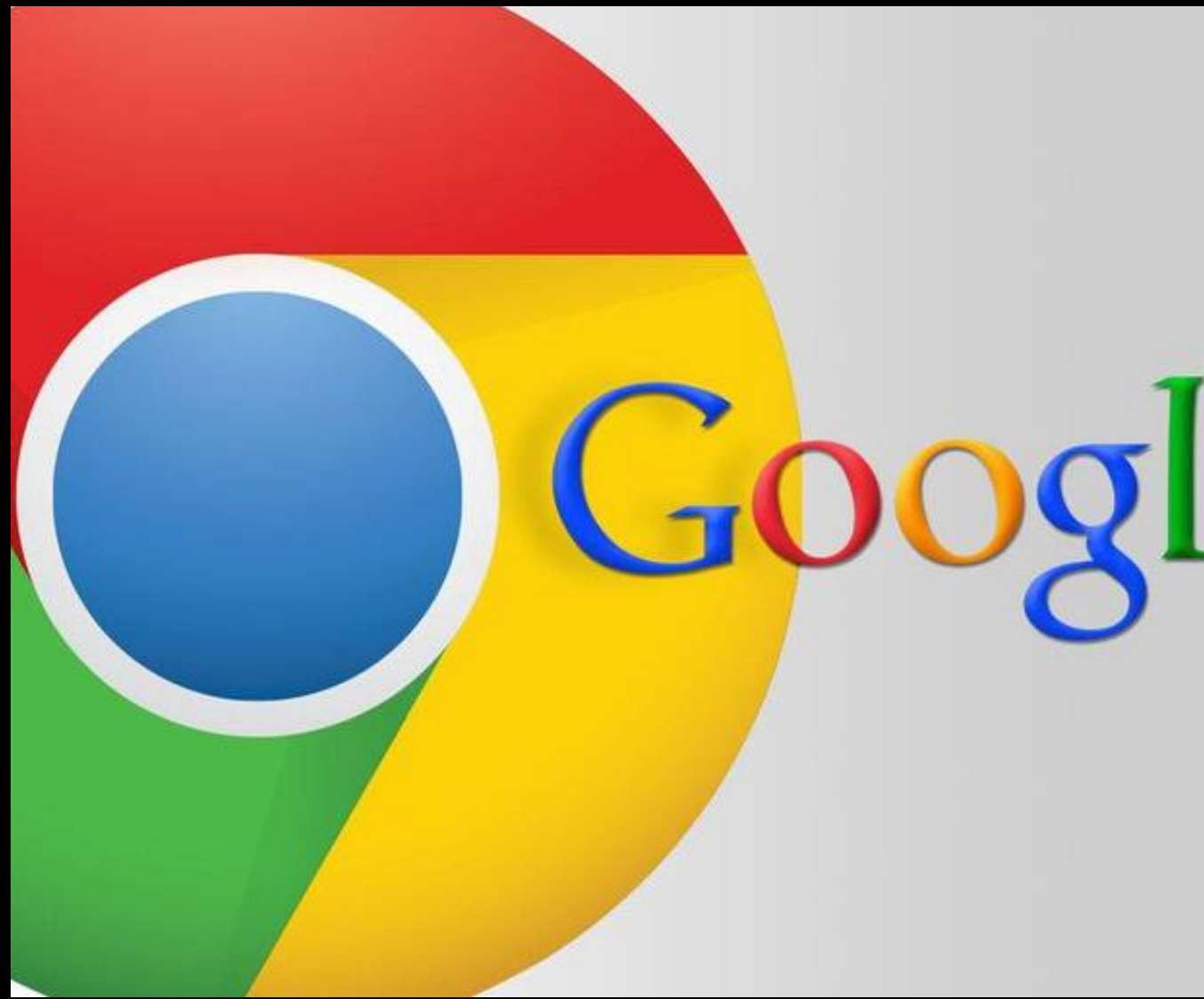




# Customizing Chrome

Adapted from an article by GCF  
Palm Creek Computer Club January 2019



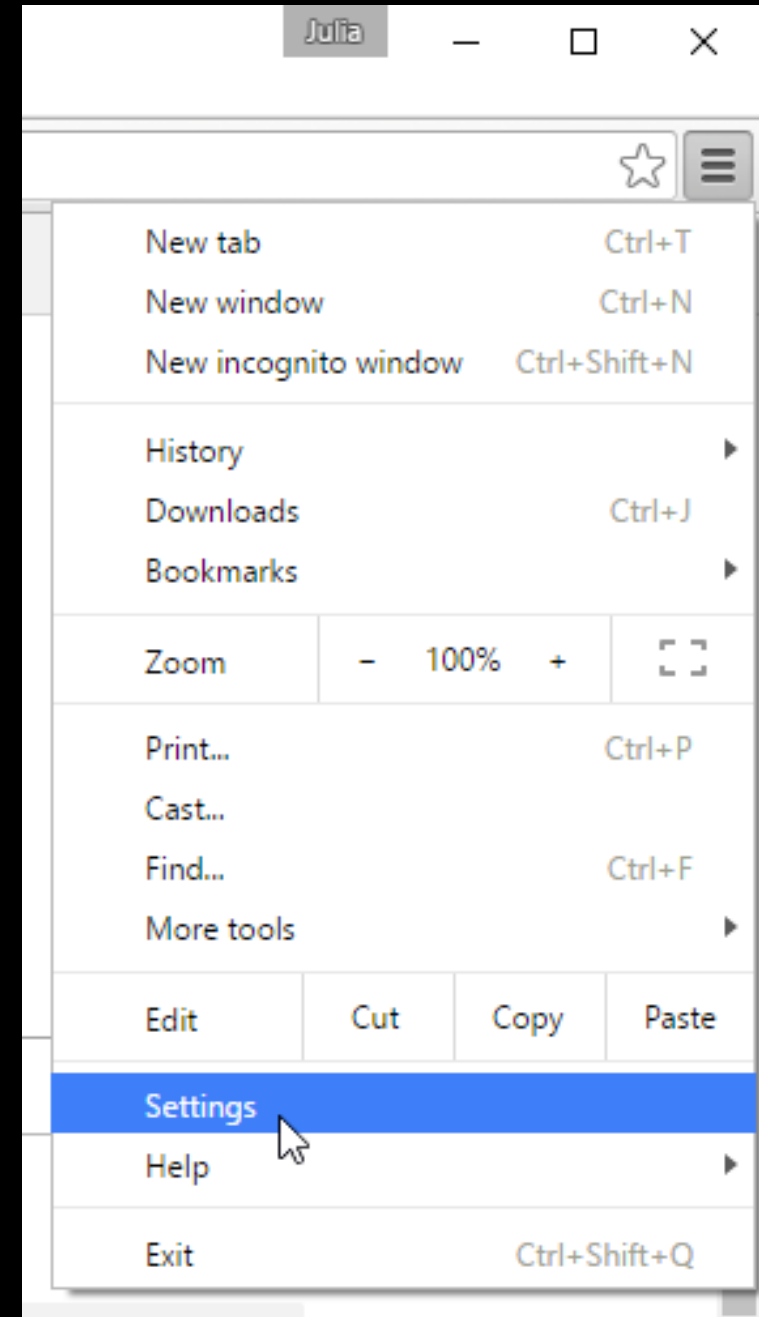
One reason for Chrome's popularity is the **customization** it offers users. In this lesson, we'll talk about the many great features of Chrome that you can modify, including Chrome's **startup options** and the **Chrome Web Store**, which allows you to add **applications, extensions, and themes** to Chrome.

# Choosing your startup options

## To choose a homepage:

By default, Chrome will show the **New Tab** page whenever you start the browser. If you'd like to see a specific website each time you open your browser, like a news site or weather forecast, you can set that site as your homepage.

