

7 tips to speed up Tor browser

Since traffic in Tor is routed in this fashion, it can dramatically decrease your browsing speed. In addition, ISPs can restrict or regulate Tor traffic without prior warning. Tor FAQs say their main focus is security, not speed.

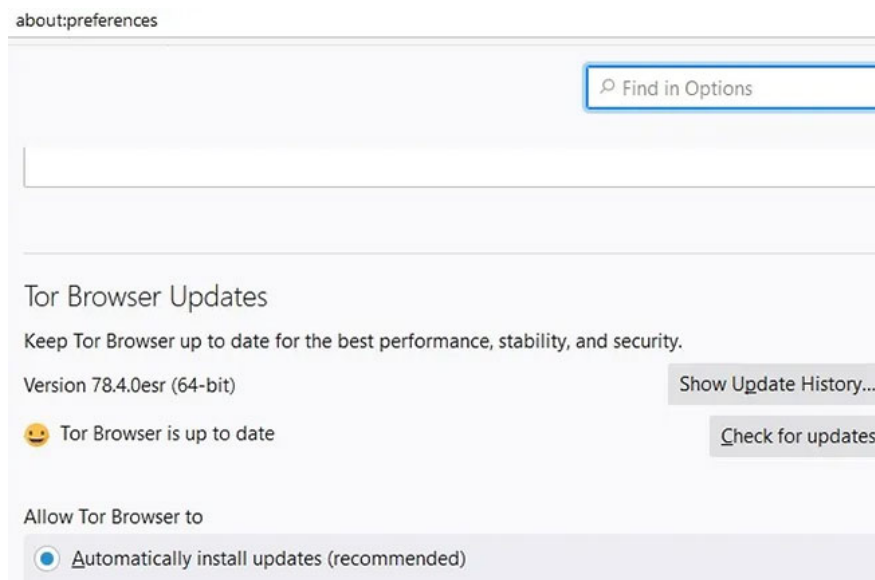
Tor protects your online anonymity through unique onion-style routing, in which encrypted data passes through several intermediary nodes. Neither of these nodes knows anything about your data origin or final destination, thus helping to protect your identity.

However, there is one downside. Since traffic in Tor is routed in this fashion, it can dramatically decrease your browsing speed. In addition, ISPs can restrict or regulate Tor traffic without prior warning. Tor FAQs say their main focus is security, not speed.

However, the following tips will help speed up your browser and make Tor faster.

1. Check the Tor browser for the latest updates

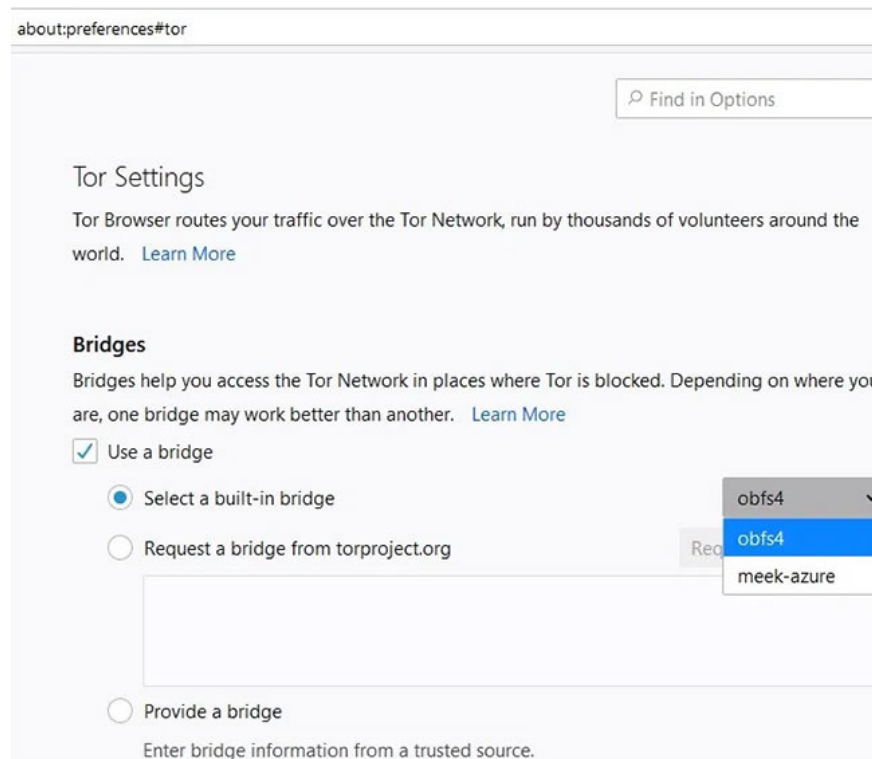
Regular experience shows that updating the Tor browser allows you to get up to speed even faster. Go to the three horizontal bar menu icon at the top right, followed by **'Options'** and the **'General'** tab . Here you can check out any updates. If an update is not available for a long time, you may experience slower speeds. So, it is better to update it regularly.



