

## Using Firefox on the Mac.

Since we are now using the new MATC Portal, we have discovered the portal is most compatible with Firefox. In addition, we have discovered that in the upcoming upgrade of Blackboard, Firefox will be the most supported browser for Mac users. Blackboard is scheduled to be upgraded in January, so we are being proactive in getting you the latest version of Firefox today, to allow you to get used to it.

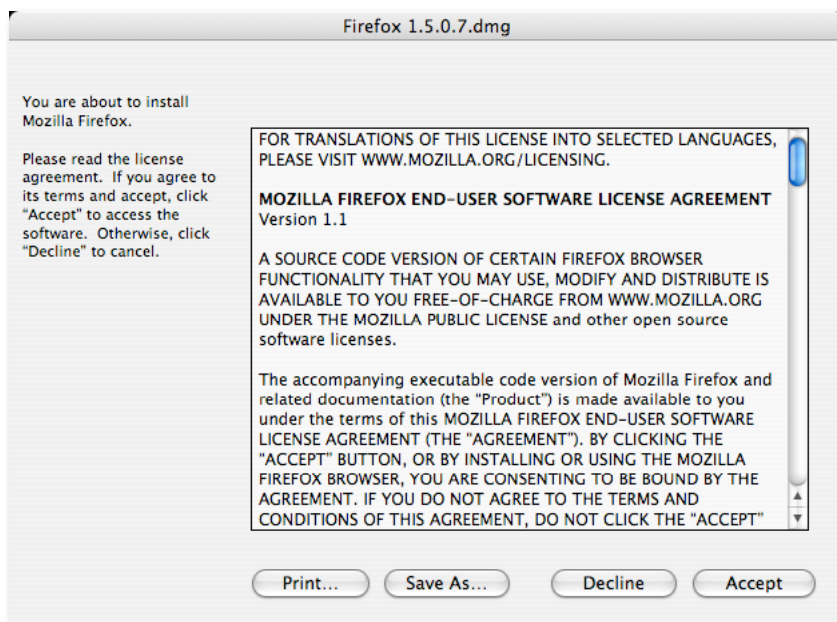
### Installing Firefox

1. Open the disk image by double clicking on it



The disk image will mount on your desktop.

2. A window will appear asking you to accept the licensing agreement. Click the accept button.



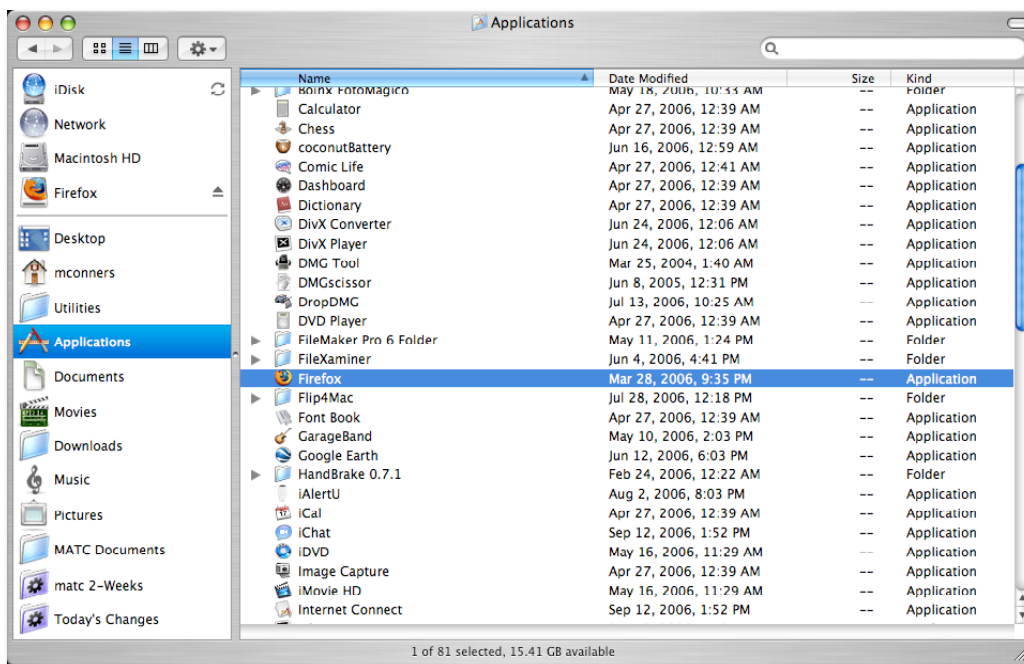
A quick progress bar comes up and goes by and then the main Firefox window appears.

