

Chrome flags that can actually reduce RAM usage

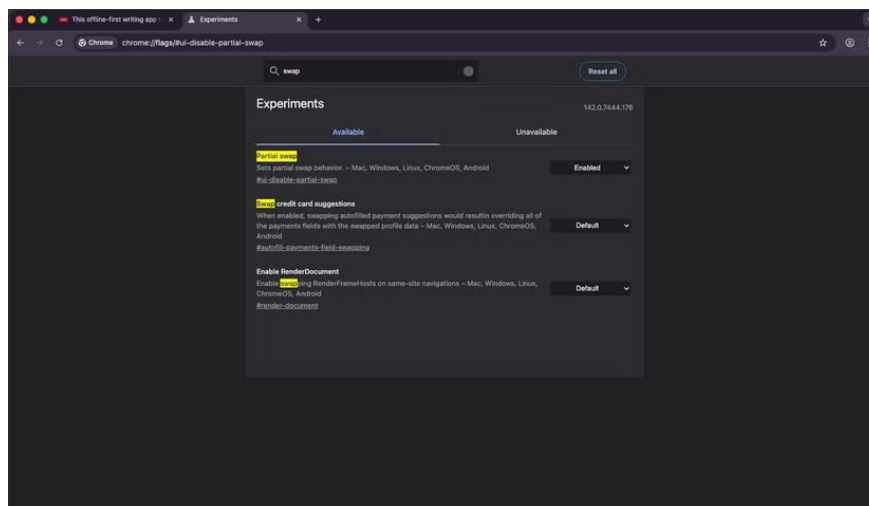
Luckily, you can fix Chrome's memory-hogging tendencies by enabling or disabling some hidden features, called flags. These are experimental features that are still in development, but Google has made them available for anyone to use.

Google Chrome is one of the most popular web browsers and has a significant market share, thanks in part to its pre-installation on Android smartphones. However, even on the desktop platform, Chrome still dominates. And it's a great browser, except for its privacy and memory usage issues. It's no secret that Chrome is a memory hog.

So if you're experiencing sluggishness when using the browser with a few tabs open, you're not alone. Luckily, you can fix Chrome's memory-hogging tendencies by enabling or disabling some hidden features, called flags. These are experimental features that are still in development, but Google has made them available for anyone to use.

Partial swap

Improved memory management and responsiveness

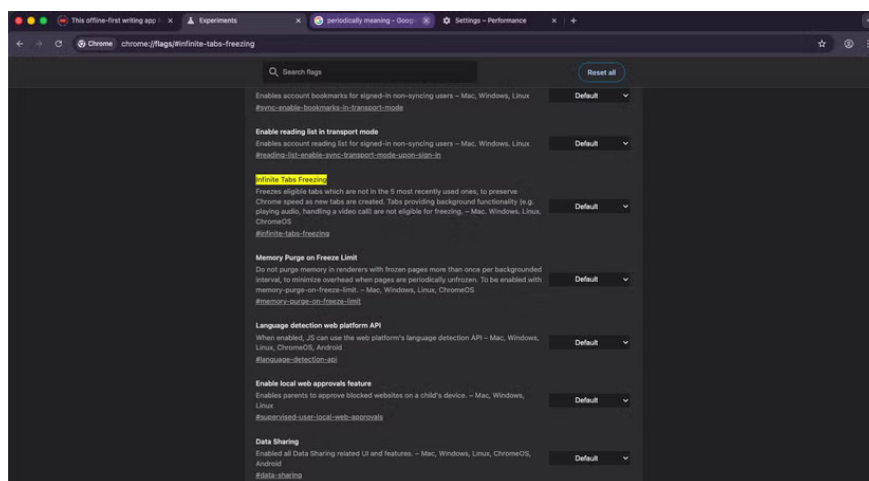


One of the important Chrome flags that can help fix high memory usage is Partial Swap. The name might not give you away if you're not technically savvy, but this feature improves memory management in Chrome by prioritizing the most active tabs. Additionally, Partial Swap helps Chrome manage memory better and improve responsiveness by only updating the parts of the interface that have changed and leaving the rest unchanged.

Instead of updating the entire interface, this feature only updates the parts that have changed, reducing memory usage and speeding up Chrome. The Chrome Partial Swap flag is **chrome://flags/#ui-disable-partial-swap** . This flag is enabled by default, but to be sure, type **chrome://flags/#ui-disable-partial-swap** into the Chrome address bar and check to see if it's enabled. If not, toggle Partial Swap to **Enabled** .

