

Find out how moving to Kinsta could save you \$200+/mo on site costs.

GENERAL WORDPRESS QUESTIONS

How to Clear Cache for All Major Browsers

Last updated: January 14, 2022



Does someone keep telling you to “clear your browser cache”? It’s an important diagnostic when you’re having issues (e.g. [304 error](#)) with a website. But what does clearing your browser cache actually mean, and how do you do it for your specific browser?



How to Clear Cache

Whenever you visit a website, your web browser saves certain information from that site on your computer's hard drive in something called the "browser cache." Most of the time, this is a positive thing, as it helps speed up your web browsing experience by eliminating the need to download the same static resources over and over as you browse around a web page.

For example, a website's logo is unlikely to change – so it makes sense to store this logo locally in your browser cache instead of having your browser download the logo each time you visit a new page. But sometimes this cache can actually cause problems for your browsing experience. **That's when you need to clear your browser cache.**

In this entry, we'll first give you a brief introduction of the times when you might need to clear your browser cache. Then, we'll show you how to clear the browser cache of [most major browsers](#). If you want to quickly skip to the "how", you can click one of the links below, otherwise, we'll start at the beginning.

- [How to Force Refresh a Single Page for All Browsers](#)
- [How to Clear Cache for Google Chrome](#)
- [How to Clear Cache for Mozilla Firefox](#)
- [How to Clear Cache for Safari](#)
- [How to Clear Cache for Internet Explorer](#)
- [How to Clear Cache for Microsoft Edge](#)
- [How to Clear Cache for Opera](#)

✕

Kinsta's hosting receives hundreds of five-star ratings. Every Day.



Really love the level of experience and support Kinsta's live chat engineers provide. The 24/7 support is a game-changer for large sites, especially ecommerce.

Find out why



What Is Cache? Learn This Common and Complex Technology

What Is Cache? Learn This Common and Complex Technology



Why Do You Need to Clear Your Browser Cache?

Most of the time – you never even notice browser caching happening. It runs entirely behind the scenes and *usually* doesn't affect your browsing experience. But...sometimes things can go wrong.

For example, you might make a change to your site...but you're unable to see that change because your browser is still serving up the cached version of that resource. Or, the cache might have become corrupted and is actually interfering with the proper functioning of a web page.

For those reasons, a good first step whenever you encounter an issue on your own site (or someone else's site) is to clear your browser cache. It won't ***always*** fix the issue – but it is an important first diagnostic step to rule out before you assume that a more complicated issue is causing problems.

Sometimes, when using local web development solutions such as MAMP, you can encounter the [“This Site Can't Provide a Secure Connection”](#) error without clearing the cache. You'd be surprised how often what you think is a “huge” website bug is actually just a caching issue that goes away as soon as you clear your browser cache.



How to Force Refresh a Single Page

Before you go straight to clearing your entire browser cache, one trick you can try is something called a “force refresh”. Normally, when you refresh a page, your browser still serves up the cached version of the page, rather than downloading all of the assets again. But you can actually bypass the cache and force a complete refresh by using some simple hotkeys:

- **Windows and Linux browsers: CTRL + F5**
- **Apple Safari: SHIFT + Reload** toolbar button
- **Chrome and Firefox for Mac: CMD + SHIFT + R**

Again, this method *only bypasses the cache for the specific page that you're on*. It leaves the rest of your browser cache untouched. Therefore, this option is great if you're experiencing issues **with just a single page**. But if you want to completely reset your experience (say, across an entire site), you're better off just clearing your entire browser cache.

How to Clear Browser Cache for Google Chrome

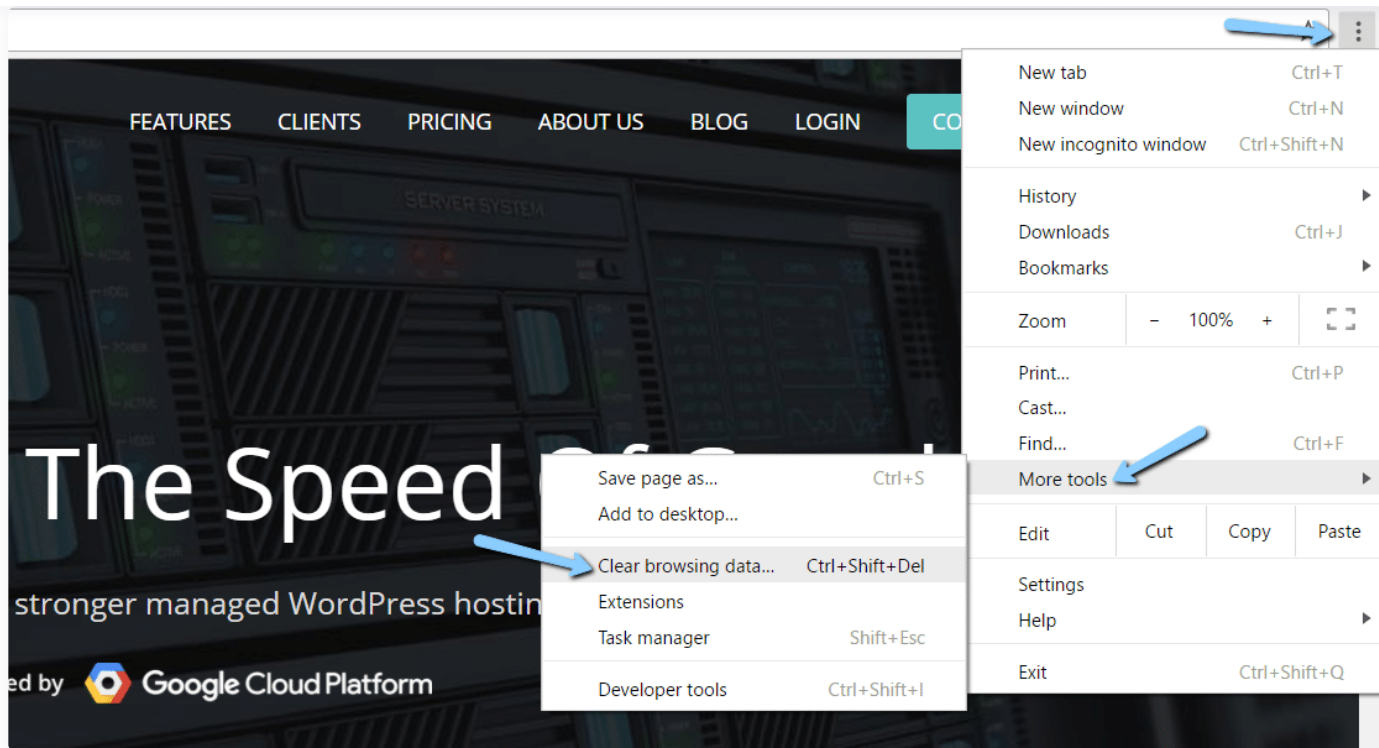
To clear the cache for [Google Chrome](#), get started by clicking the **Three Dots** icon in the top right of your browser window. Then, find the **More Tools** option and select **Clear browsing data...** from the submenu:

Want to know how we increased our traffic over 1000%?

