering your deleted Chrome history. Lets explore them one by one.Method 1: Check Your Google Account ActivityThe History file stored on your computer is not the only place Google stores a record of your browsing activity. Your Google account itself contains a log of your online activity, including the websites you have visited and the search terms you have used.To access your Google account activity, follow these steps:Head to My Activity.If you are not signed in to your Google account, you will see something like this.Sign in with the account you wish to see the search history for. Chances are that you are already signed in. Then the My Activity dashboard is displayed.Scroll down to see all of your activity across devices listed out. It includes Google searches as well as general activity on Android too.You can search for specific terms or even filter the results based on the date or the type of activity. This can help you narrow down the list to just your Chrome history. When the History file storing Chromes browser history is deleted, the best way to get it back is by using data recovery software. Software like that scans through the whole disk for deleted files, giving you the opportunity to restore your Google History to the way it was.While you can use any data recovery tool for this, we are going to go with Disk Drill Data Recovery. It is a fully-featured data recovery application for both Windows and Mac that can recover files lost due to any reason. The best thing is that you can recover 500 MB of data for free, so restoring your deleted Chrome History wouldnt cost you a penny. Download Disk Drill: To begin, you obviously need the application itself. Head to the official site and download Disk Drill. Launch the installer: The setup file is small and should download in minutes. Use it to install Disk Drill on your computer. Install Disk Drill: Now, run Disk Drill. You will be presented with a license agreement. Agree and continue. Scan your drive: After a couple of welcome screens, you will get to the main window. Here you can see all the drives connected to your computer. Select your hard drive and hit the Search for lost data button. View scan results in real-time: Disk Drill will now start scanning. You will be able to see how many files of each type are found by glancing at the sorted icons on the screen. Normally, we would wait for the whole scan to finish, but since we are looking for one specific file, we will click on Review found items. Look for the history file: The scanning will continue even as the current results are displayed on a new screen. You can change the file category from the left and search for a file (or folder) from the right. Type History in the search box and hit enter. Select the history file: The results will be filtered based on your search results. Since the files are shown with their folder structure, it is easy to check if the correct file has been found. Chromes history file is stored in C:\Users\Username\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default. This is what it would look like. Select the file. Recover your browser history: Click on the Recover button to restore the selected file. You can choose the destination to save the recovered file. While it is preferable to save somewhere other than the main drive, in this instance, you can ignore it. Since we only need one file, there is nothing else to overwrite. Overwrite your current history file with the restored one: But just recovering the History file is not enough. You need to navigate to C:\Users\Username\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default (replace Username with your user name) and copy-paste the recovered file into it. This allows Google Chrome to load up the browsing history stored in the file. If youre interested in Disk Drill, you should also be aware that we conducted a safety analysis of this popular data recovery software. Method 3: Restore Previous Versions of Your Google FolderIf you have deleted the history from Google Chrome, recovering it can be a bit more tricky. This is because Chrome does not actually delete the History file, but empties the contents of its database. This lost data cannot be recovered by a data recovery tool.The solution? Restoring a previous version of the History file. If you have File History set up on your Windows computer and have the Google folder backed up, it is possible to obtain an older version of the History file.Here are the steps for doing so:Open File Explorer and enter the following path in the Address bar at the top: C:\Users\Username\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default, where Username is the name of the user in question.While there are a bunch of files and folders in here, we are only interested in the History file.Right-click on the History file and open Properties.Click on the Previous Versions tab. When File History has been set up, it shows older versions of the file. Just click on the version you want to return to and hit Restore.Addendum: Setting up File History on WindowsWe have seen how to restore the History file to a previous version if File History is set up. But how exactly do you do that? Here are the steps for both Windows 10 and Windows 11:For Windows 10:Open the Start menu and click on Settings.In the Settings window, open Update & Security.In the Update & Security window, navigate to the Backup tab from the left.To start backing up your data, you need an external HDD. Connect the drive and click on Add a drive to enable it.To customize which folders are included in the backup, click on More options. Use the Add a folder button to add the Google folder to this list.For Windows 11:Open the Start menu and enter Control Panel in the search bar.Select Control Panel from the list of results.Select the Save backup copies of your files with File History option.Connect your external backup drive and click the Select drive option in the left pane.Choose the connected backup drive and confirm.Click Turn on to enable File History on Windows 11.Optionally configure File History by clicking the Advanced settings options in the left pane and changing the available settings.Method 4: Use DNS Cache to Recover Deleted HistoryDNS or Domain Name System is the mechanism by which the URL you type in the address bar gets converted into actual addresses on the web. Since this conversion can take some type especially when visiting a website for the first time the OS maintains a cache of the DNS addresses of recently opened sites.You can get some idea of what kind of websites you have visited by taking a look at this list. Note that this includes internet activity from all browsers on your computer, not just Chrome.Here is how to view the DNS cache using Command Prompt:Open Command Prompt as an administrator. You can find it by typing cmd in the Windows search bar.Enter the command: ipconfig /displaydns. This brings up all the DNS records on your computer.As