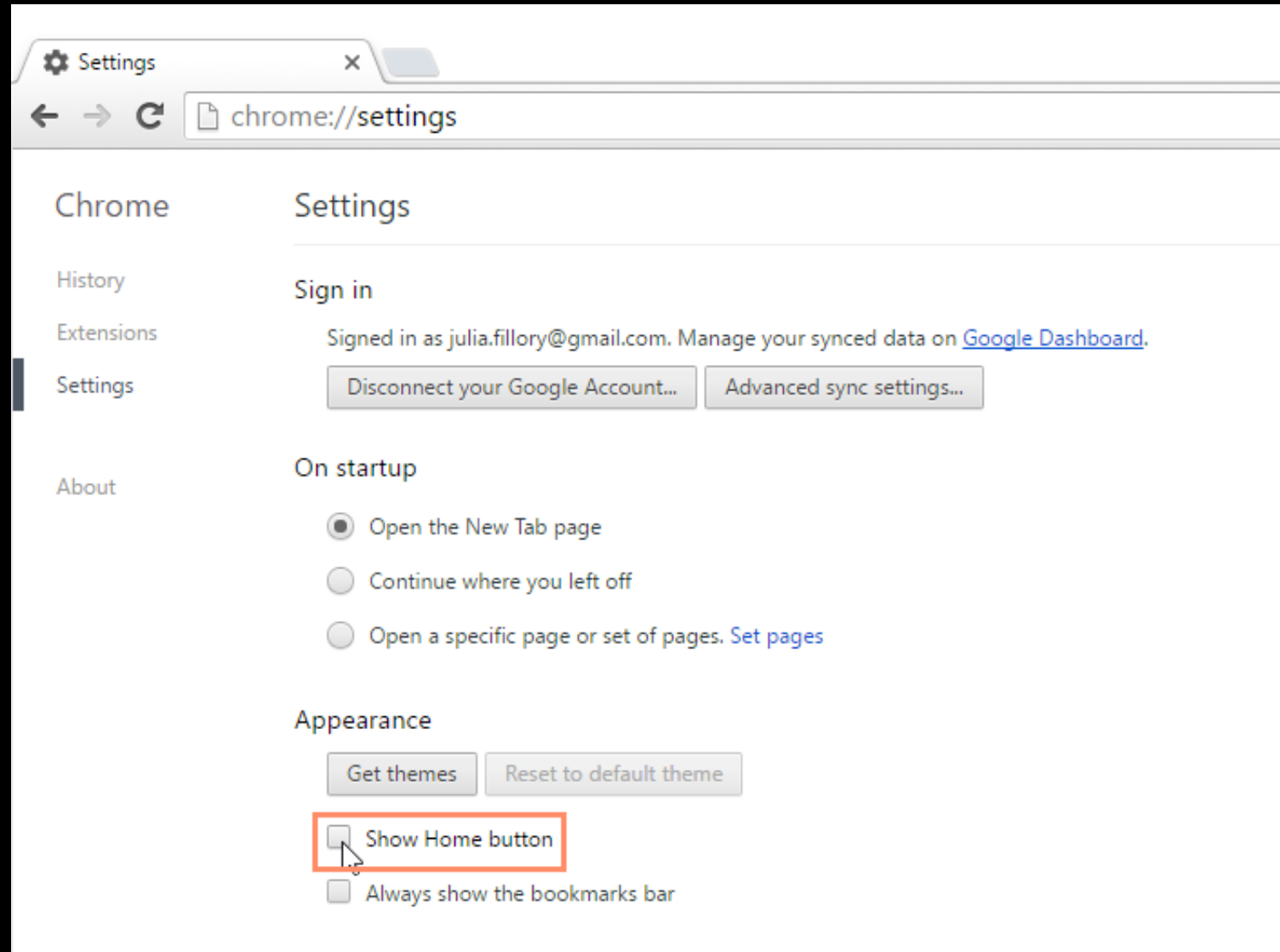
Click the **Chrome menu** in the top-right corner of the browser, then select **Settings**.



# Choosing your startup options

The **Settings** tab will appear.

Locate and click the check box next to **Show Home button**.



# Choosing your startup options

A dialog box will appear.

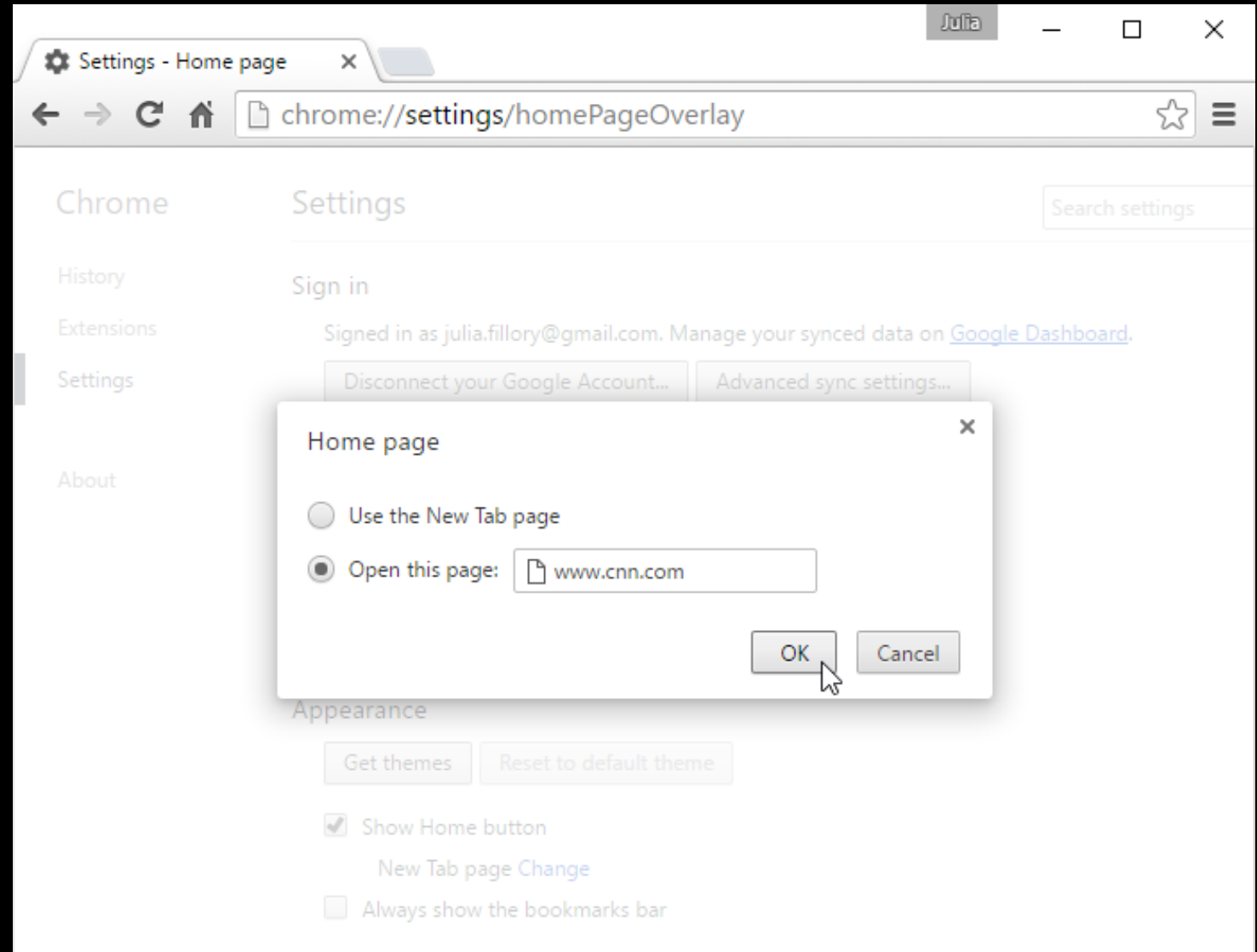
Select **Open this page:** and type a web address. In our example, we'll type [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com).

Click **OK** to continue.

A dialog box will appear.

Select **Open this page:** and type a web address. In our example, we'll type [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com).

