

eCollege and VitalSource System and Hardware Specifications

As with any software, the faster the processor, the more RAM, and the larger hard drive space you provide, the better the performance. Users wanting to move their material to their hard drive may need additional space. It is also important that users understand the process and benefits of maintaining their machines in top operating condition by keeping them current with the latest operating system updates, correctly configuring virus control, and other beneficial habits.

Preferred Requirements:

Preferred Software Specifics:

- Mac OSX 10.5
- OR -
Windows Vista with Microsoft .Net 3.5SP1
- Latest version of Safari Browser or Internet Explorer

Preferred Hardware Specifics:

- 2.0 GHz INTEL processor
- 1 GB of RAM
- Graphics card capable of 1024x768 resolution or larger
- Soundcard & speakers
- High speed internet access

Minimum Requirements:

Minimum Software Specifics:

- Apple Mac OSX 10.4
- OR -
Microsoft Windows XP SP2 or higher with .NET Frameworks 3.0
- Safari browser 3.0.4 or higher, Internet Explorer 6 or higher

Minimum Hardware Specifics:

- 1.0 GHz processor
- 512 MB of RAM
- Graphics card capable of 1024x768 screen resolution
- 56k or higher internet access (dial-up is not acceptable)

Recommended Plug-ins or Downloads:

Your instructor may employ technology in the eCollege classroom that requires one of these recommended plug-ins or downloads in order to function properly. If your instructor uses the ClassLive technology, Java will be required. If your instructor provides PDF files, Adobe Reader may be required to open and view those files. You can download these items at the time that they are deemed necessary.

- Java
 - If Mac - MacOS Classic Java (MRJ 2.2.5) (<http://developer.apple.com/java/index.html>)
 - If Window - Sun's Java 2 SDK (Java 1.5 or Java 1.6) (<http://java.sun.com/javase/downloads/index.jsp>)
- Adobe Reader (<http://get.adobe.com/reader/>)

A caution regarding Netbooks...

Students often see "Netbooks" (small laptop computers primarily designed for web browsing and emailing) as an affordable option when looking to purchase a computer for class work. However, we strongly recommend that students do not purchase a Netbook.

Purchasing a low-price laptop or desktop computer that meets the system requirements outlined above is a much better solution for class work. **Netbooks do not meet the resolution or screen size requirements for VitalSource eBooks** (as outlined on the previous page). This means that reading e-texts and participating in the classroom will become tedious. It will be challenging to scroll through your readings and effectively and efficiently work through the material.

Remember that your investment in a computer, laptop or otherwise, should be more than a matter of cost or effectively being able to access eBooks. Rather, your computer is an overall tool for reporting, reading, composing, communicating, researching, and completing other functional requirement for comfortably attending to and completing all course requirements.

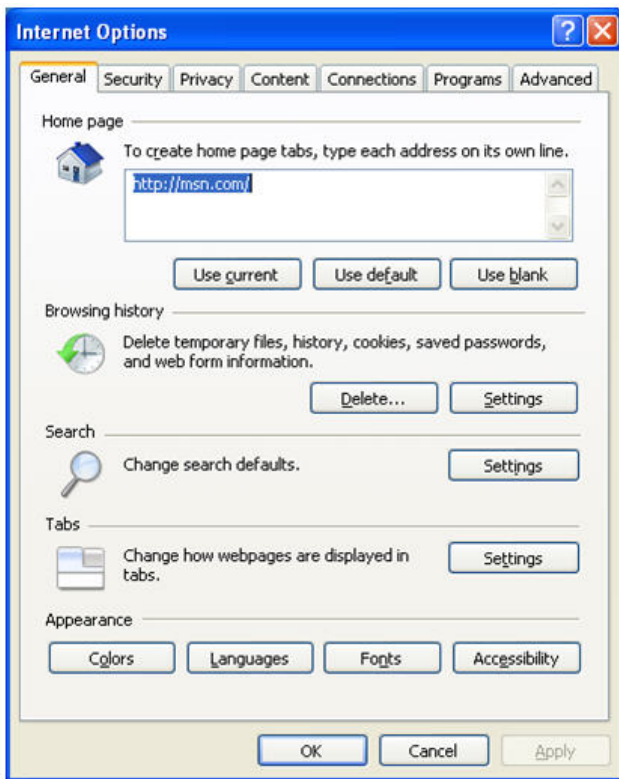
eCollege Supported Browser Set-up Instructions

This document is intended as a resource for setting the optimal browser configurations for accessing the eCollege platform. With the exception of modifying cookie settings for Safari, and adding the eCollege domain to the trusted sites list, these instructions will ensure that the browser is set up with the "out-of-the-box" configuration. **In addition, ensure that pop-ups have been enabled once in eCollege.**

Internet Explorer 7 (IE 6 and IE 8 are also supported)

In each of the items below, we will be accessing the Internet options window; therefore, after completing each step, please leave the Internet Options window up.