## Using Firefox on a Mac



3. Now, drag the Firefox application icon into your Applications folder.

4. Once this is done, let's open your Applications folder and locate Firefox.



5. Open Firefox by Double-clicking on it.

When you first open Firefox for the first time you should see an Import Wizard window asking you to import bookmarks from other browsers, see picture on next page. **If you have already installed Firefox and are using it, skip to step 24.**

## Using Firefox on a Mac



If you don't see this window, **STOP!**

You probably have done this step previously when trying to use Firefox before and your bookmarks are probably outdated. If you intend to clean up Firefox's bookmarks, we need to clean out the settings and re-import the bookmarks. We need to trash all of the previous bookmarks, cookies and so on. **Again, if you have been using Firefox, skip to Step 24.**

6. To clean up your previous Firefox installation, open your home folder by double clicking on it.



7. Locate the library folder and open it.

8. Locate and open the Application Support Folder.

9. Inside the Application Support folder there will be a folder called Firefox. Trash the Firefox folder. Empty the trash.

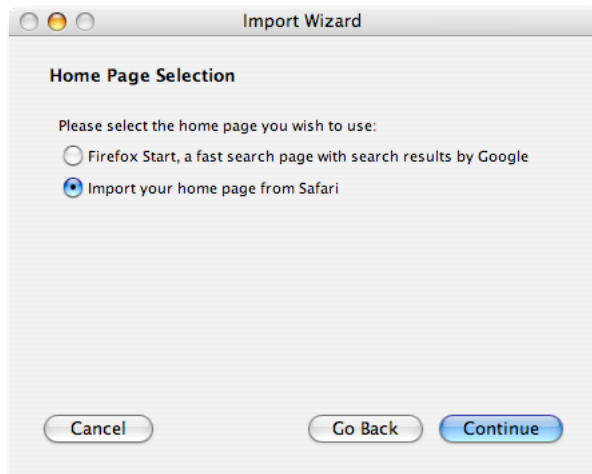
10. Log out and log back in as you. This resets Firefox.

11. With Firefox reset, you should be able to get the Import Wizard to start up properly. Open Firefox again.

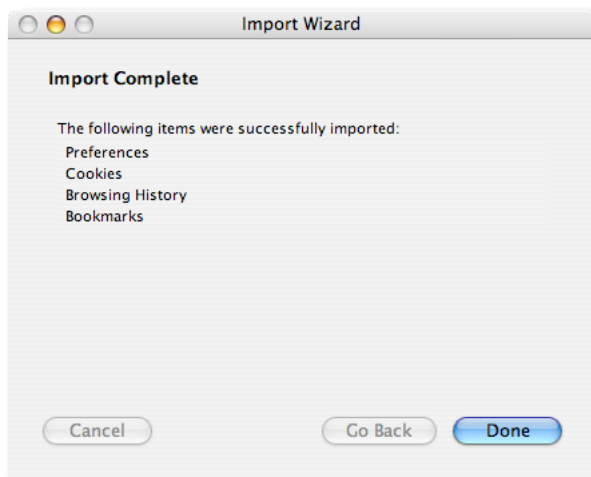
## Using Firefox on a Mac



12. With the import wizard running, click on the browser you were last using and click on the *Continue* button. This will import your most recent bookmarks.

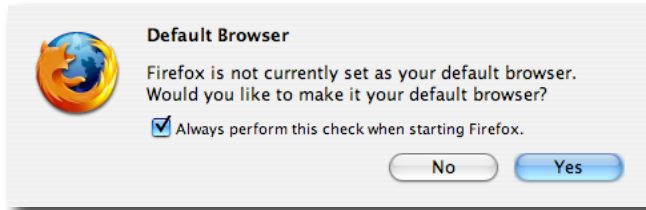


13. The next step in the import wizard is to determine what to do with your homepage. Click what you wish Firefox is to do. Click *Continue*.