Join 20,000+ others who get our weekly newsletter with insider WordPress tips!

Subscribe Now

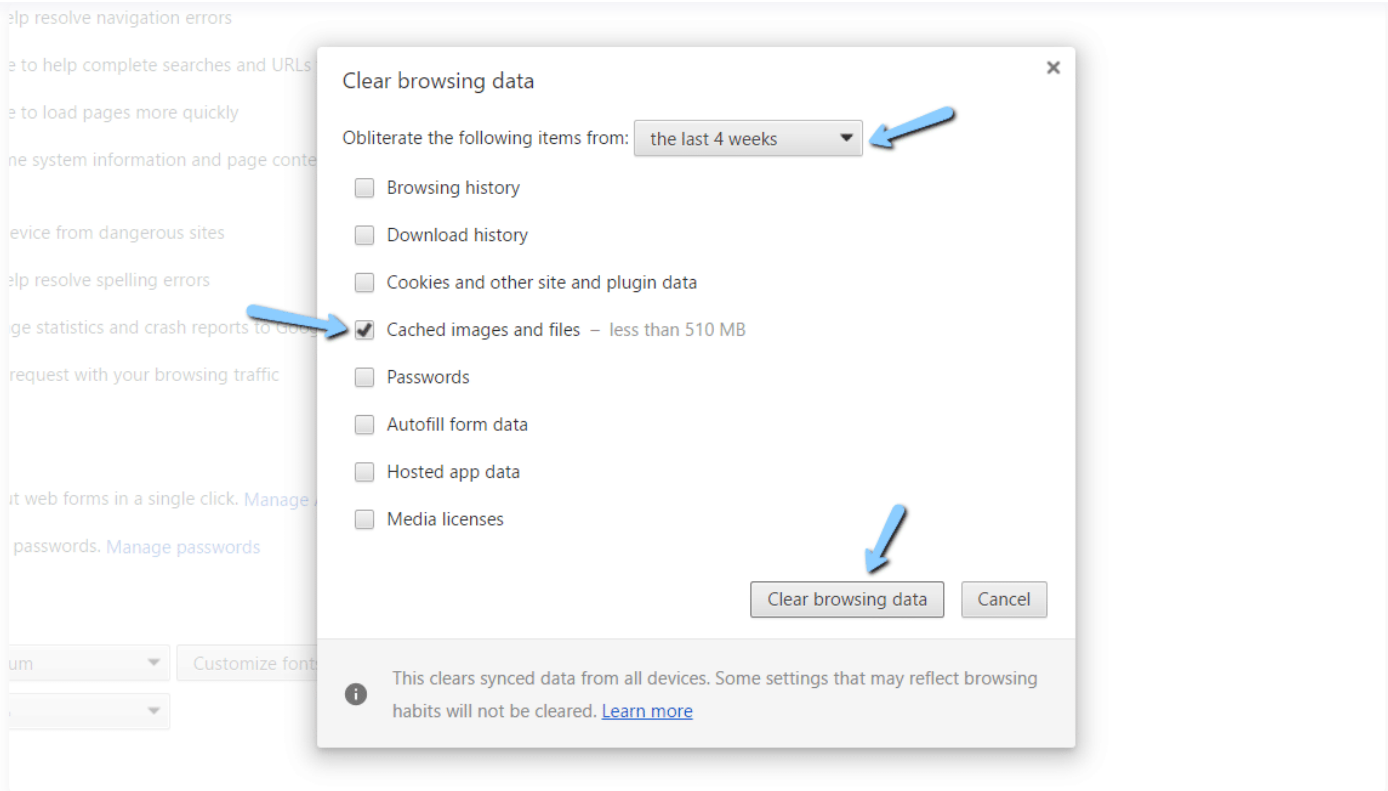




— Google Chrome clear browsing data menu

Alternatively, you can also use the hotkey combination: **CTRL + SHIFT + DEL**. Chrome will open up a new tab with a popup window titled **Clear Browsing Data**. Make sure that **only** the **Cached images and files** box is checked. Otherwise, you might accidentally clear your browsing history, saved passwords, cookies, and more:





— Clear browser cache in Google Chrome

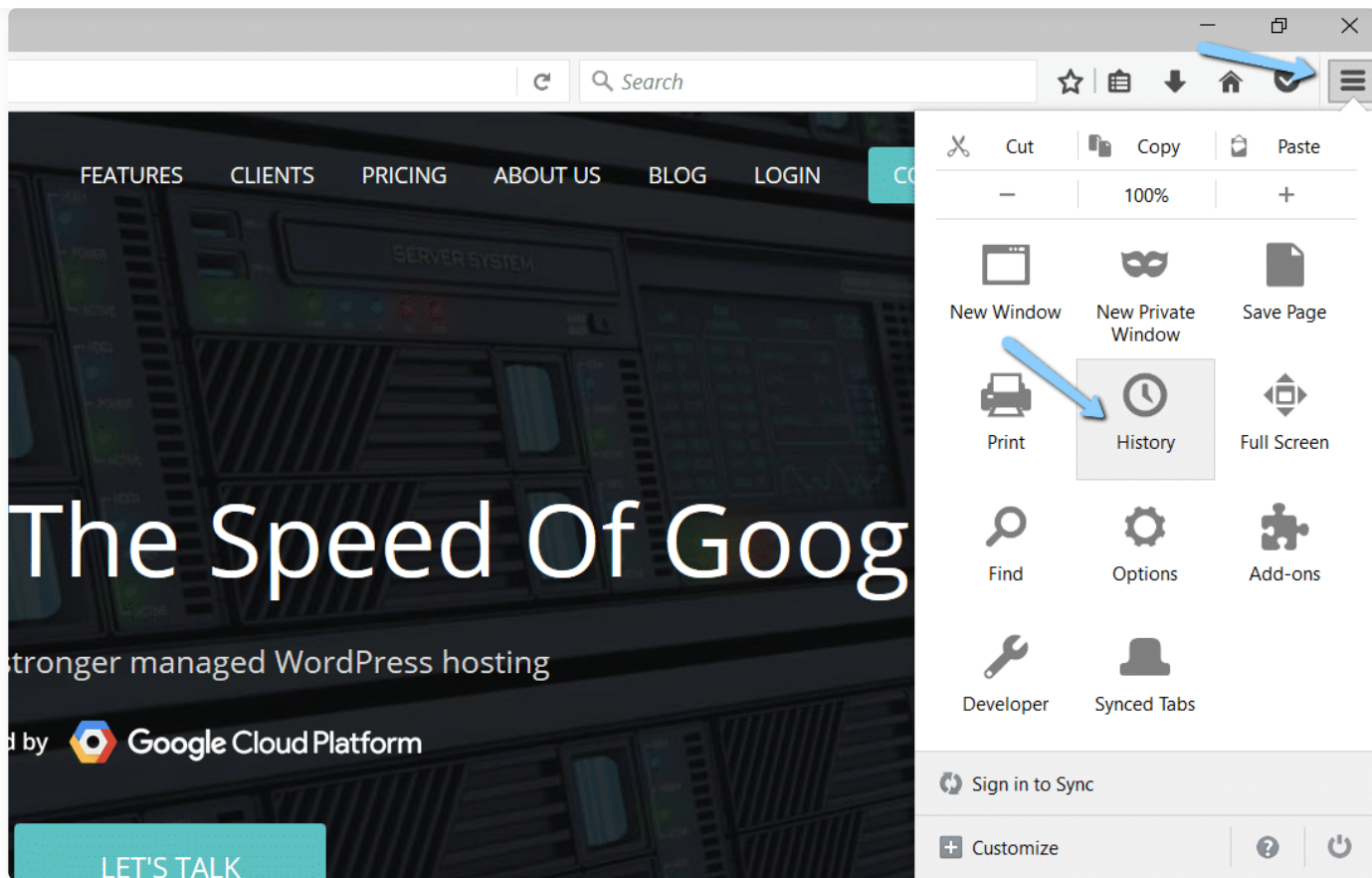
You can also change the timeframe at the top, though usually the default of 4 weeks is perfectly fine. Then, click the **Clear browsing data** button to clear your cache. **And that's it – your Chrome browser cache is now empty.**