To access internet options please follow the instructions below:



Internet Options Window

1. Click on the Tools menu at the top right hand side of the browser window.
2. Click on Internet Options.

To Delete Cookies and Cache

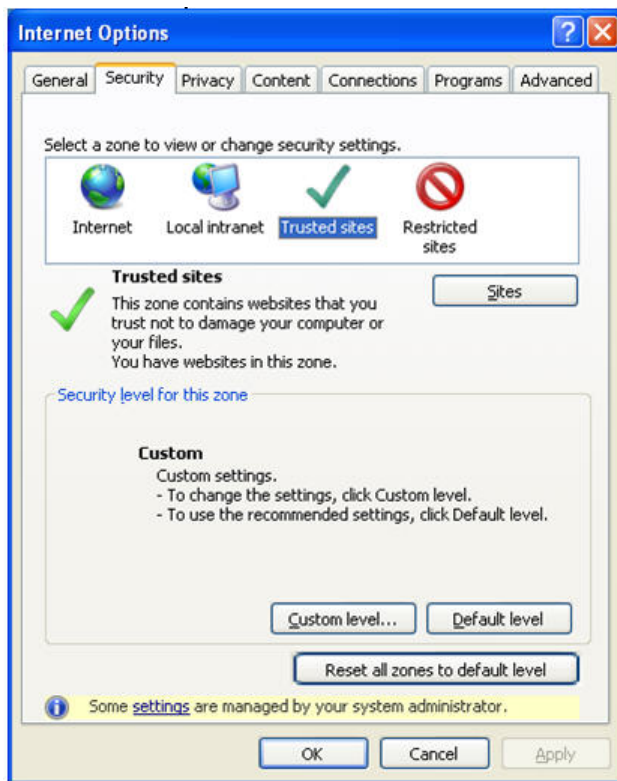
1. Click on the General Tab.
2. Click on Delete in the browsing history menu.
3. Once the Delete Browsing History window opens, click on Delete cookies and click yes in the dialog box that opens.
4. Click on Delete files, and click yes in the dialog box that comes opens

Note: Cookies may contain information for a customized web page or may contain log in information for a web site. Deleting all cookies will result in having to re-enter this information.

Resetting Security

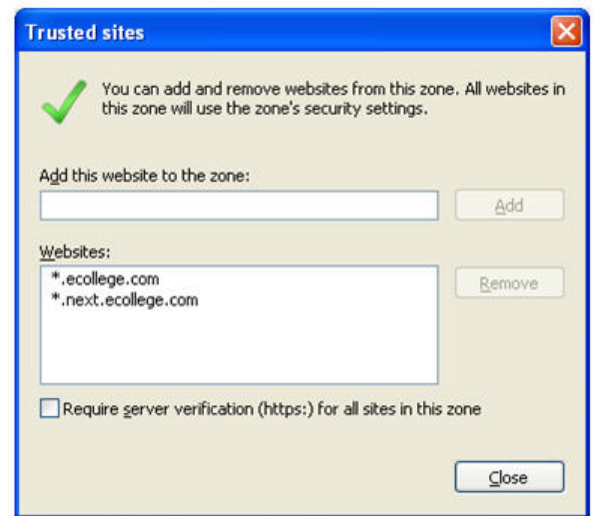
1. Click on the Security Tab.
2. Click on the Custom Level Button.
3. This is going to open a Security Settings window. Just above OK and Cancel is Reset button. Click on that button and Click Yes in the dialog box that comes up.
4. Click on OK in the Security Settings window.