you can see, the records are technical. There isnt much relevant information, except for the Record Name field, which is actually the DNS name. You can look up these names to try to guess which websites use them.Method 5: Reinstall Google ChromeIf sync is enabled in your Google account, then your personal data is backed up to the cloud. Bookmarks, search history, passwords everything is stored. As soon as you sign in on a new device, Google syncs this data to it.You can use this feature to recover deleted history on Google Chrome too. Simply reinstall Google Chrome on your computer and sign in again. Your history should be synced from your other devices.Note that this will only work if it is the History file that is missing clearing your history from Google chrome removes it for all devices.Method 6: Check Cookies to Recover Deleted Browser HistoryCookies are another method through which the browser (or rather, the websites) store data on your computer. The problem is that cookies are website-specific, and only store information related to that website. Your search history is not found in a cookie.Instead, cookies give you an overview of what websites you have interacted with in the past. Even when your browser history is beyond recovery, taking a look at all the cookies on your computer can give you similar information. Do note though that merely opening a website might not lead to a cookie being created. Usually, you will be prompted to accept the cookies.Here is how to view all the cookies on your browser:Open Chrome and bring down the three-dot menu from the top right. Click on Settings.Scroll down to the Privacy and security section and click on Cookies and other site data.All options related to cookies show up here. You need to click on the See all cookies and site data option.All the cookies on your computer will show up in an alphabetical list of websites. You use this information to determine which websites you have interacted with in the past.How to Recover Deleted Chrome History on Mobile DevicesSo far we have explored various methods for regaining your lost Chrome history on a PC. But what about a smartphone? Is there any way for doing so on Android or iPhone?Certainly. While things like data recovery software or checking the DNS cache are harder on mobile, many of the other methods work just the same. Here are two of them:With SyncIf your mobile has sync enabled, your Chrome data is backed up across all of your devices. This means that signing in on your phone again should restore your search history. Here are the steps for doing so:First, verify that sync is indeed enabled on your device. To do that, open Chrome and head to its settings. You will see the Google Account being synced at the top.Now you need to uninstall Chrome. If thats not possible on your device, simply sign out of your account. Open Chrome again to be greeted with a tab like this.Tap the Sign in button and enter your login details.Thats it. Upon signing in again, your data will be synced with your Google account, restoring any lost history using the backups from your other devices.Using Google Account ActivityWhen your data isnt synced (or the method doesnt work), you can always check out your Google account activity. The My Activity dashboard holds a record of every action on Chrome, including searches. To access this information, follow these steps:On your Android mobile, head to Settings and tap on Google.Now hit the Manage your Google Account option.All of your Google Account related settings can be accessed from here. For now, switch to the Data & Personalization tab.From here, scroll down to Activity and timeline and tap on My Activity.Alternatively, on both Android and iPhone you can open Chrome and navigate to My Activity directly. This opens up the My Activity dashboard, containing a log of your online activities.Scroll downwards to view a list of your search history ordered by date and time. Tap on any of the items to view more details.If your activity is clogged up by actions performed on other Google apps, you can always use the Filter option to narrow things down. You can filter by the date and the type of activity you wish to see, such as Chrome.FAQ No, Chrome history is not necessarily deleted forever. Even if the browsing history file is deleted, it may still be possible to recover it using data recovery software or by restoring a previous version of the file. Additionally, your Google account itself contains a log of your online activity, including the websites you have visited and the search terms you have used, which can also be used to access your browsing history.However, it is important to note that there are some circumstances where the history may be permanently lost, such as if it has been overwritten by new data or if you have explicitly chosen to clear your history. Chrome stores browsing history locally on your computer using database files. Here are two possible paths on Windows:C:\Users\\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\DefaultC:\Users\\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default\CacheIf these files are deleted manually, they may show up in the Recycle Bin. If they are deleted from there, they can still be recovered using a data recovery tool.However, if you clear the history from Chrome itself, the individual records are wiped clean. This means that the History file still remains, but it does not hold any of the browsing data. There are a couple of ways to recover deleted Google history on an android phone. The first is Chromes sync functionality. If you had enabled sync in the past, Chrome will automatically restore your browsing history and bookmarks once you sign in to your Google account.In case sync isnt enabled on your phone, you can take a look at your Google Activity. This lets you view all the sites you have visited and the search terms you have used in the recent past. The best way to check deleted Google history on an iPhone is through the Google Account activity. Just head to My Activity and sign in with your Google account to get a list of all your browsing data. If Web & App Activity is turned on, you can even see the history of other actions on your iPhone. The browser itself (and by extension, Google) doesnt track incognito browsing. Once you close an incognito browsing session, there is no way to bring up that history from Chrome. You can always find your downloads of course, even if they are deleted.That being said, there is another method for getting a glimpse of what websites were accessed from your computer. The DNS cache keeps a record of all the domain names accessed by the computer. Here are the steps to check it. The best way to permanently delete Google history is to use the Clear History option from Chrome itself. This does not delete the History file (which can be restored with data recovery tools) but rather wipes the data from it. Which is much harder to reverse.Even with sync