2. Using Bridge Relay

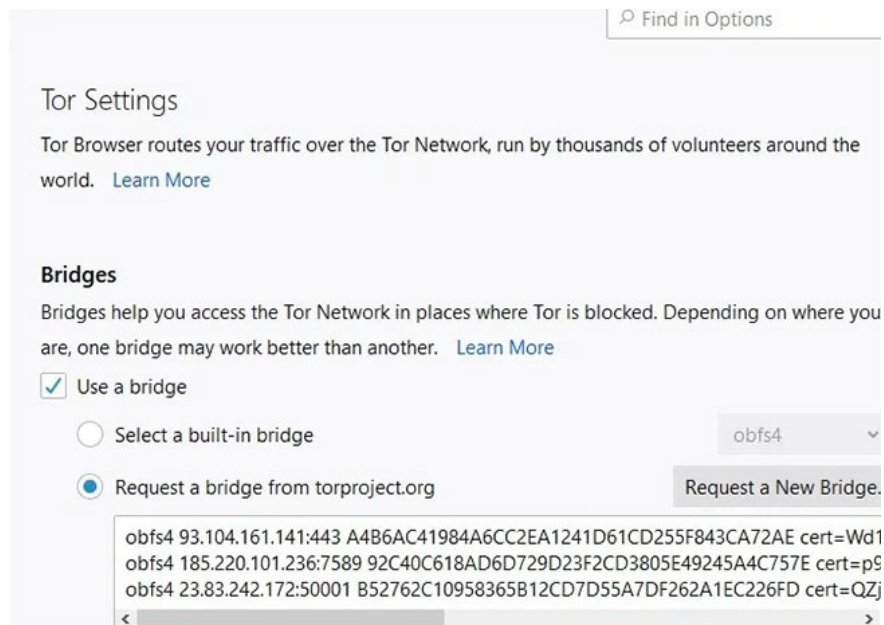
If you suspect that the ISP is throttling your bandwidth while you are using Tor, you will have to use one of its features called Bridge Relay. This will make it difficult for anyone tracking traffic to determine that you are using this anonymous browser. Tor cannot use bridges if you set up a proxy.

To get started, go to the **Options** menu from the three horizontal bars icon in the top right and select '**Tor Settings**'. Here, you can find the **Bridges** section , do not use the bridge relay if your Tor speed is normal. (It will still be slower than a normal ISP speed).



While using a selected integrated bridge you should use available options like '**obfs4**' and '**meek-azure**'. They will disguise traffic between the client (you) and the first switching node so that the ISP cannot identify you as a Tor connection.

You can also request a new bridge from **torproject.com**. After solving the captcha code, you will get a bridge connection like the following image.