Clearing the browser cache is also the solution for the [ERR_SPDY_PROTOCOL_ERROR](#) issue.

How to Clear Cache for Mozilla Firefox

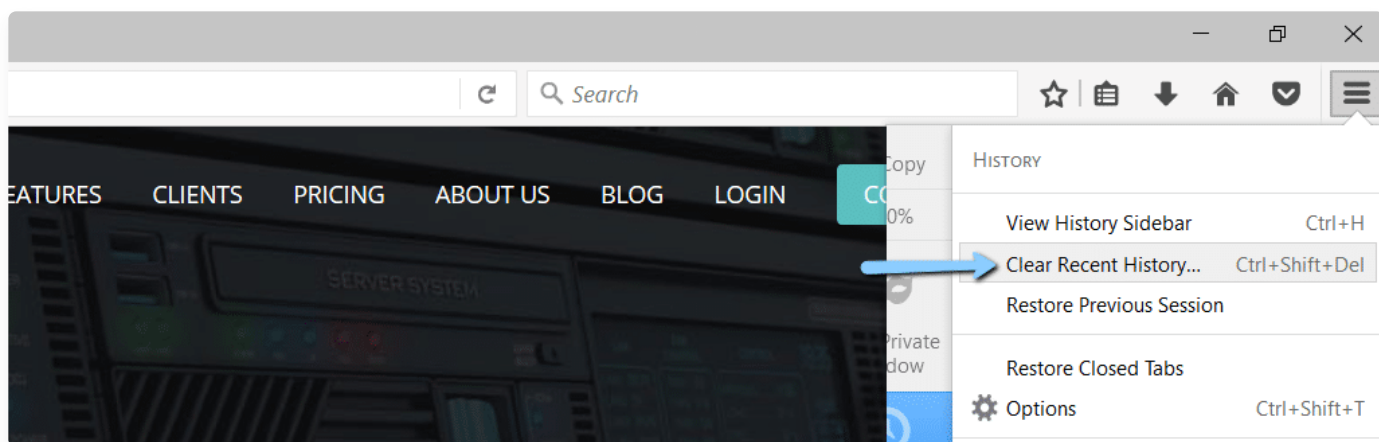
To clear the browser cache for [Mozilla Firefox](#), get started by clicking the **Hamburger** icon in the top right and selecting **History**:





— Mozilla Firefox history menu

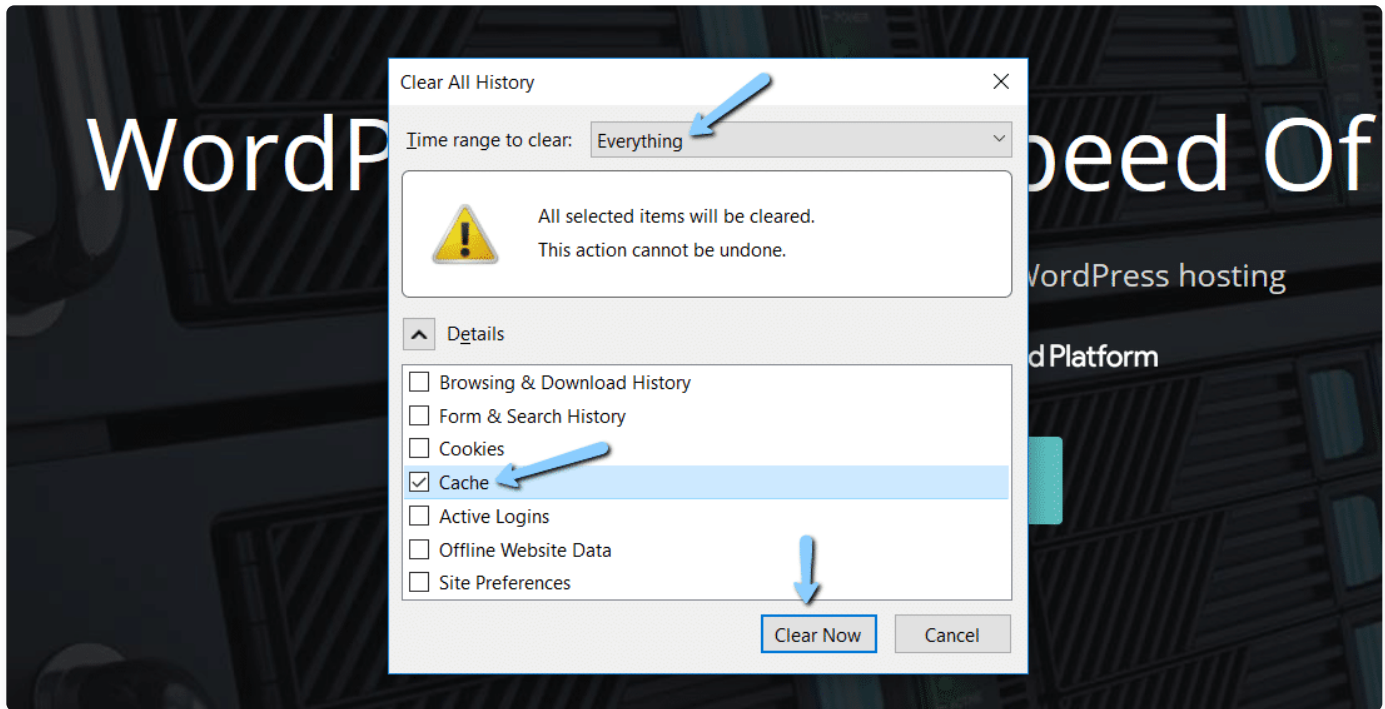
Then, in the menu that appears next, select **Clear Recent History...**



— Mozilla Firefox clear recent history



the **Cache** box to avoid clearing important browsing data. Then, click **Clear Now** to clear your cache:



— Clear browser cache in Mozilla Firefox

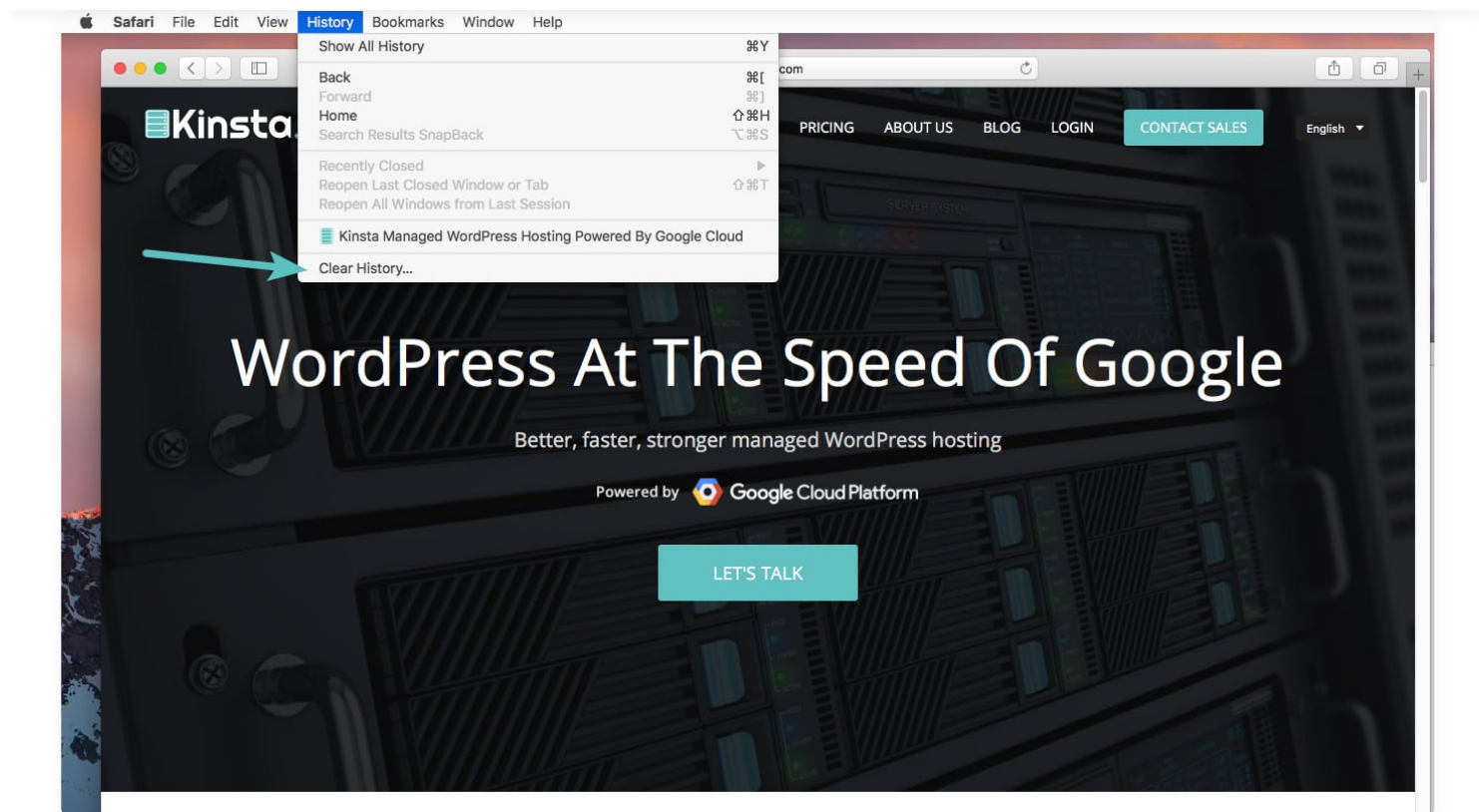
And that's it! Your Firefox browser cache is now empty.

Spend less time with troubleshooting and more time growing your business with our simplified website management. [Try Kinsta for Free.](#)

How to Clear Cache for Safari

To clear the browser cache for [Safari](#), you have two options. If you're ok with clearing **your entire browsing history** (including cookies and visited pages), you can take the easy approach and just go to **Safari → Clear History**:

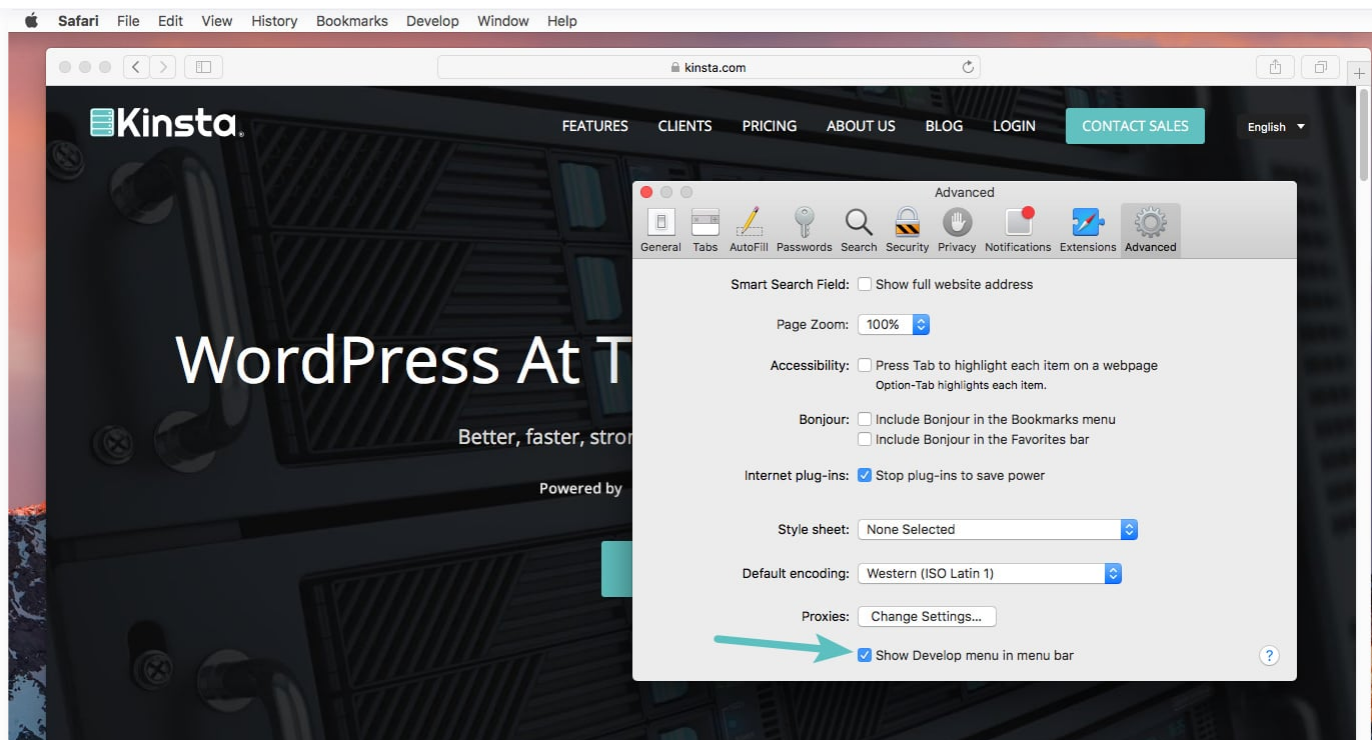




— Clear history in Safari

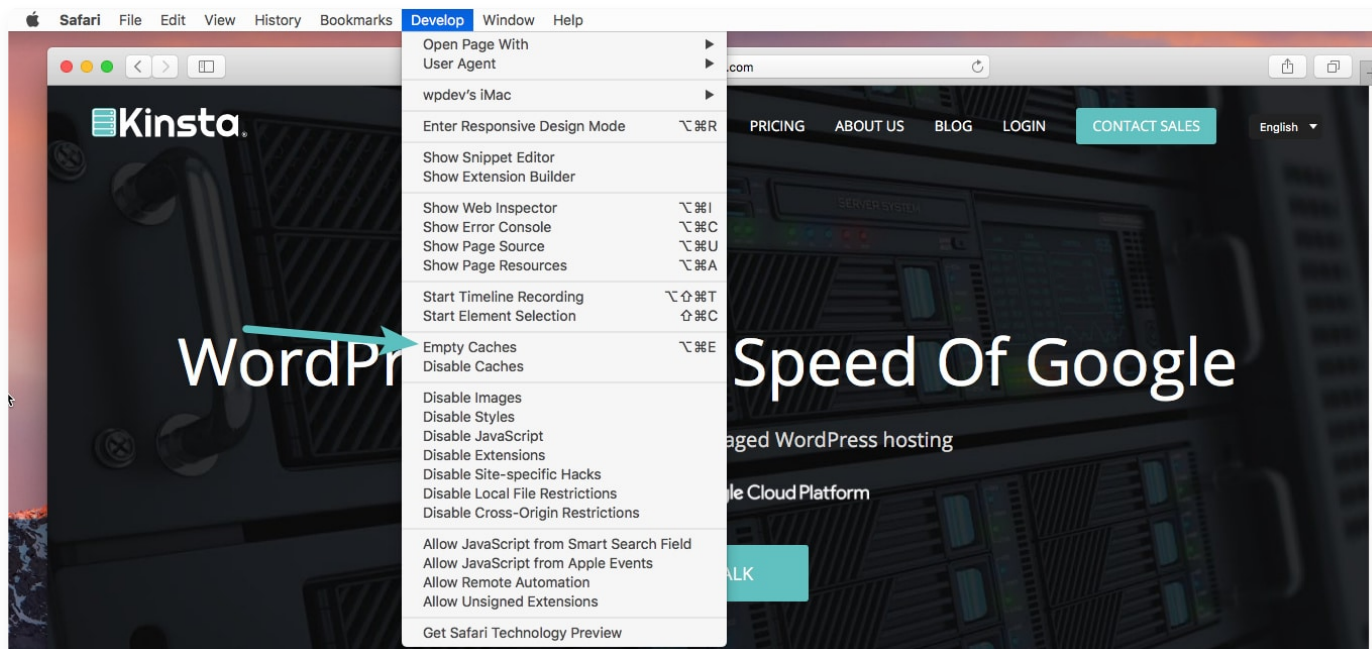
Again – this method takes a scorched earth approach. In addition to your browser cache, it will also clear your browsing history, cookies, etc. To **only** empty Safari's browser cache, you'll need to enable the **Develop** menu by going to **Preferences** → **Advanced** and checking the **Show Develop Menu in Menu Bar** box:





— Show developer menu in Safari

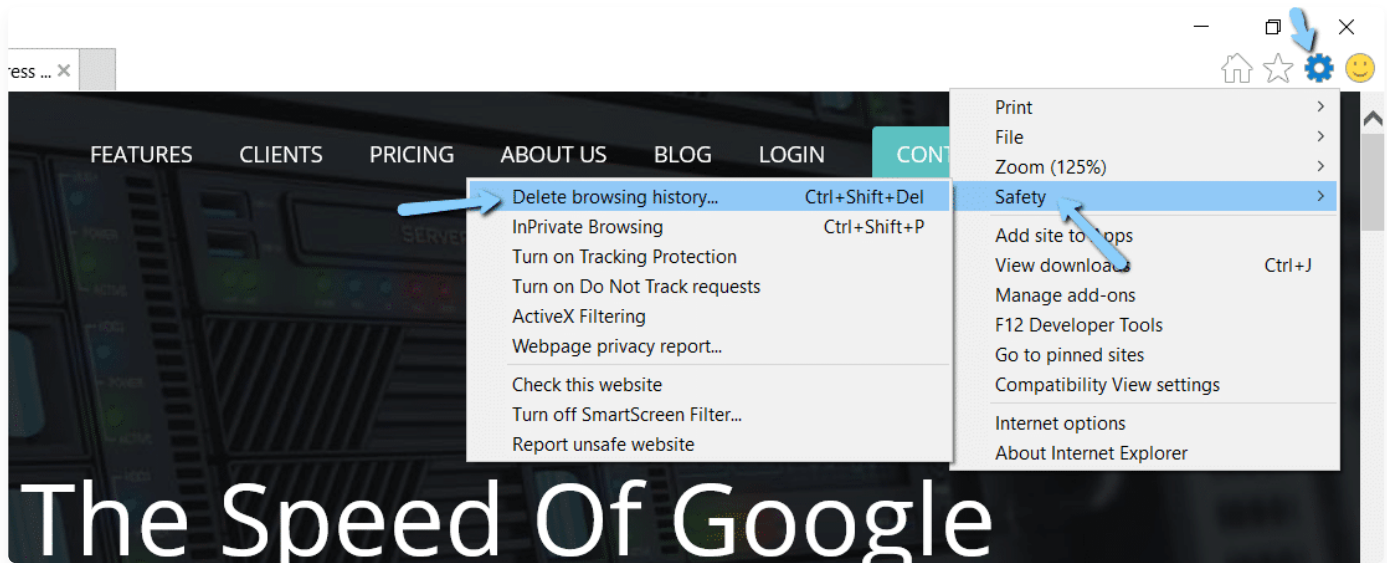
Then, you can go to **Develop** → **Empty Caches** to clear Safari's browser cache:



— Clear browser cache in Safari

How to Clear Cache for Internet Explorer

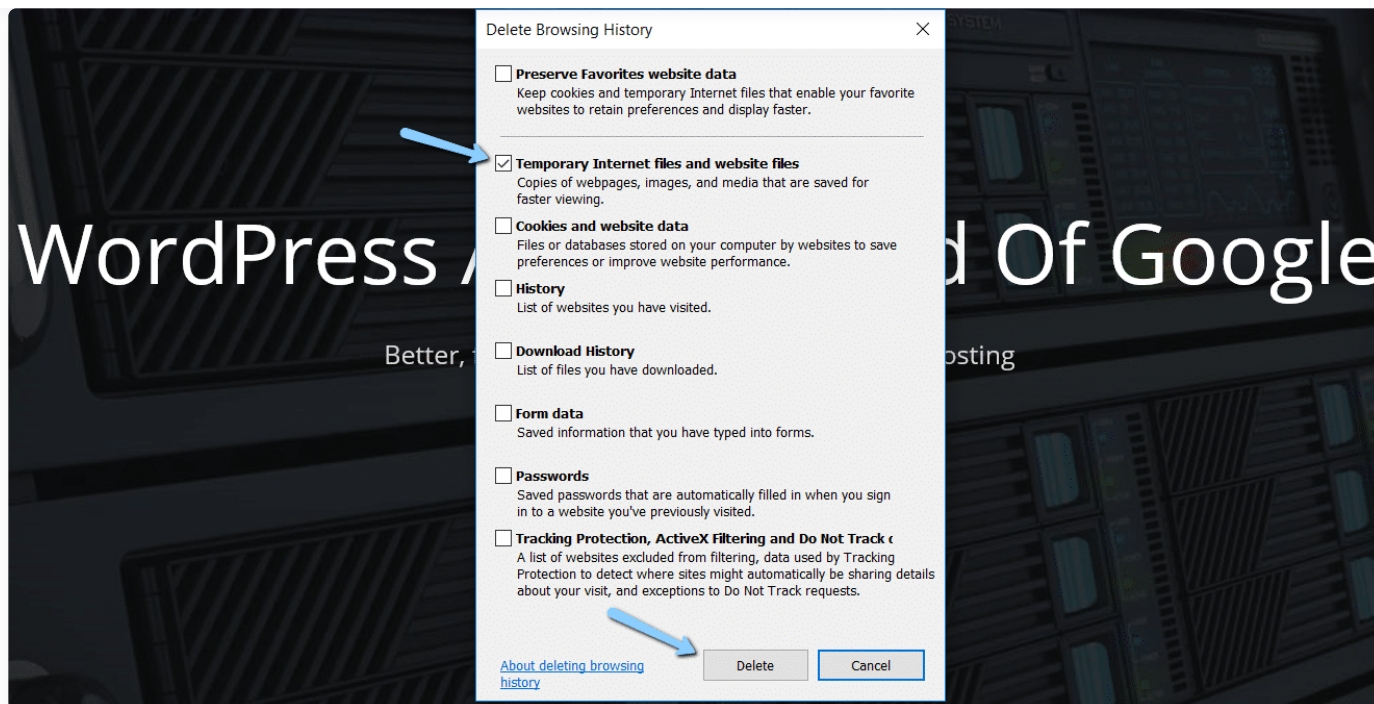
To clear the browser cache for [Internet Explorer](#), get started by clicking the **Gear** icon in the top right to access the **Tools** menu. Then, find **Safety** and select **Delete Browsing History...** from the submenu:



— Internet Explorer delete browsing history

You can also access the menu by using the shortcut: **CTRL + SHIFT + DEL**. Internet Explorer will open a popup. Make sure to **only** select the **Temporary Internet files and website files** box to avoid clearing important information. Then, click the **Delete** button at the bottom:





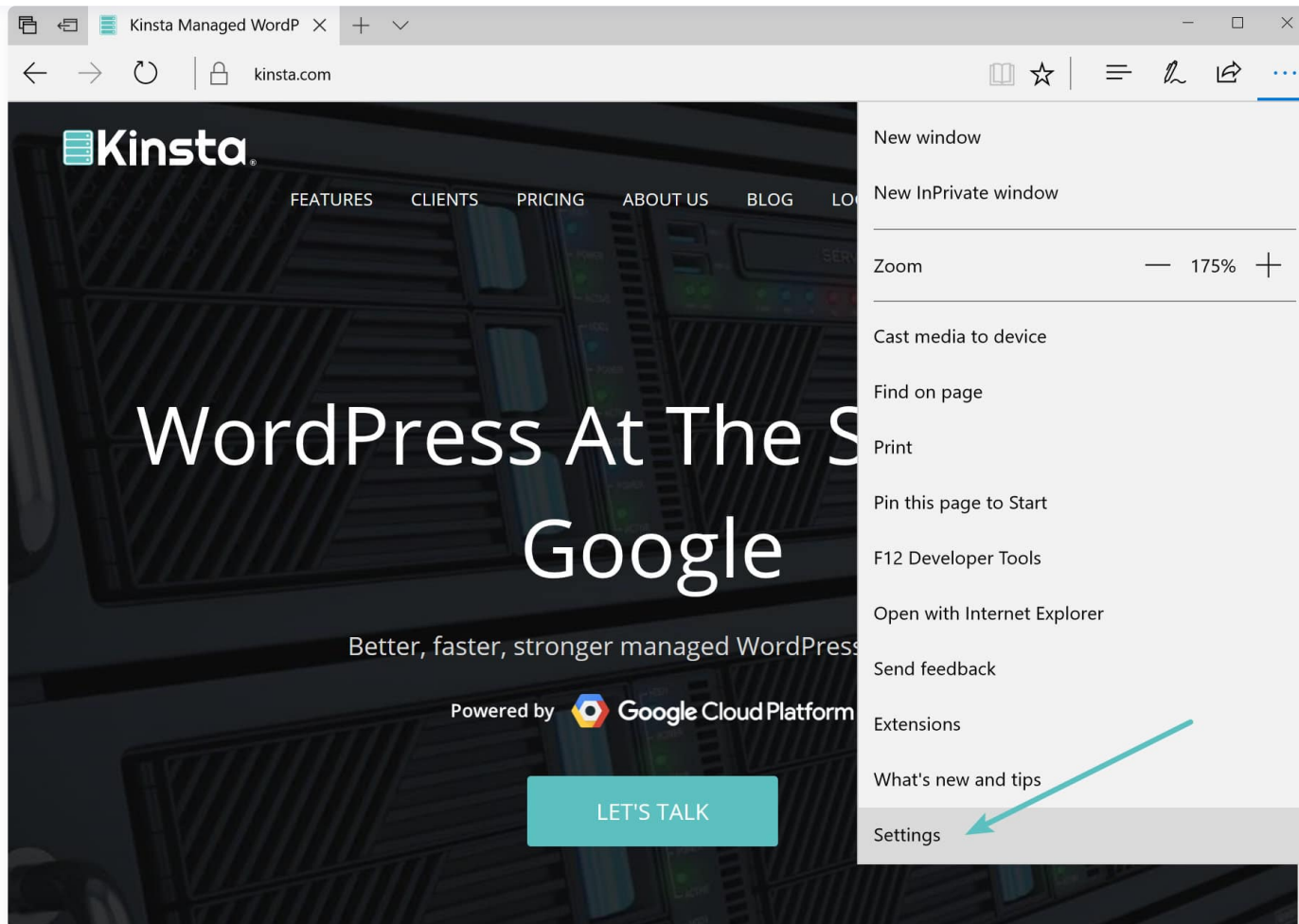
— Clear browser cache in Internet Explorer

And your Internet Explorer browser cache is clear!