Infinite Tab Freezing

Automatically freeze certain tabs

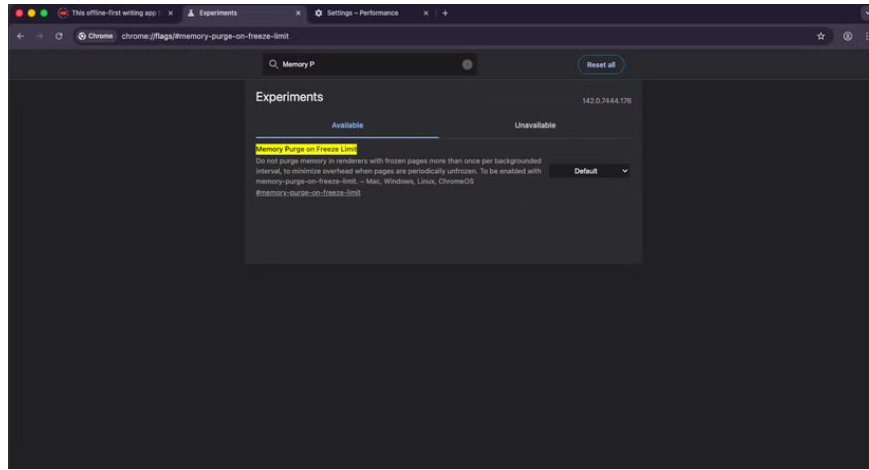


When you have dozens of tabs open in Chrome, you'll notice that the browser automatically freezes some of them to free up memory. Since each tab in Chrome runs as a separate process in memory, each new tab you open creates a new process. While this improves security, it does lead to high memory usage - don't be surprised if Chrome uses 30GB of memory.

The best way to solve this problem is to enable Chrome's experimental Infinite Tab Freezing feature, which automatically freezes every tab except the five most recently used and active tabs (like those playing music or videos). By freezing tabs, Chrome pauses JavaScript and any background activity, which reduces memory usage and can help improve your browser's performance. To enable the Infinite Tab Freezing flag, type **chrome://flags/#infinite-tabs-freezing** and change the setting to **Enabled** .

Memory Purge on Freeze Limit

Limit how often Chrome clears frozen pages



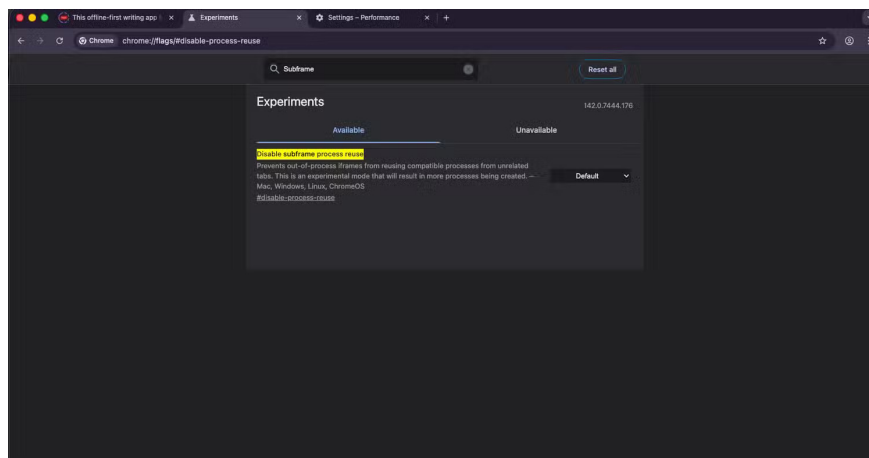
This Chrome flag reduces the browser's memory usage by optimizing how it manages memory for frozen tabs. We discussed how Chrome can freeze tabs to reduce memory usage above, but what you may not know is that the browser has to run a background process to do this.