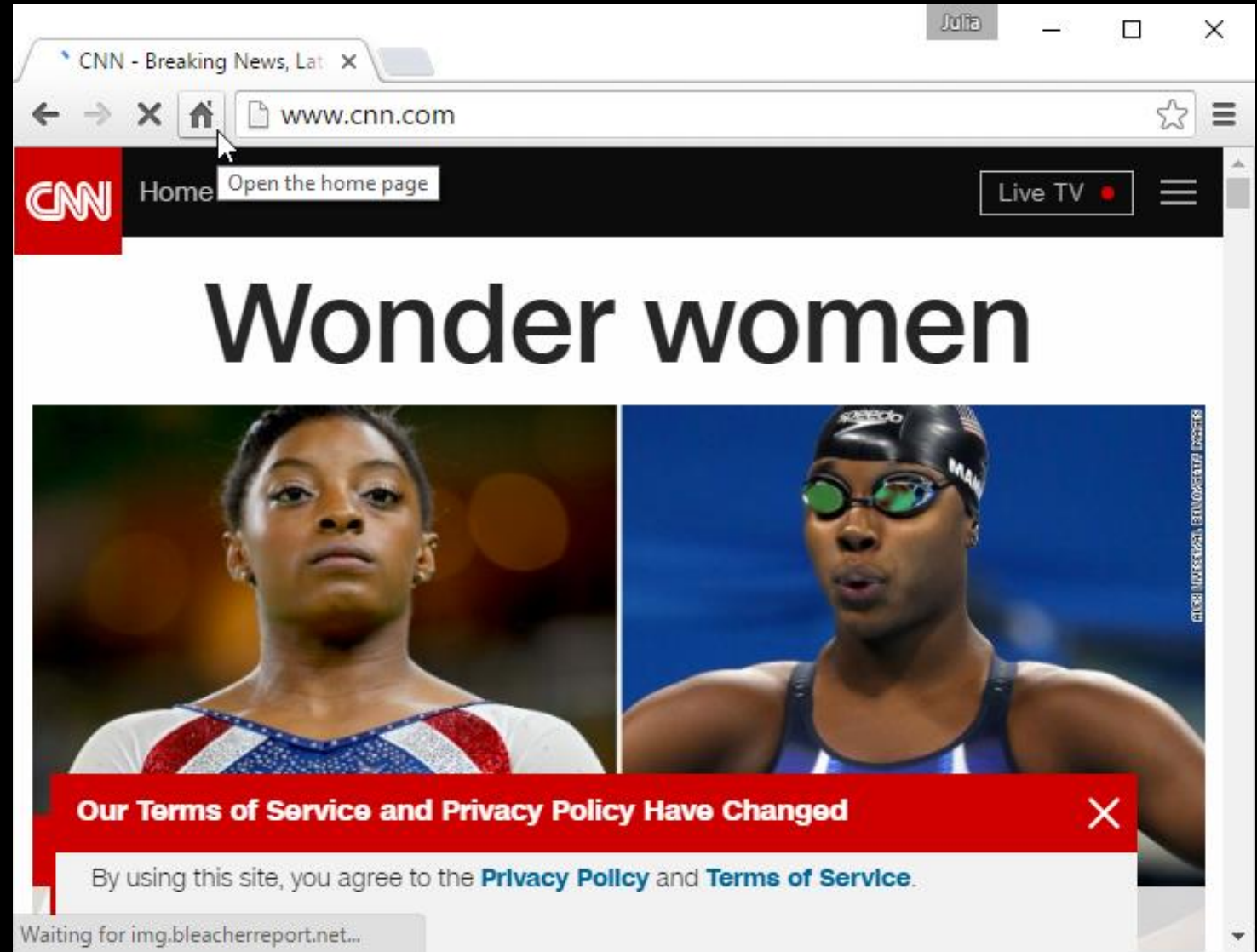
Click **OK** to continue.



## Choosing your startup options

The homepage will appear whenever you start Chrome.

Click the Home button in the navigation bar to visit your homepage at any time.

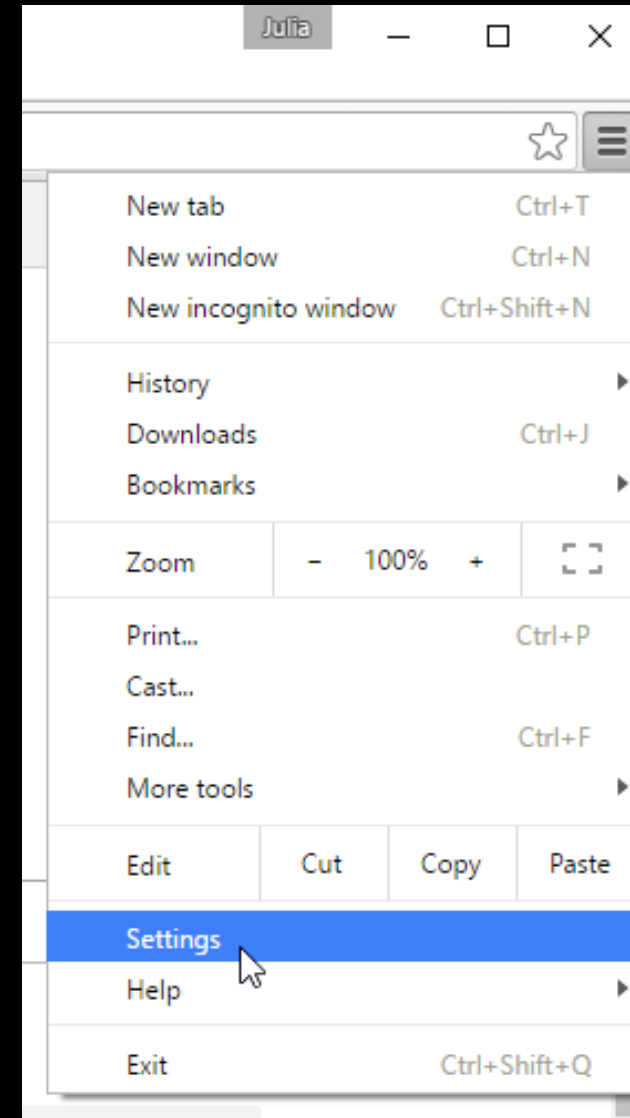


## To set Chrome as the default browser:

If you would like to use Chrome as your only web browser, you can set it as the **default browser** on your computer.

If you click a link in another program on your computer, like an email client, it will open in Chrome.

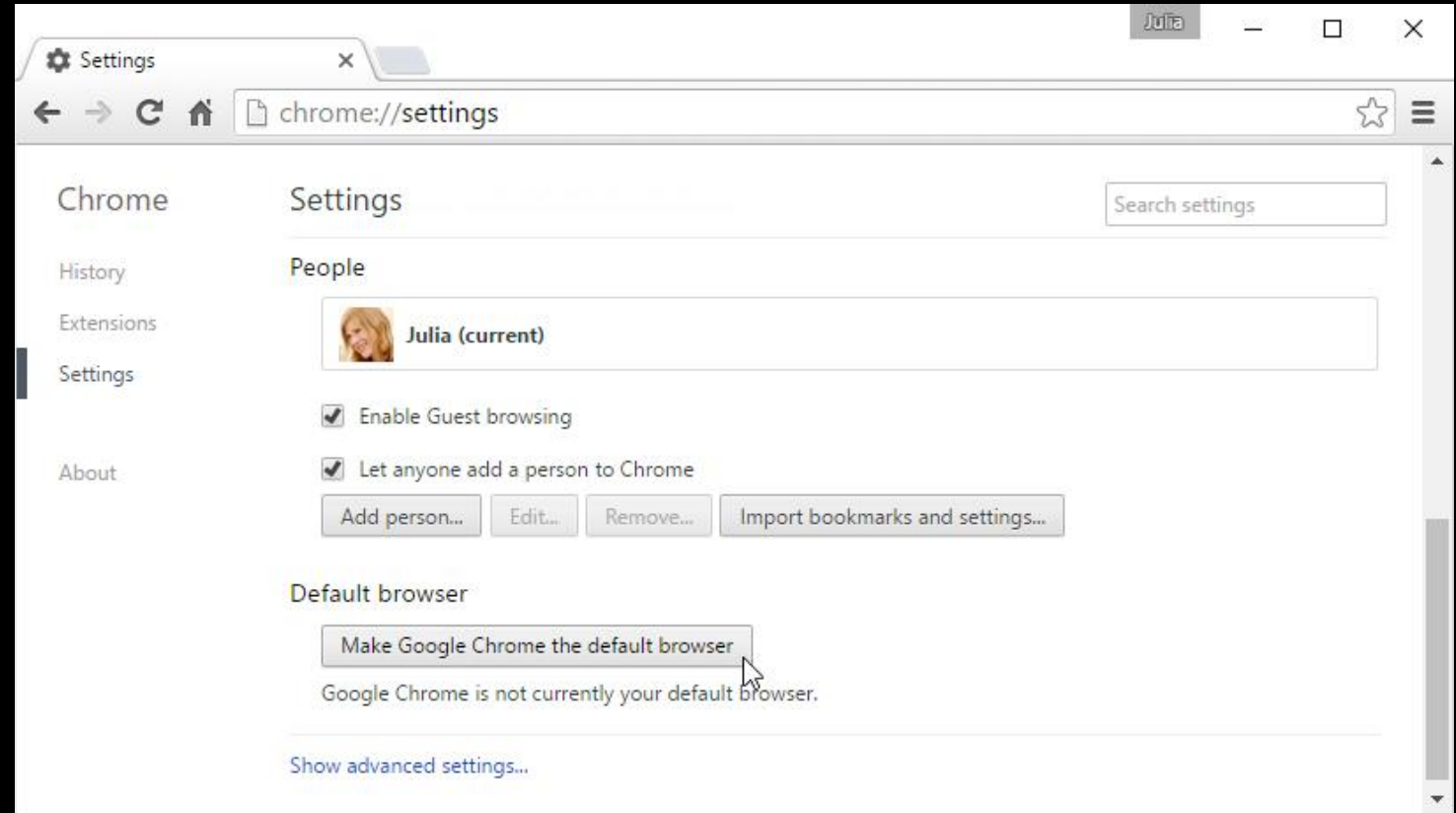
Click the **Chrome menu** in the top-right corner of the browser, then select **Settings**.