How to Clear Cache for Microsoft Edge

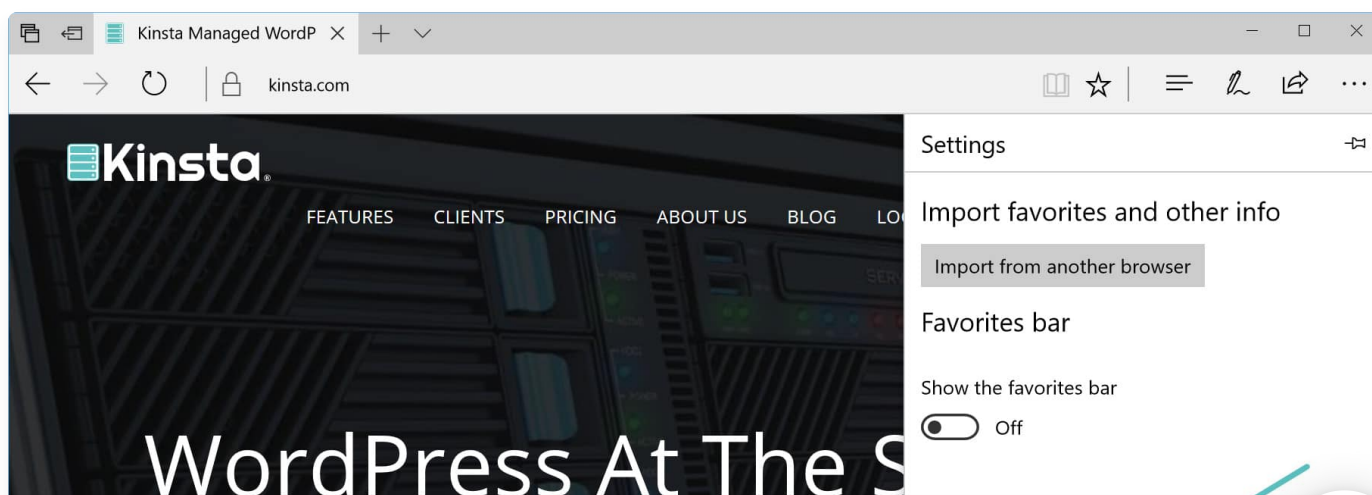
To clear the browser cache for [Microsoft Edge](#), click the **Three Dots** icon in the top right of your browser window.





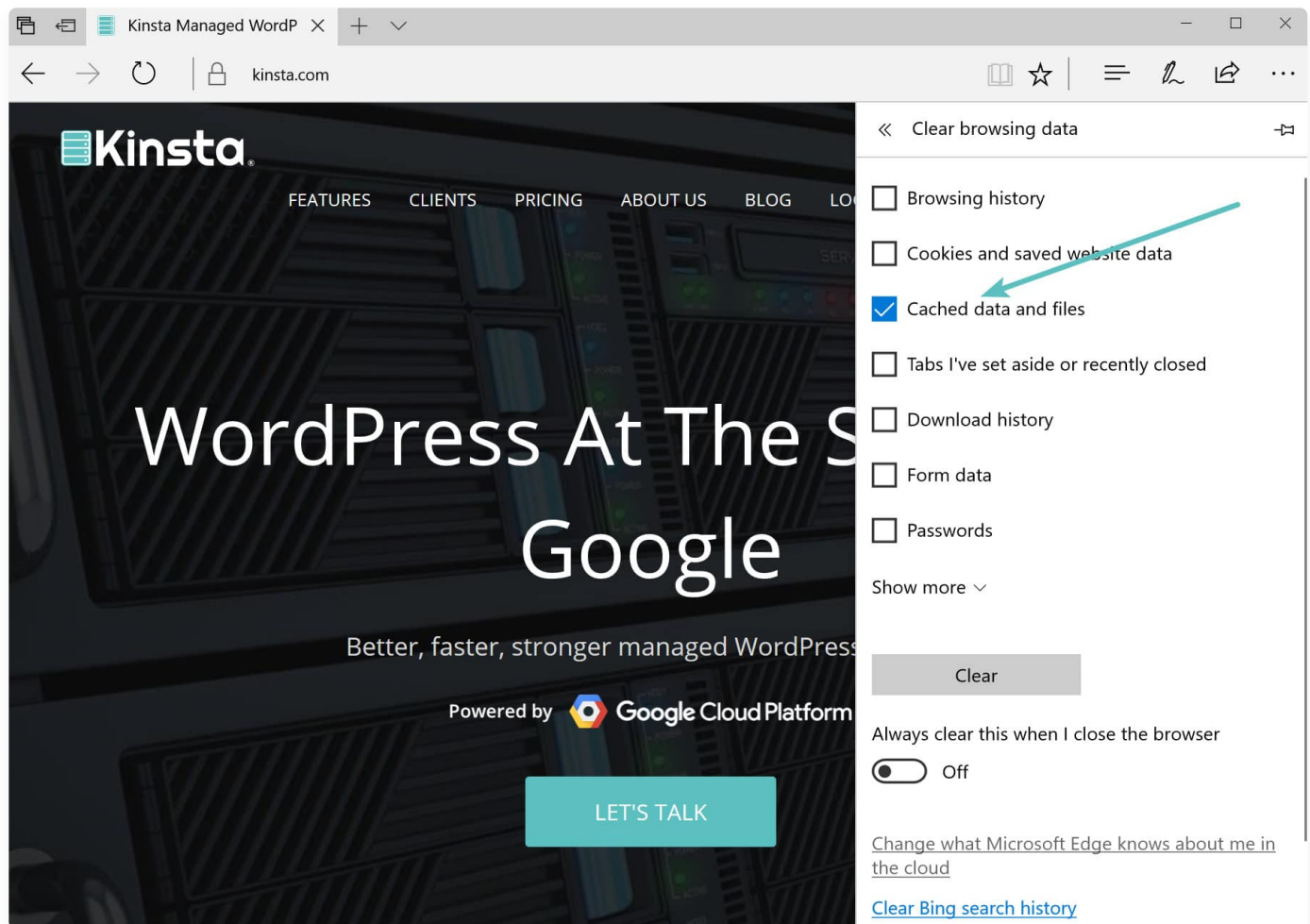
— Microsoft Edge settings

Scroll down and click on **Choose what to clear**.



— Choose what to clear in Microsoft Edge

Make sure to **only** select the **Cached data and files** box to avoid clearing important information. You can also access the menu by using the shortcut: **CTRL + SHIFT + DEL**. Then, click the **Clear** button at the bottom.