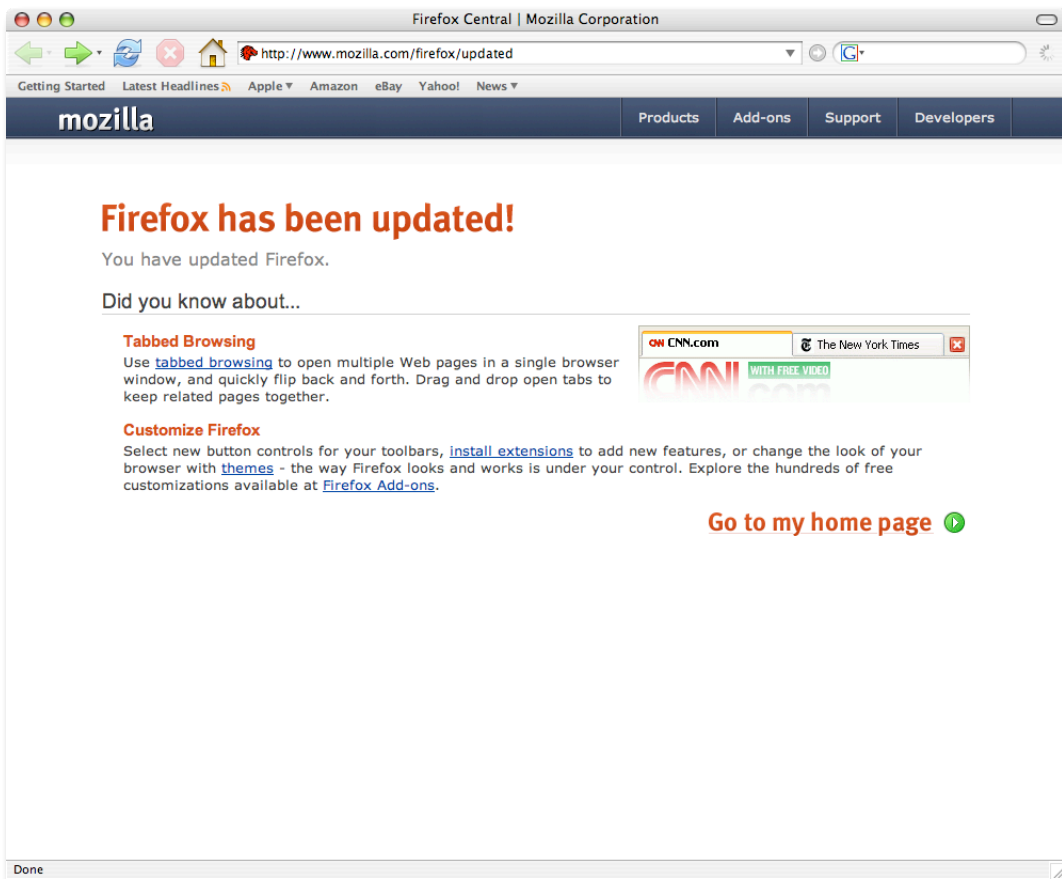
14. When your importing is complete, you will be presented with the final window. Click on the done button.

## Using Firefox on a Mac



15. Firefox checks to verify that it is the default browser. Make sure the box is checked to always perform this check and then click yes.

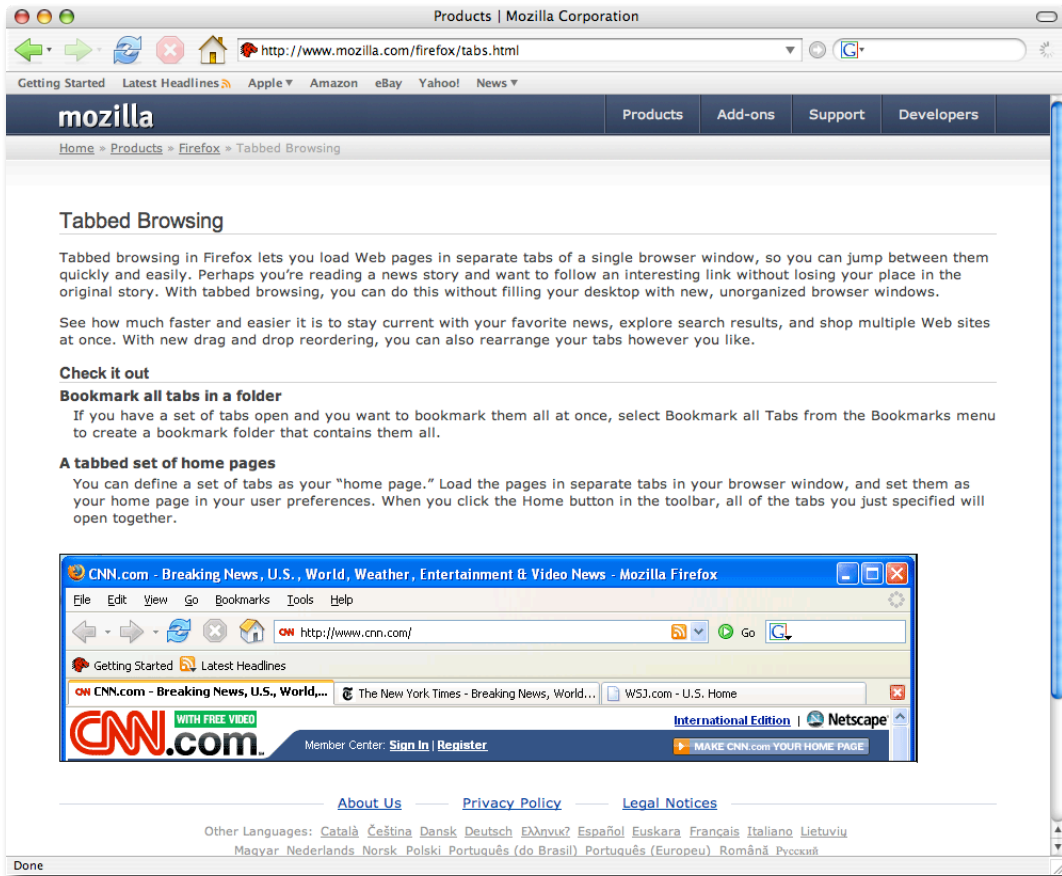
When Firefox starts up, the main window will be displayed.