## To set Chrome as the default browser:

The **Settings** tab will appear. Scroll down and select **Make Google Chrome the default browser**.

Any link you open on your computer will now open in Google Chrome.





The Google logo, featuring the word "Google" in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, green, blue, red).

chrome web store

# The Chrome Web Store

The Chrome Web Store allows you to download different **web apps**, **extensions**, and **themes**, which can make Chrome even more powerful and personal.

## Apps

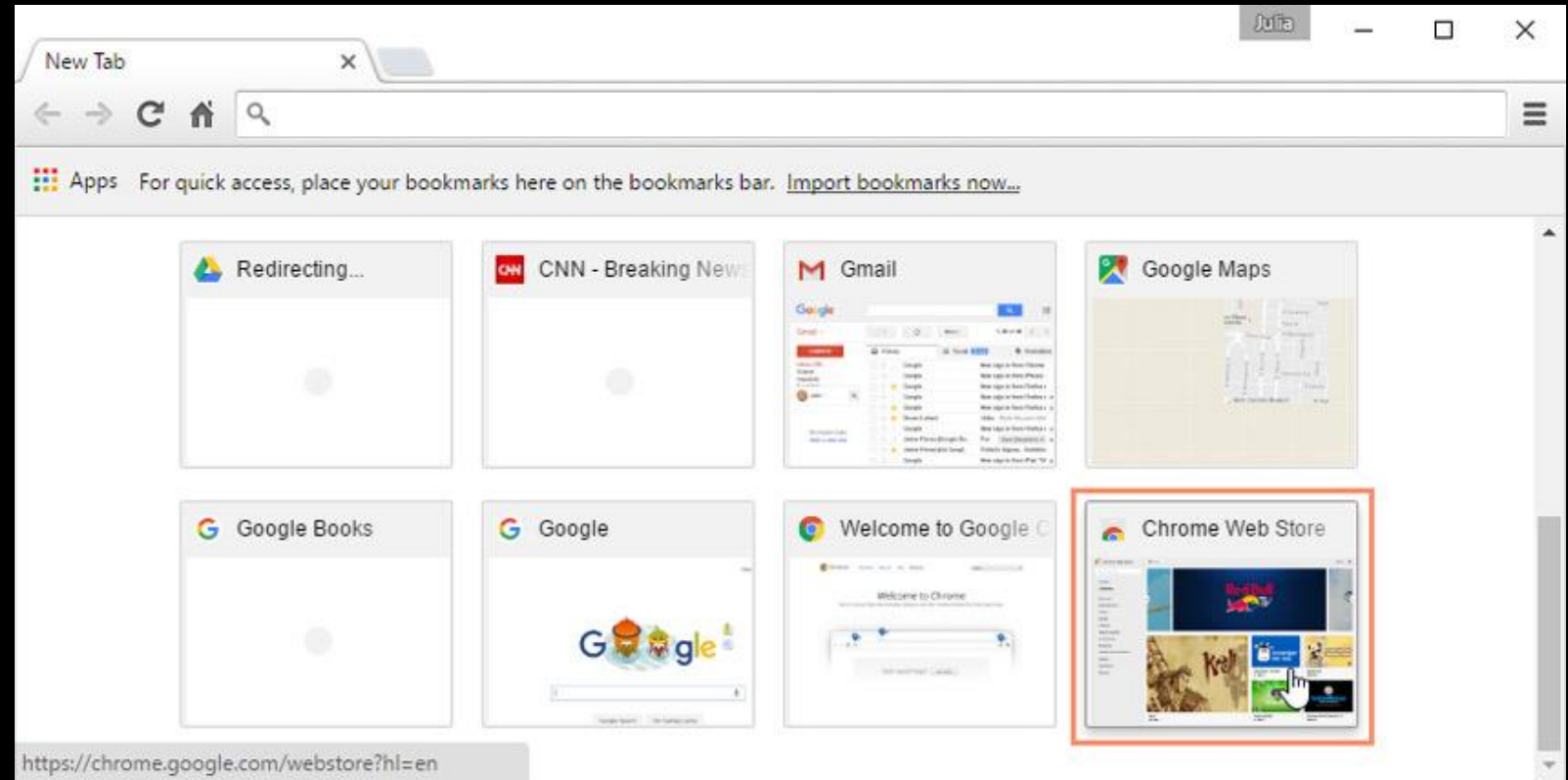
Web apps work just like software you might install on your computer, but they run through your browser instead of your operating system.

Web apps range from simple tools like a calculator or notepad to complex applications like a photo editor or even a game!

To install an app:

Navigate to

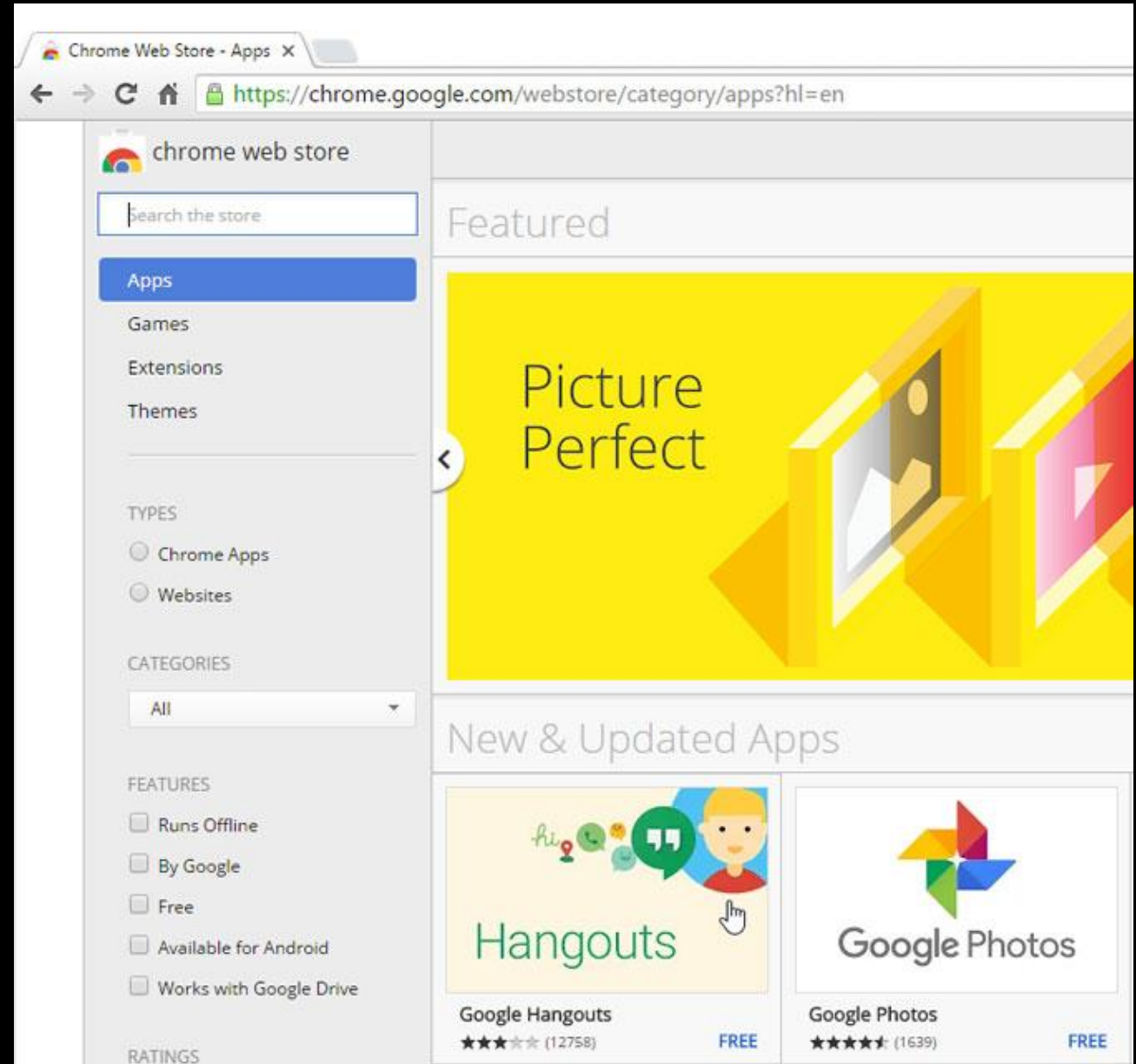
<https://chrome.google.com/webstore>.