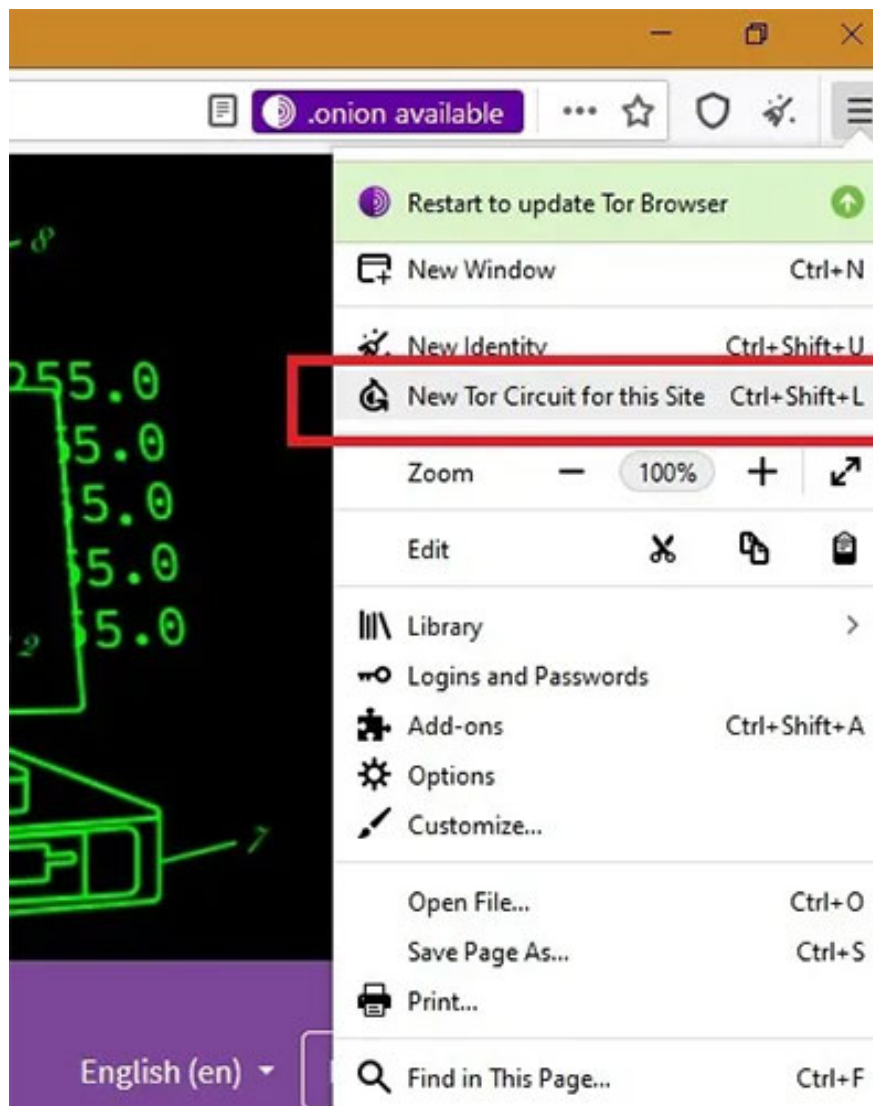


Sometimes there is no new bridge. In that case, you can request a bridge by sending an email to **'bridge@torproject.org'** from a Gmail, Yahoo or RiseUp address.

After the bridge connection is successful, you can enjoy regular or higher Tor speeds without being subjected to ISP restrictions.

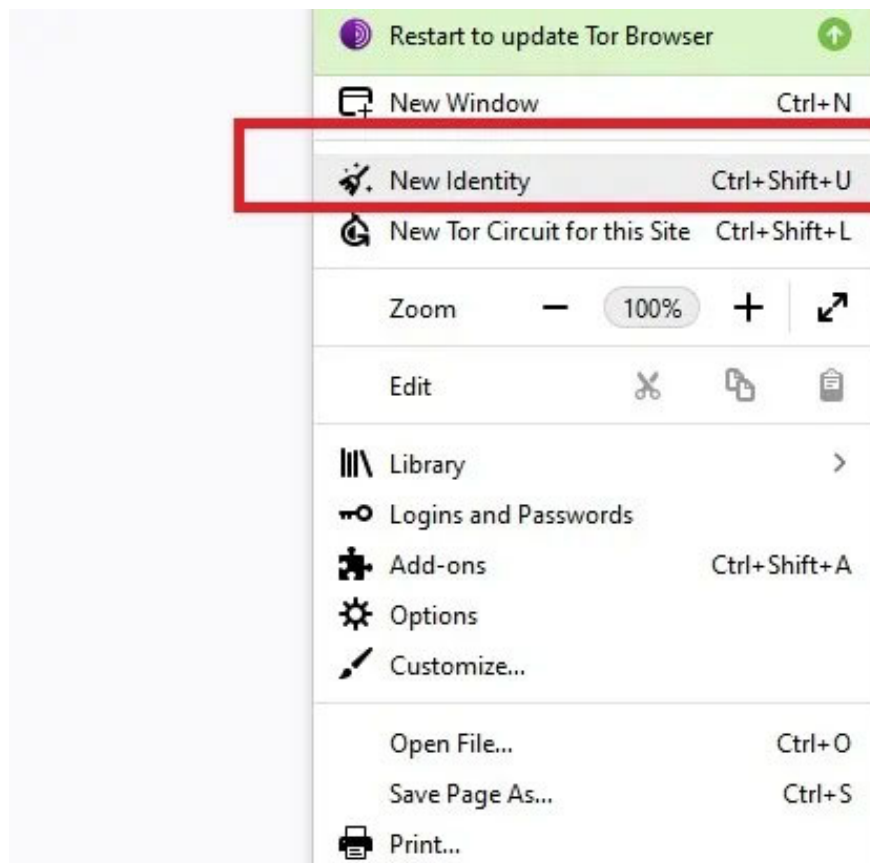
3. Use the New Tor Circuit for this Site option