There are many new features in Firefox that you may wish to explore. While tabbed browsing isn't new, you may wish to take a look at Firefox's page on it.

16. Click the link under tabbed browsing.

## Using Firefox on a Mac



This section explains tabbed browsing in more detail.

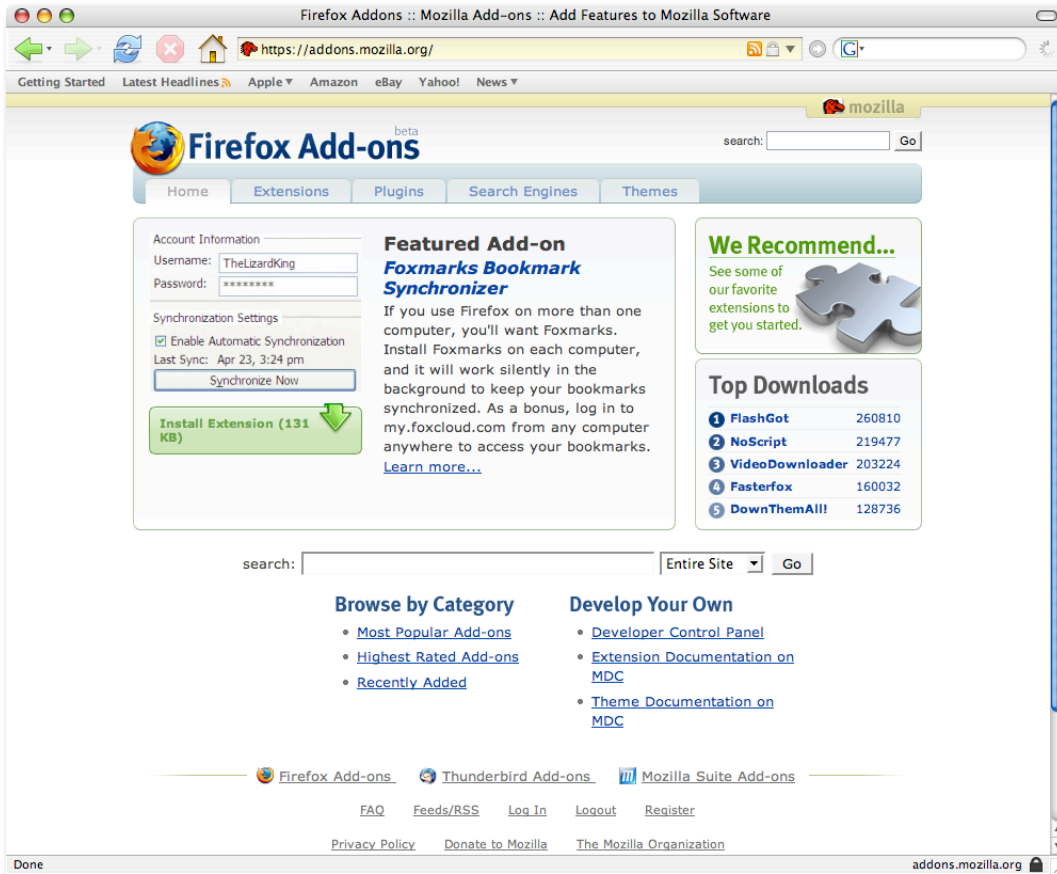
17. Click the back button.

18. Now click on the link, Install Extensions.



19. Firefox will alert you when there is a page that is encrypted with information that you can see, but is secure. You have the option to keep seeing information like this. Click okay.

## Using Firefox on a Mac



With Firefox, you can add extensions to add new abilities to it. Here you can explore what you can do with it.