To install an app:

The **Chrome Web Store** will appear.

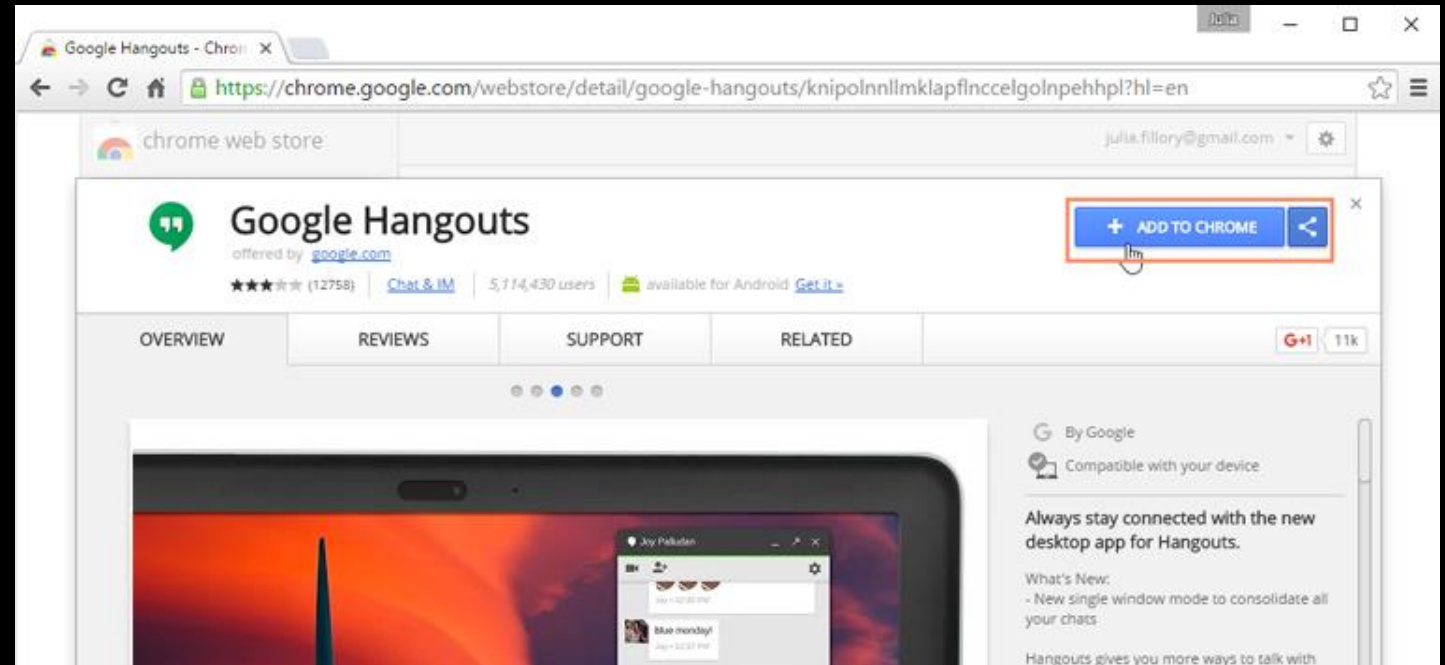
Click an app to learn more about it.



## To install an app:

The **app page** will appear with **information** on how the app works, **user reviews**, **screenshots**, and more.

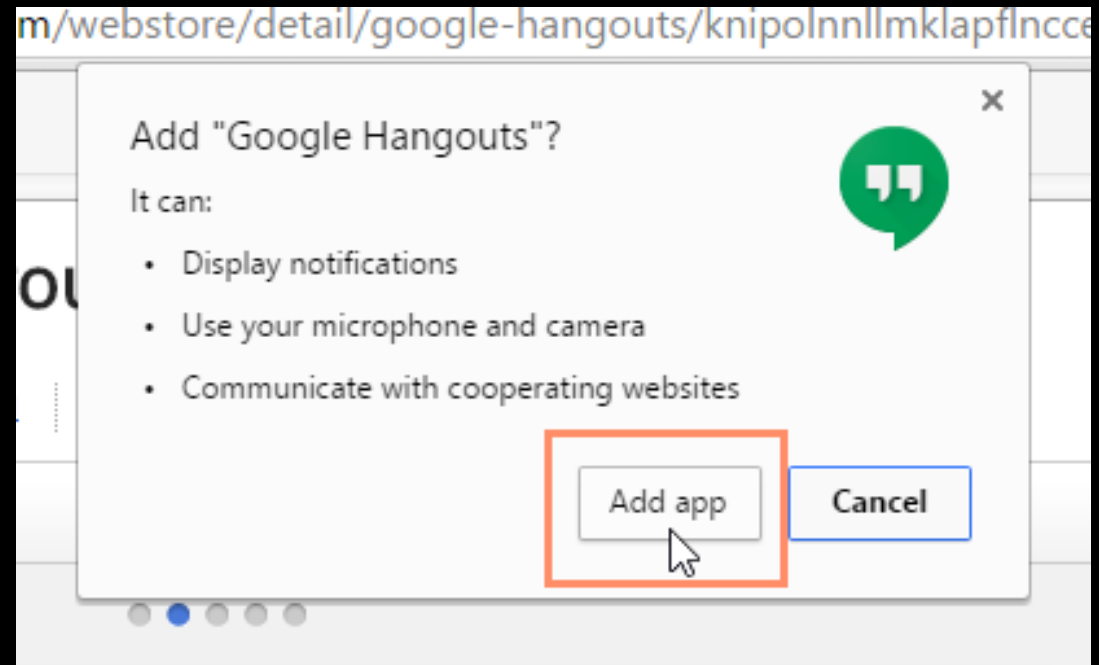
If you want to use the app, click **Add to Chrome**.



## To install an app:

A dialog box will appear.