If the page doesn't load fast enough, it could be due to a number of reasons, such as social media buttons, analytics tools, advertisements, and others. To solve these problems, Tor has a new feature that reloads the active web page or window over a new Tor circuit. This menu item can be accessed from a three-bar menu. Every time the page doesn't load quickly, you can click this option to create a new circuit. Of course, for this option to show up, you need to update your Tor browser.



4. Use the New identity option

Sometimes you get stuck at a slower speed for no reason, which can be helpful to restart the Tor browser to get the new speed. You can also use another feature called '**New identity**', accessible from the three-bar menu. This is also a great security feature, as it prevents the next browser activity from possibly linking to what you were doing previously.



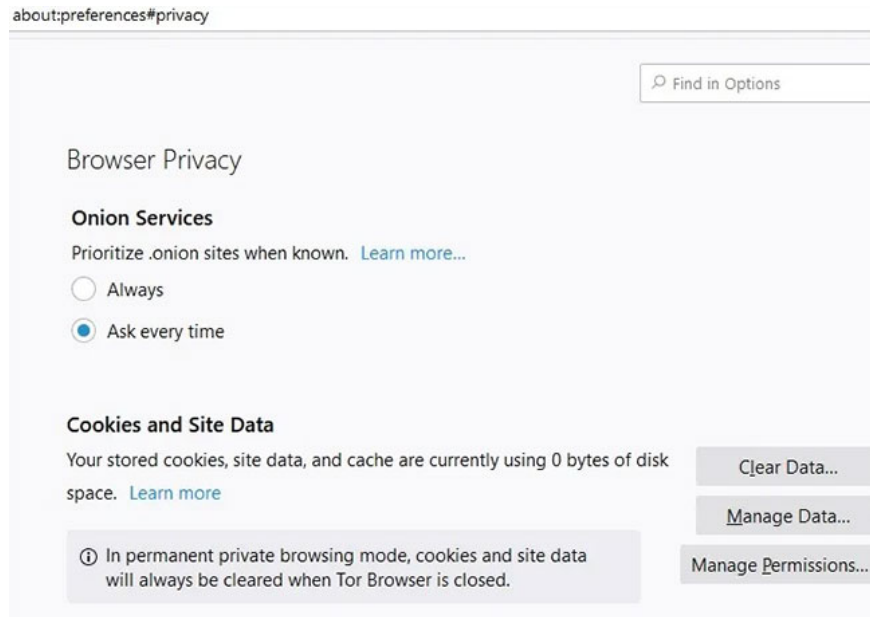
5. Optimizing PC / Mac / Linux for Tor operations

To ensure that the speed issues are minimal, you need to make sure that the system clock and time zone are set correctly. Tor recommends that you temporarily disable the following software, as they have been known to interfere with your browsing:

1. Webroot SecureAnywhere
2. Kaspersky Internet Security 2012
3. Sophos Antivirus for Mac
4. Microsoft Security Essentials