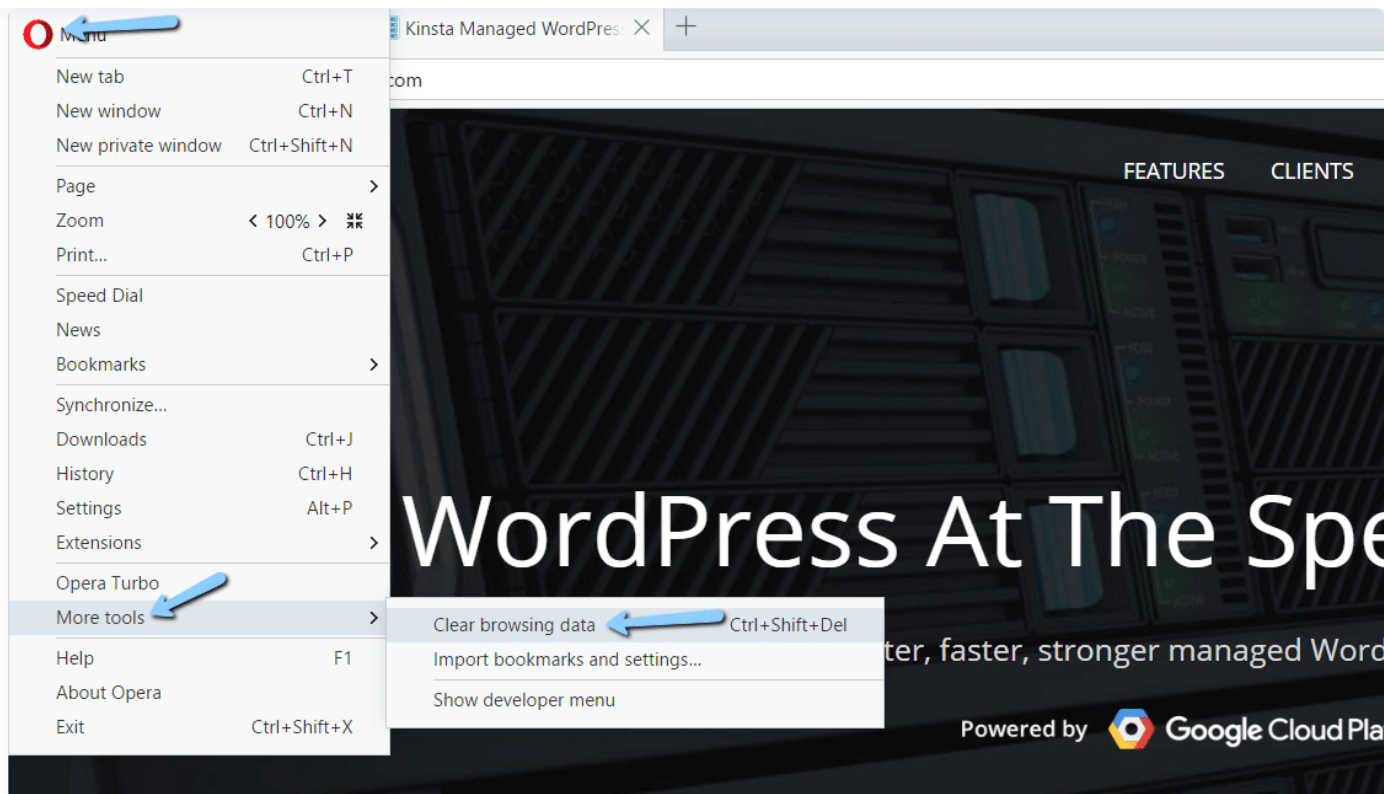


— clear browser cache in Microsoft Edge

How to Clear Cache for Opera

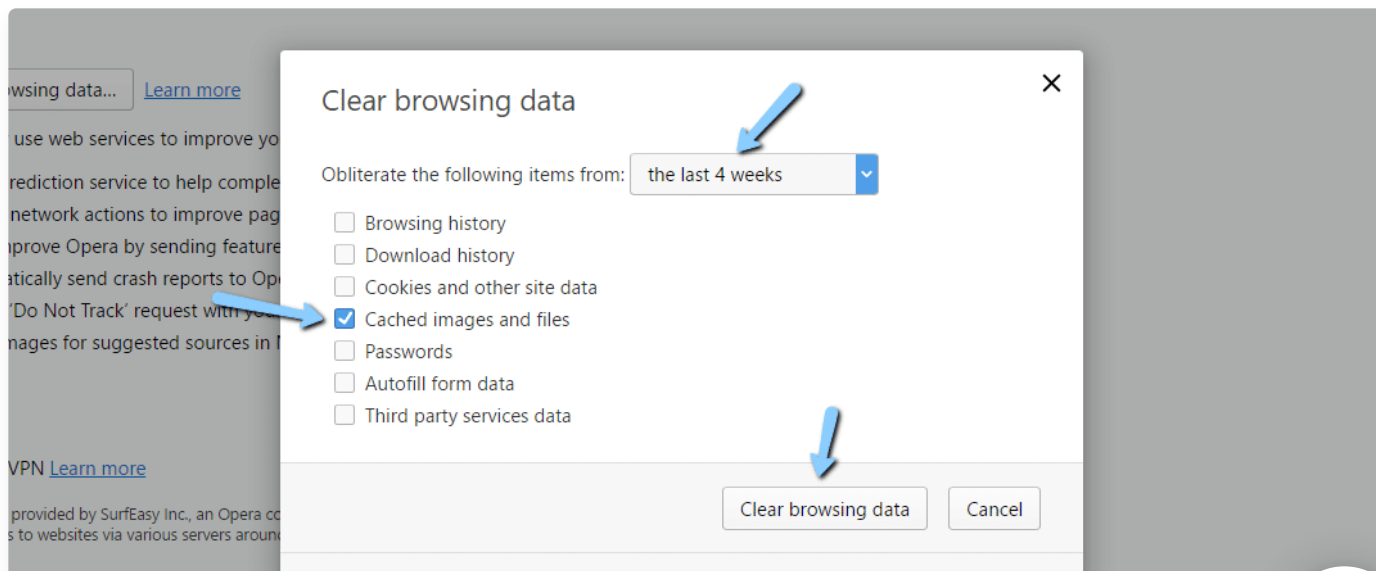
To clear the browser cache for [Opera](#), click the **Opera** icon in the top left, find the **More Tools** option, and select **Clear browsing data** from the submenu:





— Opera clear browsing data

For most cases, you should set **Obliterate the following items from:** equal to *at least the last 4 weeks*. Then, make sure to only check the **Cached images and files** box and then click the **Clear browsing data** button:



Your Opera browser cache is now empty.

Save time, costs and maximize site performance with:

- Instant help from WordPress hosting experts, 24/7.
- Cloudflare Enterprise integration.
- Global audience reach with 29 data centers worldwide.
- Optimization with our built-in Application Performance Monitoring.

All of that and much more, in one plan with no long-term contracts, assisted migrations, and a 30-day-money-back-guarantee. [Check out our plans](#) or [talk to sales](#) to find the plan that's right for you.

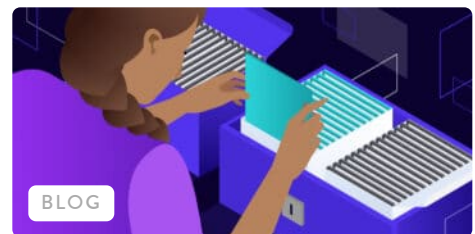
Was this article helpful?

✓ Yes, it was fine!

✗ No, or there was something off

Hand-picked related articles

What Is Cached Data? Explore 3 Easy Ways to Clear It



What Is Google Cache: Everything Website Owners Need to Know



What Is Cache? Learn This Common and Complex Technology



FEATURED PAGE

Save Time and Money With Kinsta WordPress Hosting

Speed up and secure your site, improve your SEO and increase your conversion rates with Kinsta's performance-driven WordPress Hosting.

Award-winning WordPress hosting platform



Features

Resource Center

Company

Compare Kinsta

Affiliate Center





English

© 2022 Kinsta Inc. All rights reserved.

Legal information

Kinsta® and WordPress® are registered trademarks.