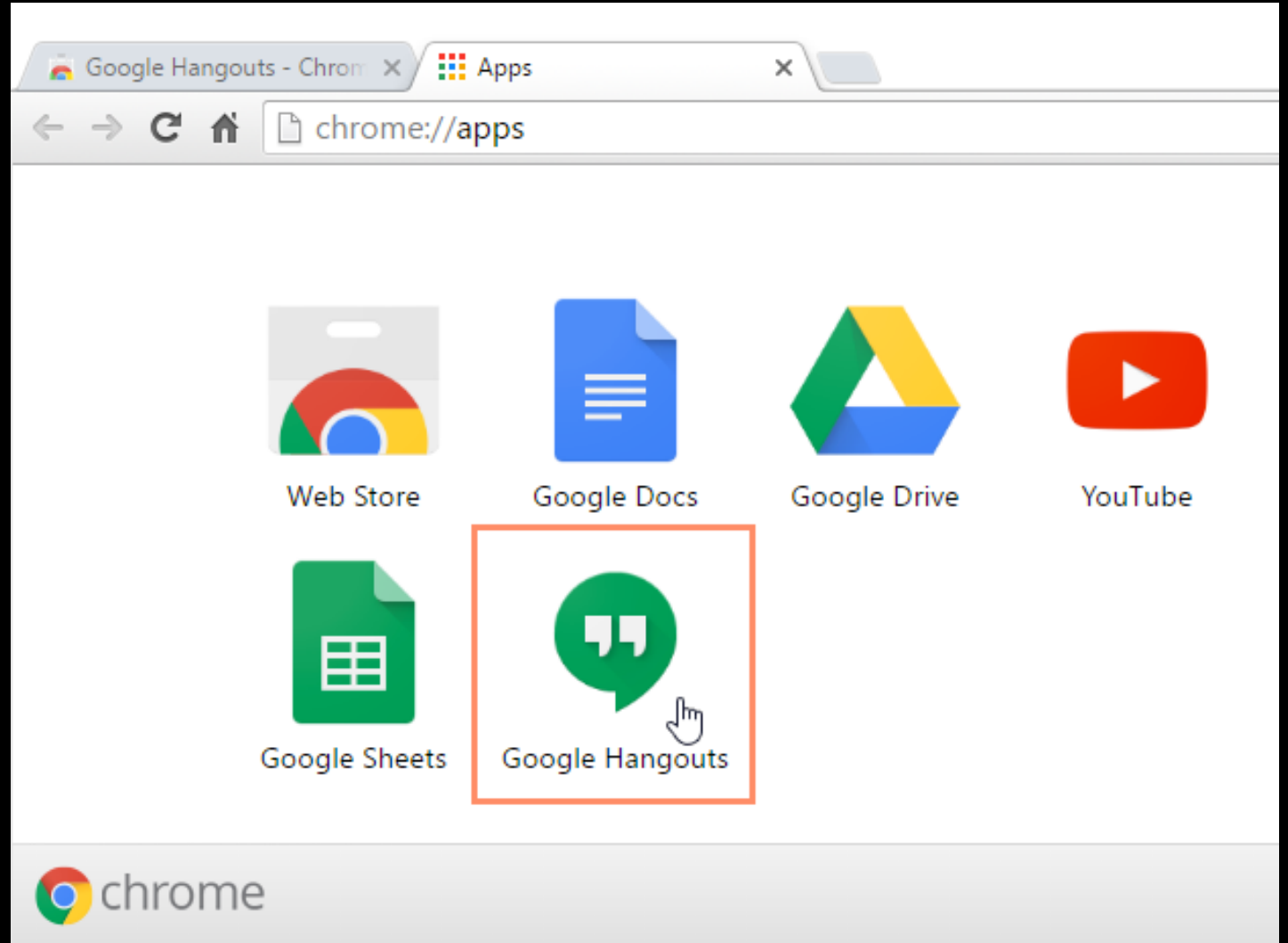
Click **Add app** to install the app.



## To install an app:

The **Apps** page will appear with the installed app.

Click the **icon** to start the app.

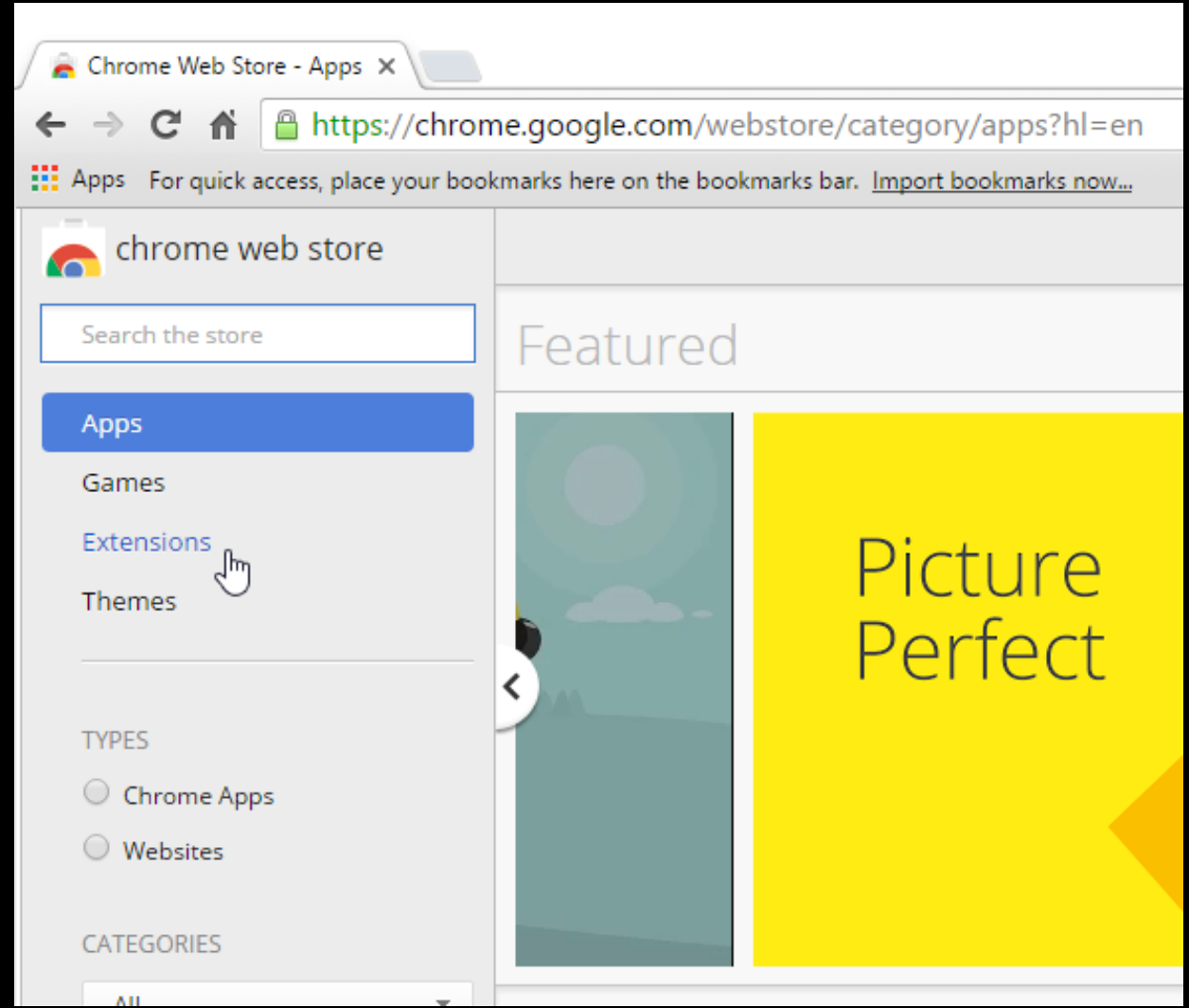


# Extensions

**Extensions** can add additional features to the browser. For example, they can block advertisements, share a page with your social network, and much more.

## To install an extension:

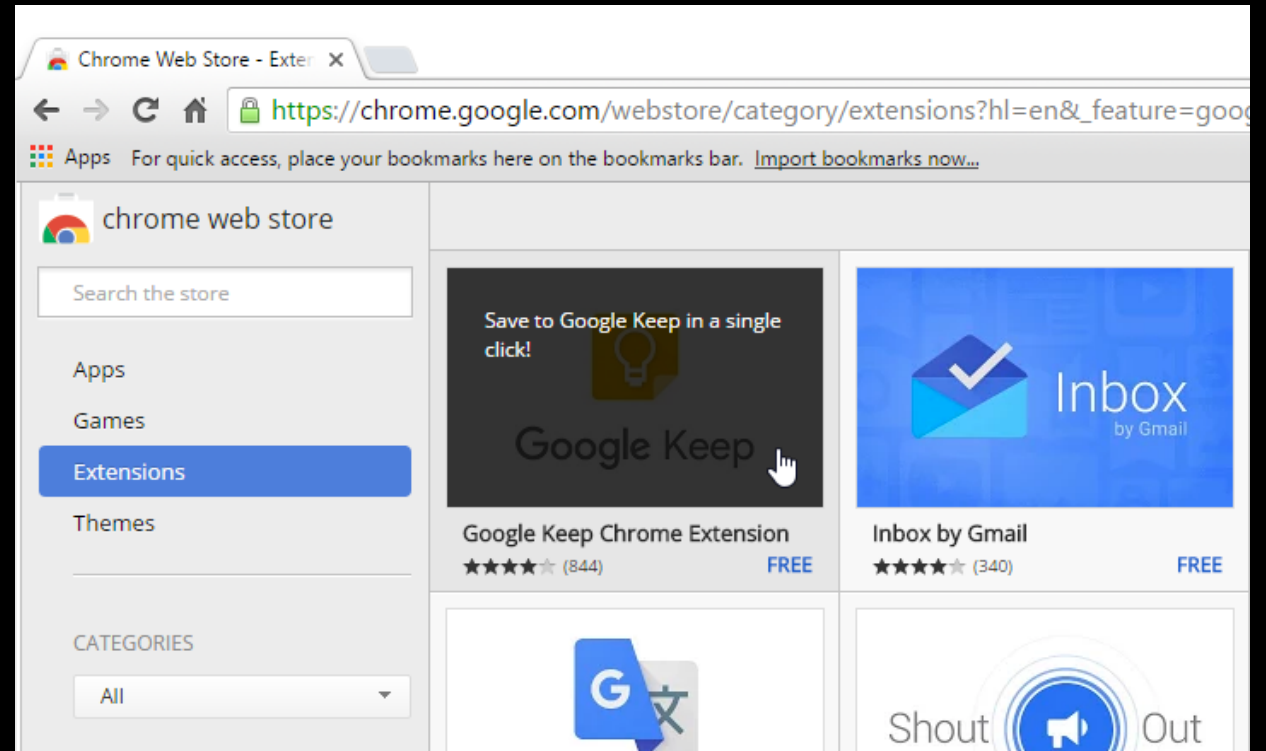
Navigate to the Chrome Web Store.  
Select **Extensions** in the left navigation pane.