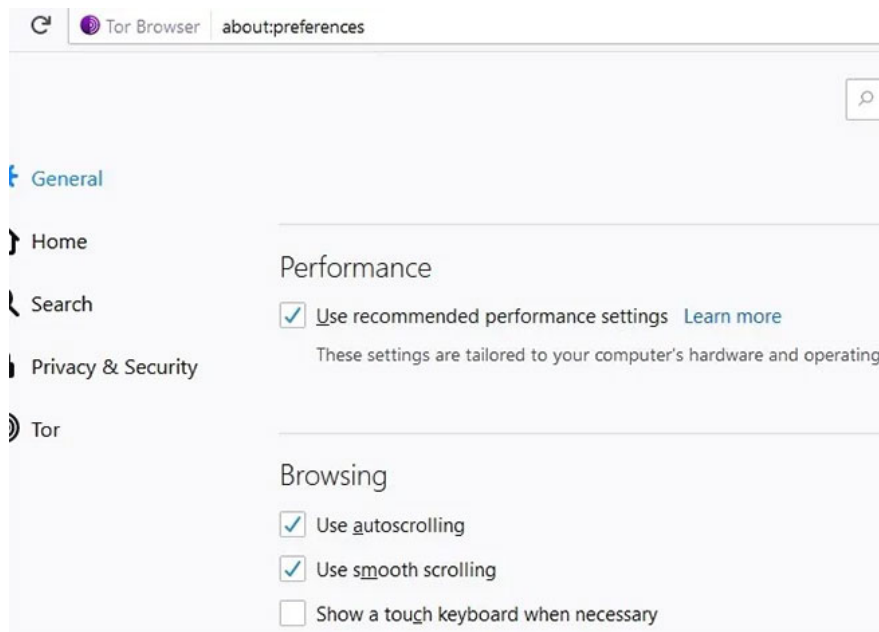
It is better to disable any anti-virus software that is affecting the system tray. Also, turn off the firewall and if you are using the new version of Tor browser, uninstall the old version. Don't overwrite old programs. If another Tor is running, it could seriously affect your connection speed.

You should configure Tor to isolate cookies and clear your browsing history after each session. Go to **about:preferences#privacy** in Tor and make sure you have these security options turned on.



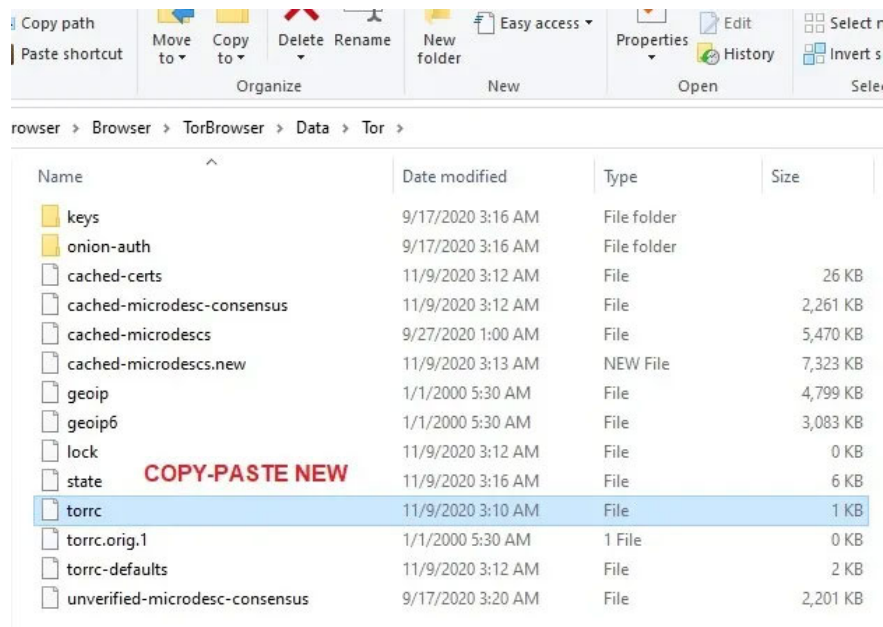
6. Use recommended performance settings

Tor has a feature that allows you to tailor your browser performance values based on your computer's hardware and operating system. It can be accessed from **Settings** and is disabled by default. Turn it on to make sure the right speed is supported by your device.



7. Insert new Torrc files

One quick tip to speed up Tor is to edit the Torrc files. However, this method may not work for everyone, and results may vary. You can locate it by right-clicking on the Tor browser menu icon and choosing **Properties**. Then, go to the following path: **Tor Browser > Browser > Data > Tor** .



You can download new Torrc files [here](#). It has been tested as virus-free. Just delete the old Torrc file in the directory path and replace it with the updated file.

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