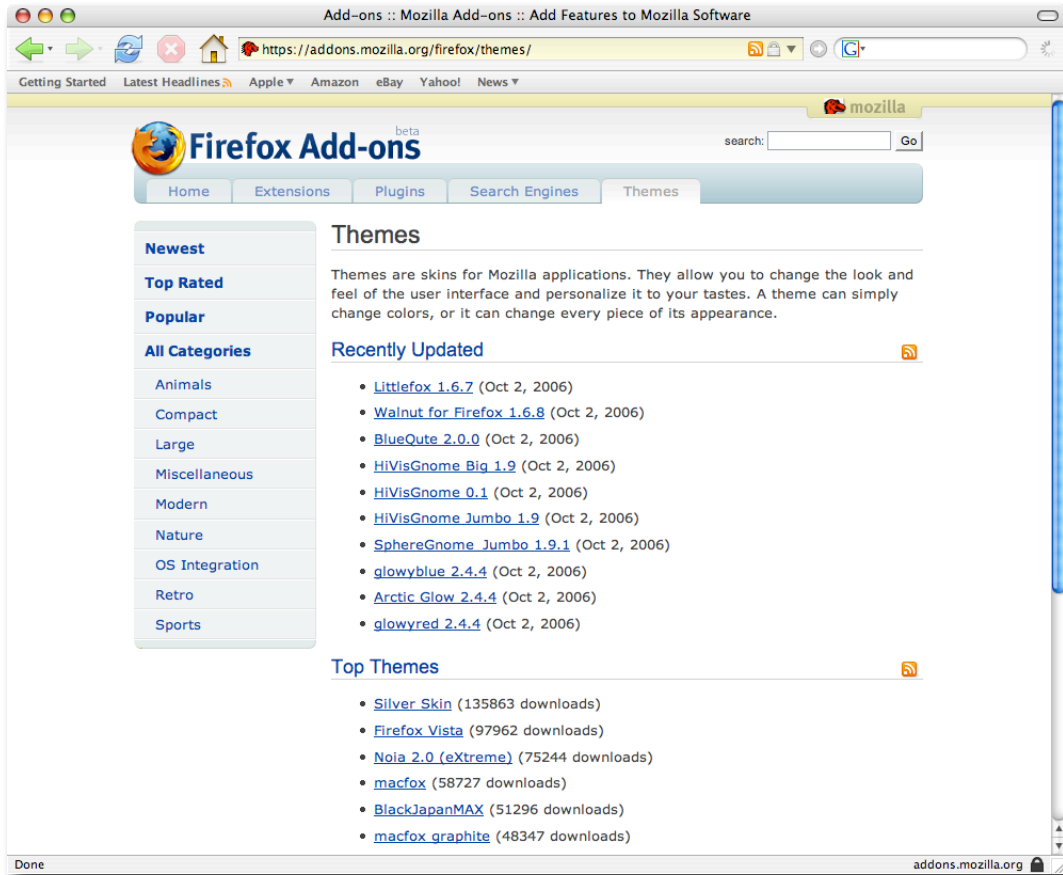
20. Click on the back button.

21. Firefox can be customized with different themes, to give it a personalized theme. Click on the themes link.



22. This alert is telling you that you are leaving an encrypted page. Someone who is snooping around on the Internet *COULD* read information from this point on. Click on the checkbox if you wish to be notified in the future. Click the Okay button.

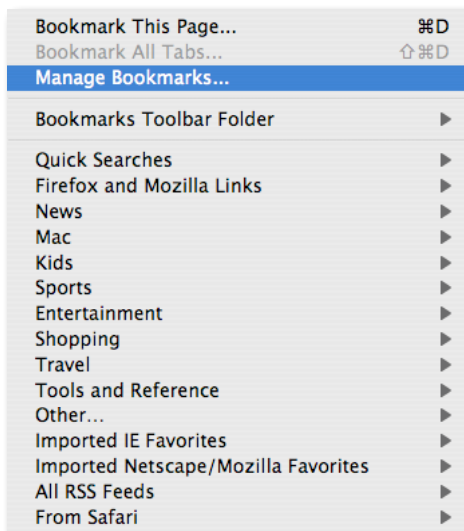
## Using Firefox on a Mac



Here is the Firefox Themes page.