Adding Trusted Sites

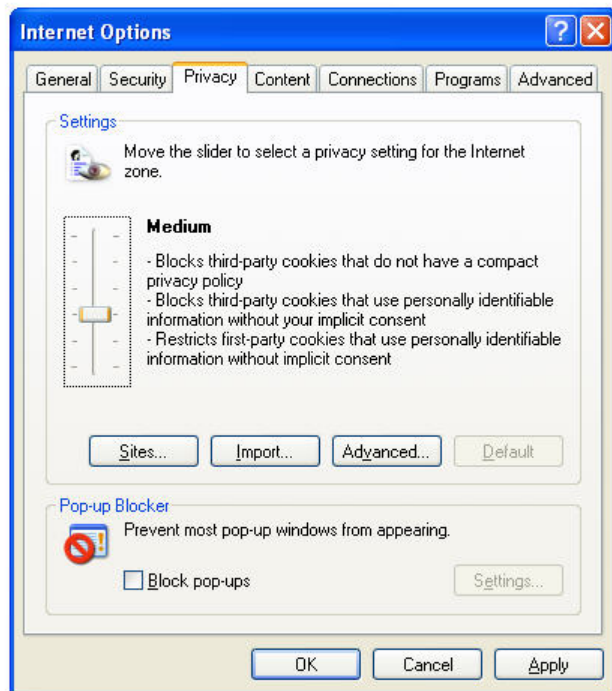


1. While still in the Security Tab click on Trusted Sites.
2. Click on the Sites button.

3. Add *.ecollege.com and *.next.ecollege.com as trusted web sites.
4. Click on the Close button for trusted sites.



Verifying Cookie Settings



The next step is to verify that the cookie handling settings are not set at a level that is too high. In Internet Options click on the Privacy tab and ensure that the slider bar is set no higher than Medium.

Resetting Advanced Settings

The following steps will assist in resetting the advanced settings to the default level and is the last step in restoring the browser defaults.

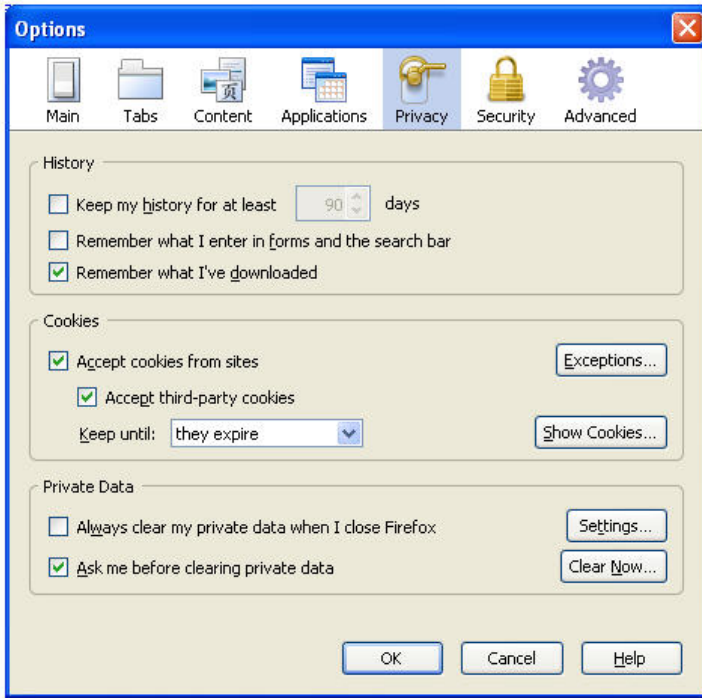
1. In Internet options click in the Advanced tab.
2. Click on Restore Advanced Settings.
3. Click on OK in Internet Options.

Once these steps are complete, please close the browser window and open a new window to sign-in to the online course platform.

Firefox 3.0 (PC) (2.0 and 3.5 are also supported)

These instructions will demonstrate how to delete cookies and cache, verify cookie handling, and add trusted sites to the exceptions list.

As with IE, we will be accessing a common window, so I will detail how to get the options window up first. After this window is up, please leave it open until all tasks have been completed.