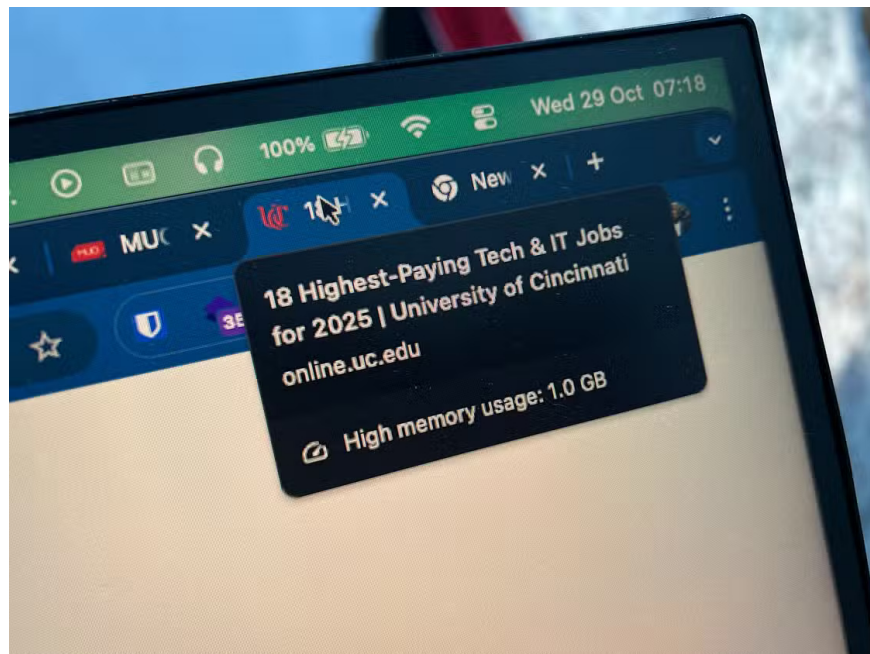
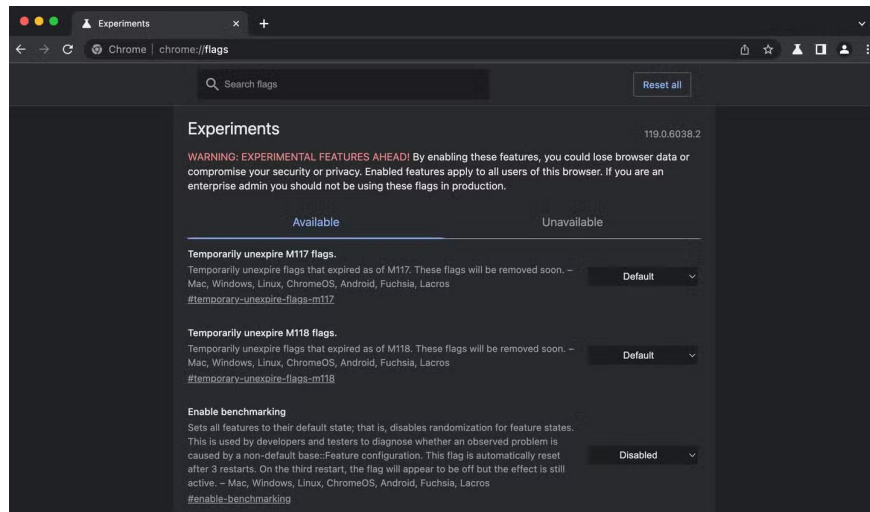
While clearing memory from frozen or inactive tabs helps reduce memory usage, if Chrome has to do it constantly, it can lead to a processing overload. As you might have guessed, this can inadvertently increase memory usage if inactive pages are reopened periodically. That's where Chrome's Memory Purge on Freeze Limit flag comes in handy.

This flag limits memory purge, allowing Chrome to do it once per background interval for frozen tabs, thus reducing processing load, resulting in lower memory usage. It may not result in a significant reduction in memory usage, but for Chrome, any small tweak that can help it run with less RAM is really appreciated. The Chrome flag for this feature is **chrome://flags/#memory-purge-on-freeze-limit**.

Disable Subframe Process Reuse

Allows sharing of processes between tabs to reduce memory usage





As mentioned earlier, Chrome takes advantage of an architecture where each tab creates a new process in memory for isolation. However, this leads to high memory usage, especially when you have dozens of tabs open, all running as separate processes in memory. Another flag you can use to reduce Chrome's memory usage is the **chrome://flags/#disable-process-reuse** flag. When this flag is disabled, Chrome reduces memory usage by reusing idle render processes from other tabs.

This reduces the need for the browser to create new processes for each new tab you create, which reduces memory usage. This feature is usually disabled by default, but you can check to see if it's enabled in yours. If it is, make sure to disable it, as it will allow Chrome to reuse processes, saving you precious memory.

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