23. Click on the back button or the home button now.

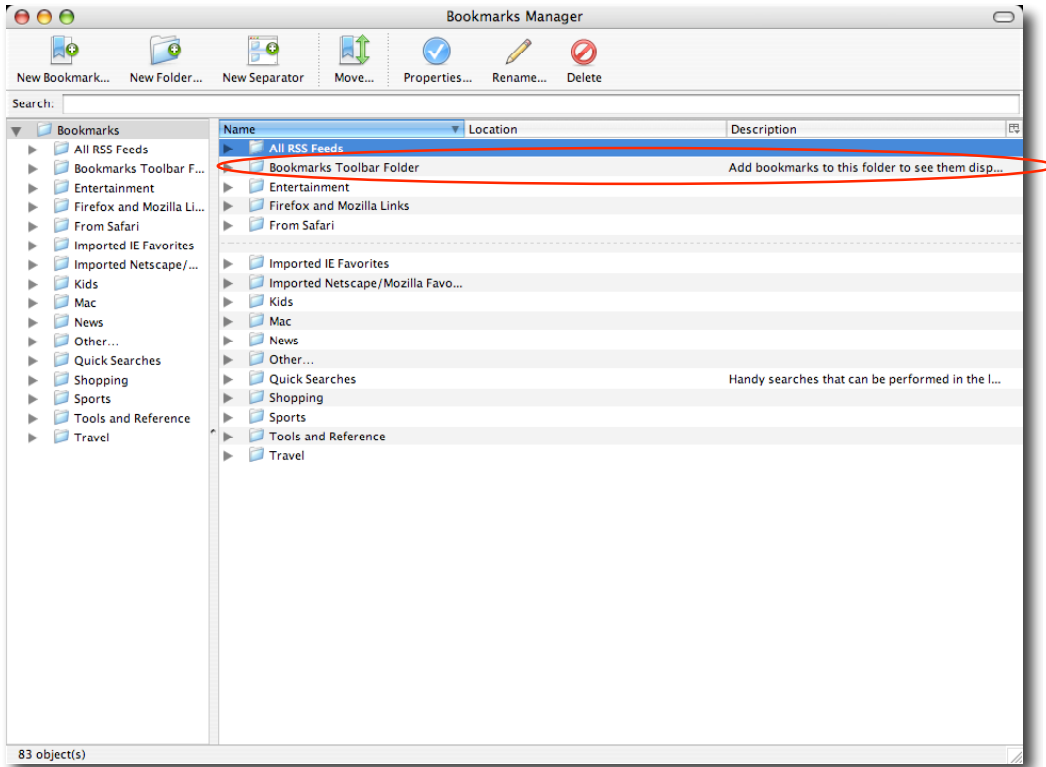
24. Bookmarks that are added to Firefox from your browser are added to the bookmarks menu. To manage these bookmarks, click on the bookmarks menu and select manage bookmarks.



Firefox allows you manage your bookmarks in a variety of ways. One of the exciting ways is the Bookmarks Toolbar Folder. This is where your folder of bookmarks will appear directly on the browser's toolbar.

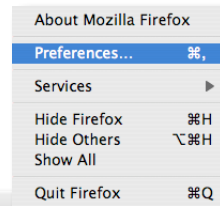
Let's look at the bookmarks management window.

## Using Firefox on a Mac

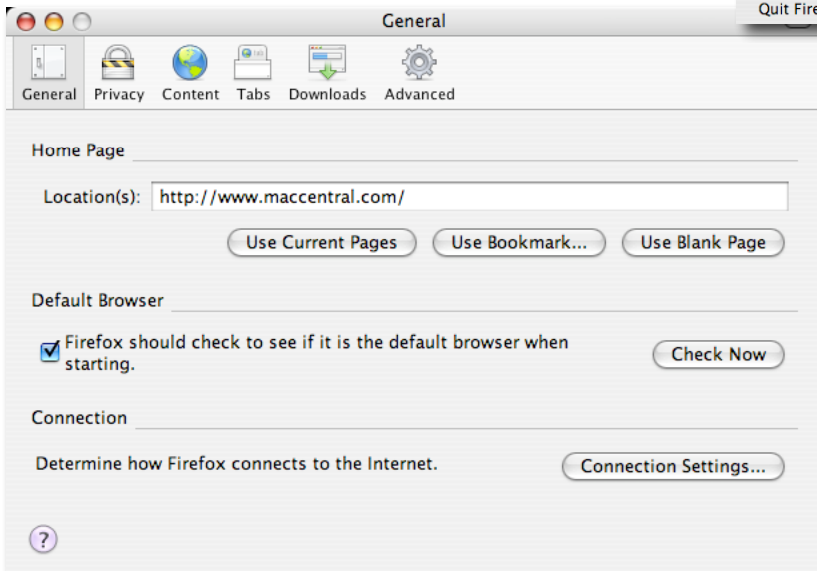


This window allows you to add bookmarks to the toolbar. In addition, your imported bookmarks appear here and you can manage them by moving them wherever you wish.

25. Click on Preferences in the Firefox menu.



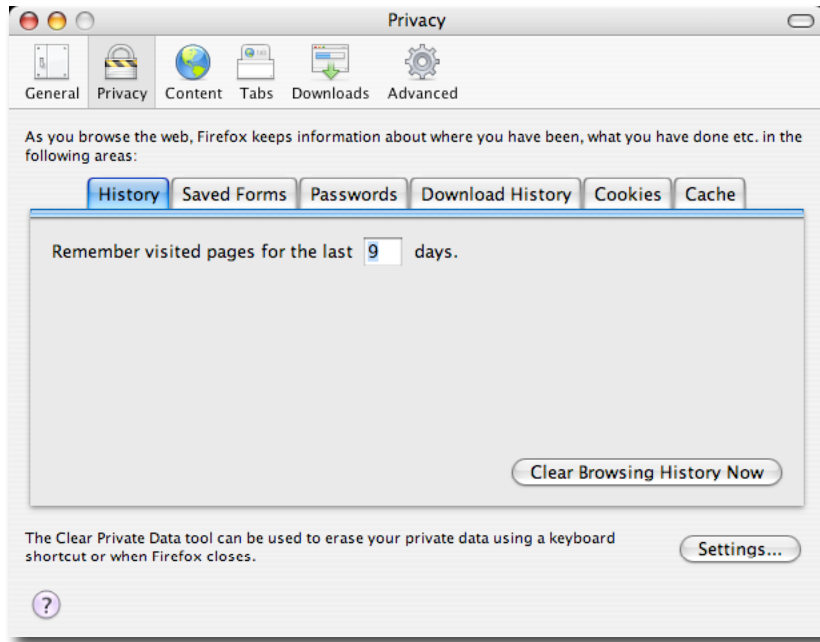
The main preference window opens.



