How to start different profiles with Google Chrome when startup?

How do I start different profiles with Google Chrome with different favorites, and so on?

google-chrome   startup   profile

edited Oct 21 '10 at 12:25   asked Oct 21 '10 at 12:14
                                              Chris_45
                                              441   1   6   18

2   New version of Chrome (16) supports multiple users natively, so this isn't necessary anymore :) – user109565
        Dec 14 '11 at 15:33

feedback

2 Answers

You have to create a new profile folder and use a different Chrome shortcut with --user-data-dir command-line argument to specify the profile's location

Details:

1) Create a new profile folder (Google Chrome Help):

Go to the Start menu > Run. Enter one of the following directories in the text field, then press OK.

```
 * Windows XP: %USERPROFILE%\Local Settings\Application Data\Google\Chrome\User Da
 * Windows Vista/Windows 7: %USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data
```

Locate the folder called "Default" in the directory window that opens and rename it as "Test"

If you now run Chrome, it will create new "Default" profile so you'll have "Default" and "Test"

2) Create a new shortcut to Chrome: Name the new shortcut as you see fit (for example, "Chrome 2nd profile")

Right-click the new shortcut, choose Properties, paste --user-data-dir="..\User Data\Test" at the end of the Target field. The result on Windows 7 should be:

C:\Users\YOUR-USER-NAME-HERE\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe --user-data-dir="..\User Data\Test"

3) That's it - you can now use the regular Chrome or "Chrome 2nd profile" and any changes made in one won't correspond in the other.

answered Oct 21 '10 at 13:31
Siim K
3,309   13   35

Ok great thanks! –   Chris_45   Oct 21 '10 at 14:08

Thanks for the tip about --user-data-dir . BTW if you set that option to an empty directory, Chrome will populate it with new default settings, creating a new profile from scratch rather than basing it on an existing one. – intuited Mar 6 '11 at 15:52

feedback

Just install two copies of Chrome (for example the regular version and the canary version). Use one for one account and the other for the other. Don't know if it this can be done on windows, it certainly works on the Mac. BTW use the regular and the canary version. They have different icons.

answered Aug 15 '12 at 23:25
Paul
11   1

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