# Extensions

A page of different extensions will appear.

Click an extension to learn more about it.

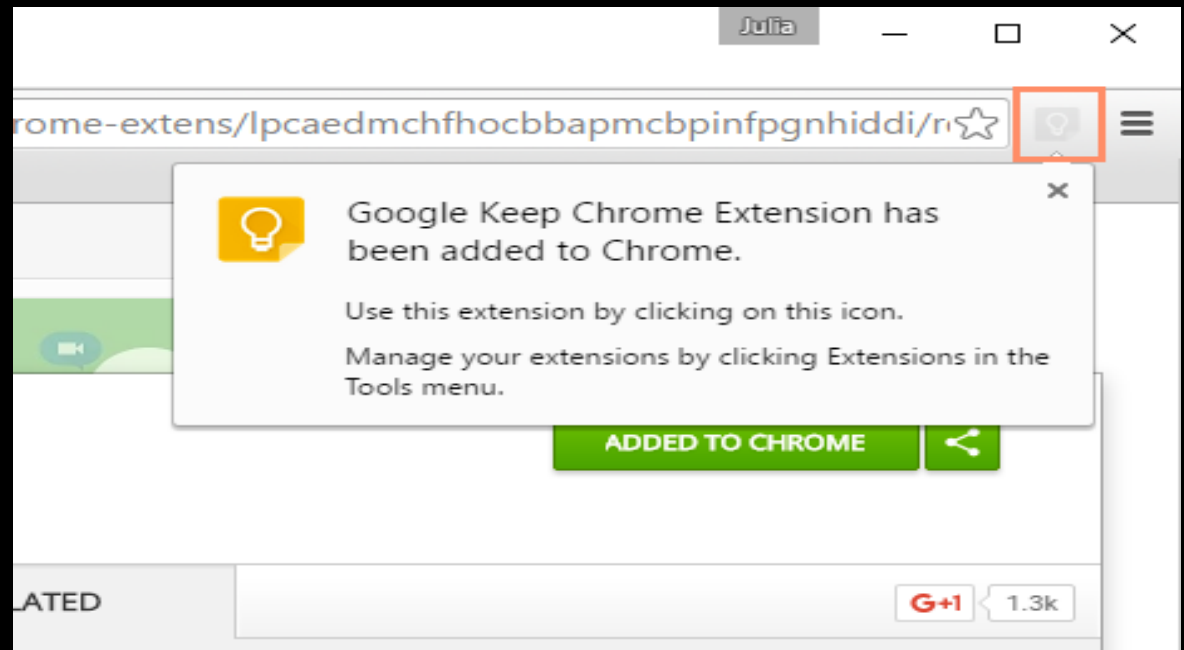
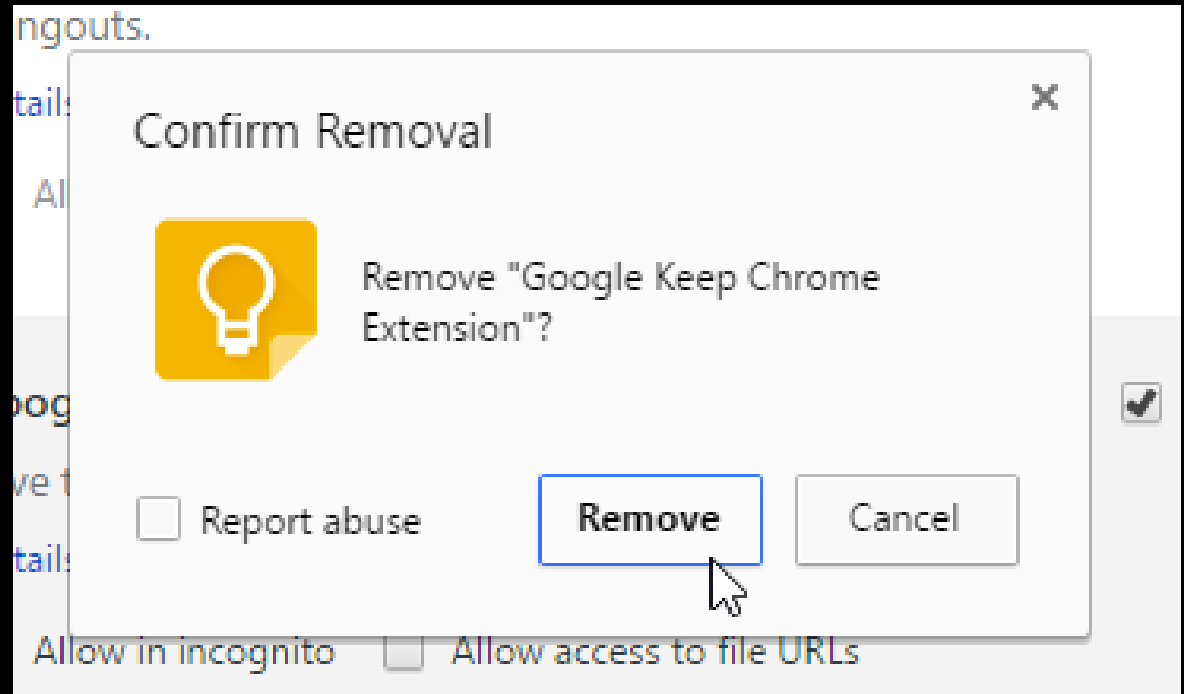




# Extensions

A dialog box will appear. Click **Add extension** to continue.

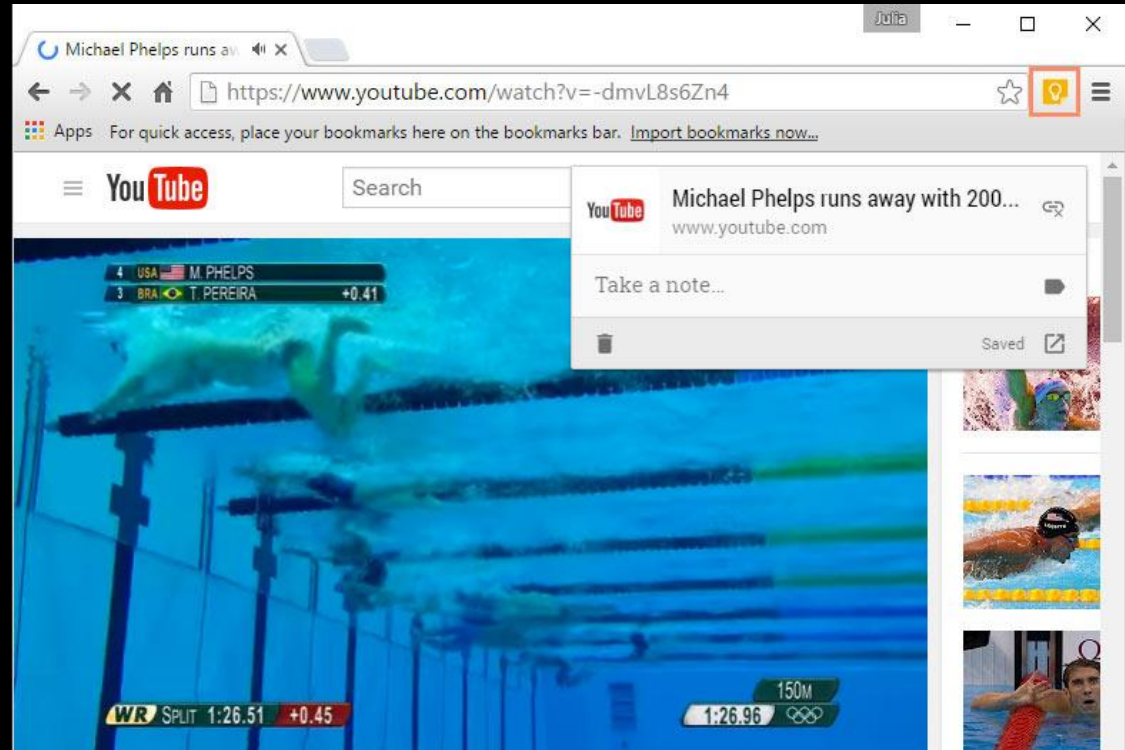
The extension will be installed. The extension's icon will appear in the top navigation bar. Note that some extensions work in the background and will not appear in the navigation bar.