## Using Firefox on a Mac

The general pane is where you can set the homepage location. In addition, you check whether or not you wish to have Firefox check to see if it is the default browser.

26. Click the Privacy lock button.



The History tab is how long you wish Firefox to keep track of your browsing experience so you can go back to previous days of websites.

Saved forms are for forms you enter such as home address, phone numbers and such.

Passwords are for your passwords to the websites you visit from time to time. Do you want Firefox to remember those passwords? Then there is a checkbox for Firefox to remember passwords. There is an option to set a Master Password, but then you must enter this password once per session. I have this off or not entered at all.

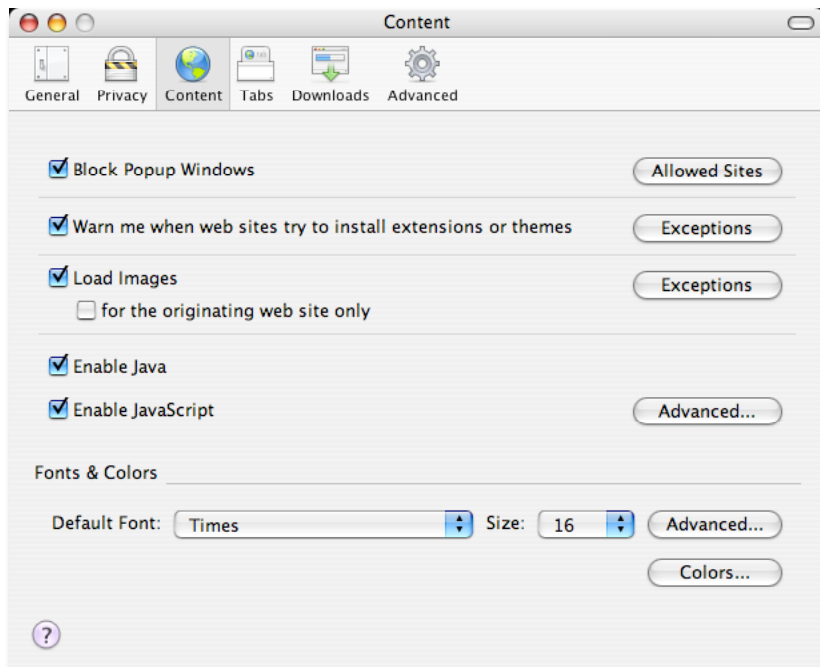
The Download History keeps track of all the downloaded files.

The Cookies tab is for tracking how your cookies are monitored. Usually the defaults are the most secure. There is a button for exceptions.

Finally, the Cache should be set to a minimal amount, mine is 50 MB.

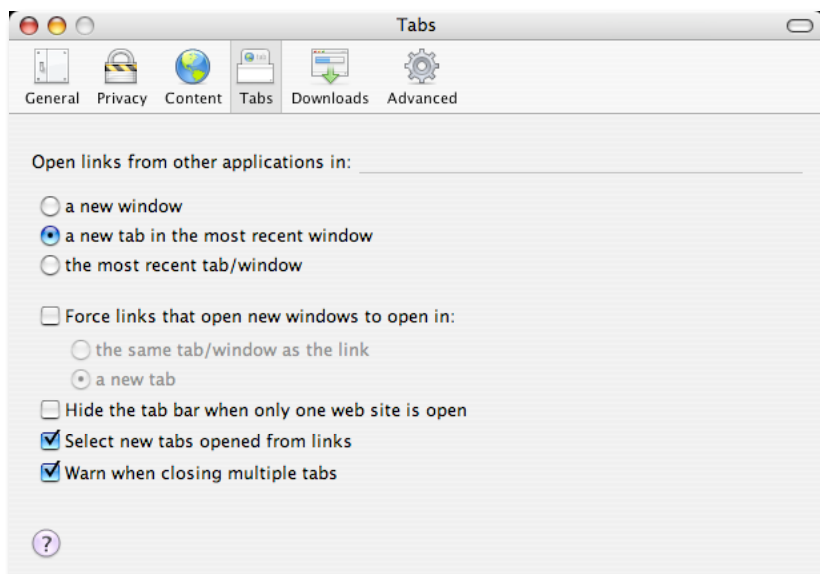
## Using Firefox on a Mac

### 27. Click on the Content tab.



Here is where you set how to handle popup windows. Additionally, you would want to tell Firefox how to handle JavaScripts. In this window the defaults are usually the best. They tend to be the most secure and for the most part are best for most people.

