

GETTING STARTED

A Beginner's Guide to Writing Chrome Extensions

A CHEAT SHEET FOR WRITING YOUR FIRST EXTENSION

DECIDE

DO YOU EVEN WANT AN EXTENSION?

An extension is good if you want to change the behavior of Chrome, and have little need for a UI.

<https://developer.chrome.com/webstore/choosing>

Create a single folder to hold all of the files your extension will need - html, css, javascript, images, etc.



CREATE A MANIFEST.JSON FILE

It controls everything - title and description, permissions, locations of files, icons, and much much more.

<https://developer.chrome.com/extensions/manifest>



DECIDE WHAT TO DO AND WHEN

Event pages and content scripts let you modify Chrome's behavior. Each has a different purpose, and can communicate with one another using messaging.

https://developer.chrome.com/extensions/event_pages

https://developer.chrome.com/extensions/content_scripts

Extensions are versatile, allowing you to customize the behavior of Chrome to suit your needs. When you're done, you can even share it in the store.



KEEP GOING - THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!

An extension is basically a website with little or no front end. It can include JavaScript, frameworks like JQuery, third party libraries, CSS, and more!

CHECK OUT THE OFFICIAL DOCS FOR MORE INFO

I wrote a few extensions. To learn how you can too, start here:

<https://grantwinney.com/making-your-first-chrome-extension>

<https://grantwinney.com/tag/chrome>