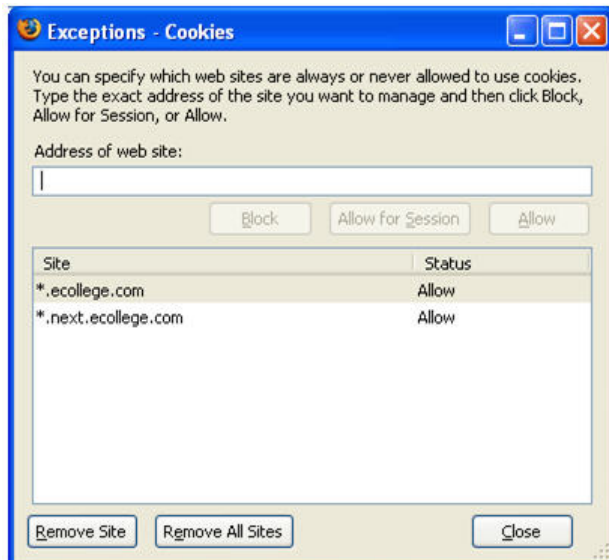
1. Click on the Tools menu.
2. Click on Options.

Deleting Cache and Cookies

1. Click on the Privacy Tab.
2. Under the Private Data Section, check "Ask me before clearing Private Data."
3. Click on the Clear Now button.
4. In the Pop-up dialog box check both Cache and Cookies and click on Clear Private Data now.

Note: Cookies may contain information for a customized web page or may contain log in information for a web site. Deleting all cookies will result in having to re-enter this information.

Cookie Settings



1. In the Privacy Tab under "Cookies," make sure that the "Accept cookies from sites" and "Accept third-party cookies" are checked. In the "keep until" drop down, it is ok to have "they expire".
 2. Click on the Exceptions button.
 3. Allow ***.ecollege.com** and ***.next.ecollege.com**.
 4. Click on Close.
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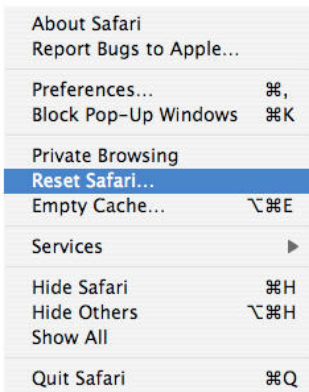
Firefox (Mac)

Configuring Firefox on a Mac is the same as configuring Firefox on a PC with the exception of accessing the options. To access Firefox options on a Mac please follow the instructions below.

1. Click on the Firefox Menu.
2. Click on Preferences.
3. Follow the PC instructions.

Safari 3.0 (Mac) (2.0 and 4.0 are also supported)

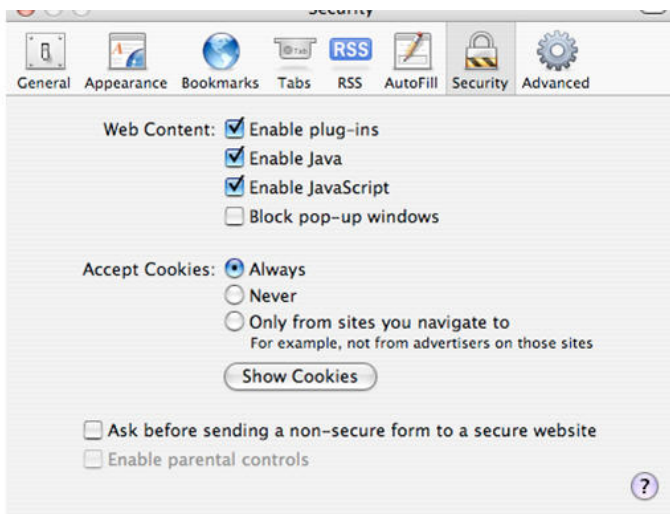
The simplest way to clear cookies, cache and reset defaults within Safari is to do the following:



1. Click on the Safari menu.
2. Click on Reset Safari.

Note: Cookies may contain information for a customized web page or may contain log in information for a web site. Deleting all cookies will result in having to re-enter this information.

Safari Cookie Settings



Once this is done, cookie handling needs to be configured to accept all cookies.

1. Click on the Safari Menu.
2. Click on Preferences.
3. Click on Security.
4. Check the option to accept cookies "Always".
5. Close the Preferences window.

This should allow for all course tools to function when using Safari.

Additional Supported Browser Plug-ins and Assistive Technology

The following plug-ins and assistive technologies are supported by eCollege.

- RealPlayer 8 Basic Player
- Macromedia Flash Player
- Macromedia Shockwave Player
- Window Media Player
- QuickTime Player
- JAWS 5.0 (Windows only)
- Window-Eyes (Windows only)