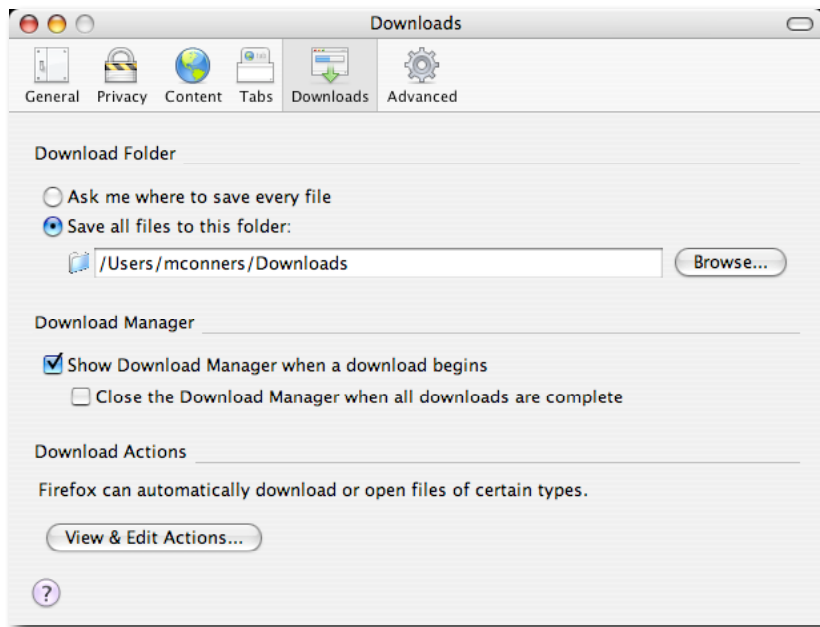
### 28. Click on the Tabs tab.



This window is all about tabs and how to handle tabbed browsing.

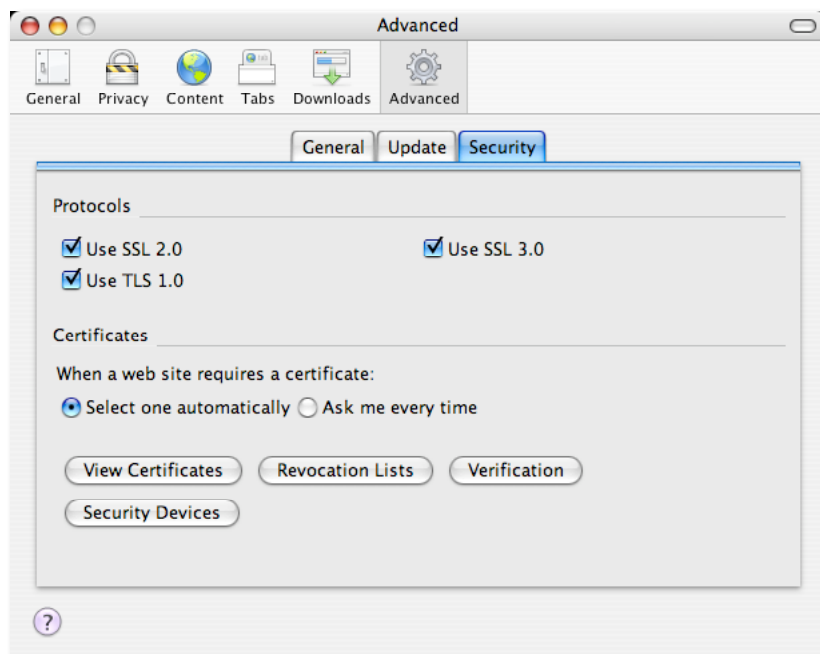
## Using Firefox on a Mac

29. Click on the Downloads tab.



The downloads tab is much like the tabs windows. It is all about downloads. Where do you want your downloads to go and then what to do with the download manager window. The other option here is Firefox's actions with certain downloads. Firefox's defaults are usually the best.

30. Click on the advanced tab.



## Using Firefox on a Mac

Like many of the default settings for Firefox, the default settings for Security, Updates and General under the advanced tab are best left the way they are. They provide you with the most secure browsing experience with Firefox. I would expect that there will be tweaking, but if you need help, you can always go back to Firefox's home page which is located at:

<http://www.firefox.com>

This will direct you to their website which is a Mozilla product.

This wraps up a detailed overview on Firefox. Again, web access will be used a lot in the very near future with Blackboard, the MATC Portal and throughout other websites you may encounter. Firefox has been found to be the most compatible of the major Mac browsers. If you have questions, please contact MATC Helpdesk at 246-6666 or Mick Conners, 246-6360.