# Extensions

To use an extension, click the **icon** while viewing any page.

In this example, the extension allows us to save websites for easy access later.



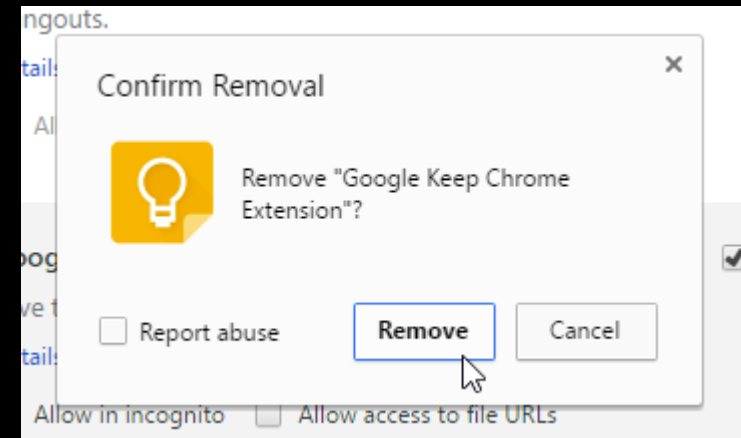
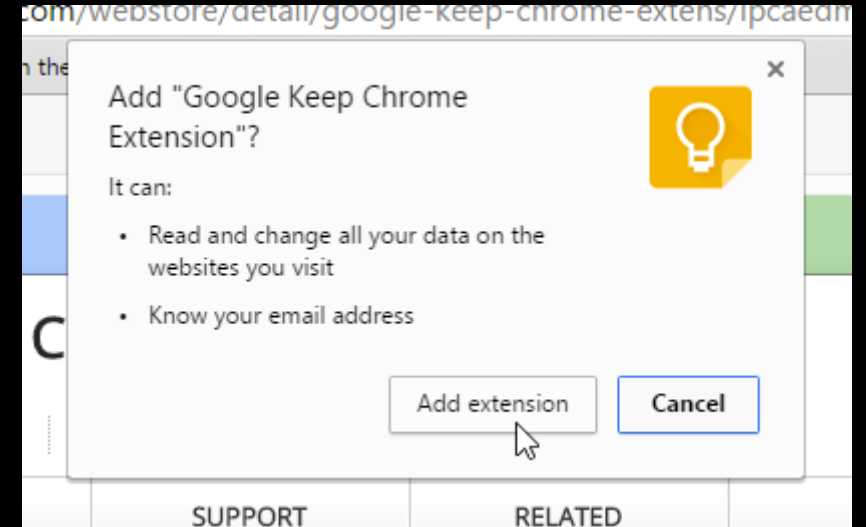
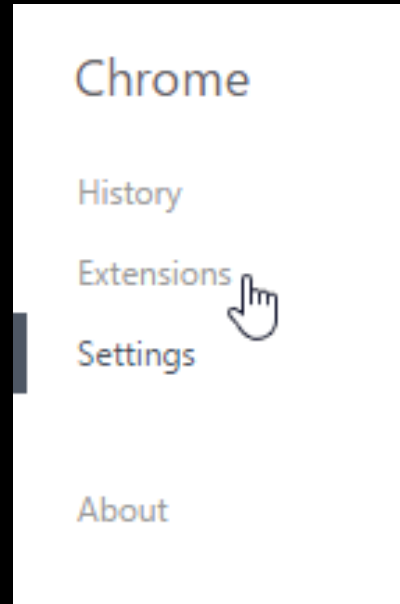
# To Remove an Extension

Click the **Chrome** menu in the top-right corner of the browser, then select **Settings**.

The **Settings** tab will appear. Select **Extensions** in the left navigation pane.

A list of installed extensions will appear. Locate the one you want to remove, then click the **trash can** icon to delete it.

A dialog box will appear. Click **Remove** to confirm.



# Themes

If you'd like to change the look and feel of Chrome, you can add a **theme** from the Chrome Web Store.

Some themes simply change the color of the Chrome window, while others add background pictures to the entire browser.

Adding a theme is as simple as installing an app or extension, so there's no harm in trying one out.

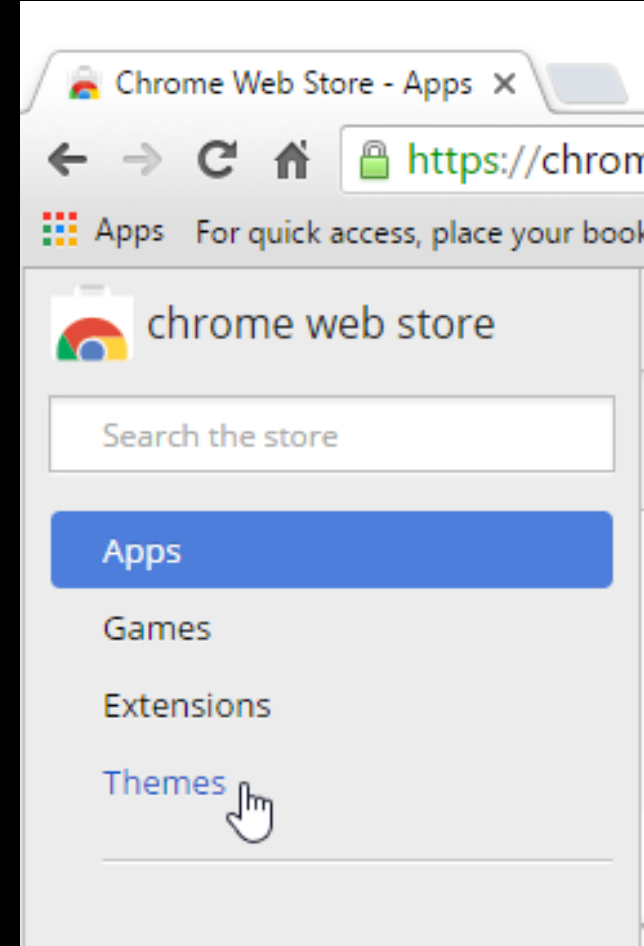
However, we recommend using the **default theme** because your tabs can become difficult to read with some of them.



# Themes

Navigate to the Chrome Web Store.

Select **Themes** from the left navigation pane.



# Themes

Previews of different themes will appear.  
Click a theme to learn more about it or  
install it.

The screenshot shows the Chrome Web Store interface for themes. The browser address bar displays the URL <https://chrome.google.com/webstore/category/themes?hl=en>. The page features a sidebar on the left with navigation options: Apps, Games, Extensions, and Themes (highlighted). Below the sidebar, there are filters for 'CATEGORIES' (set to 'All') and 'RATINGS' (with four star selection options). The main content area is titled 'Editor's Picks' and 'Chrome favorites in themes'. It displays four theme cards:

- Morpheon Dark**: 5 stars (2895), FREE. Preview shows a dark browser interface with the Google logo.
- Raindrops(Non-Aero)**: 5 stars (3537), FREE. Preview shows a dark background with raindrops and the text: "Raindrops Theme (Non-Aero). Hope to bring you a good mood."
- Blue Rose**: 5 stars (227), FREE. Preview shows a close-up of a blue rose.
- Black blue shards**: 5 stars (149), FREE. Preview shows a dark background with blue geometric shapes and the Google logo.

# To Remove a Theme

If you find that you don't like a theme after you've installed it or you'd like to return to the default Chrome theme, you can remove the theme.

Click the **Chrome menu** in the top-right corner of the browser, then select **Settings**.

