



Firefox 4 Compatibility

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Firefox 4

- Final release is planned for Q1 2011, around February.
- Future releases of Mobile, Thunderbird and SeaMonkey will use this code.
- Current version is Beta 7.
 - Feature freeze.
 - Main article: https://developer.mozilla.org/en/Firefox_4_for_developers

Packed add-ons

- Add-ons are packed by default.
- Getting to files inside the package: nsIZipReader.
- Don't use chrome.jar anymore.
- Use em:unpack for:
 - Add-ons with binaries.
 - Dictionaries.
 - Add-ons with window icons.

Development setup

- Run development profiles using the “-purgecaches” command line option.
- Profile Manager will be taken out of Firefox.
 - Bug 539524 tracks new solution.
 - May not happen for Firefox 4.

XPCOM Registration

- XPCOM changes in Gecko 2.
- Registration in chrome.manifest.
- Startup notifications: ~~xpcom-startup~~, ~~app-startup~~ and ~~profile-after-change~~.
- Command line handlers.

Add-on Manager

- nsIExtension Manager is replaced by Addon Manager JSM.
- Asynchronous API.
- FUEL API is also different.
- Icons: 64x64 and 48x48. More.

Remote XUL

- Remote XUL is disabled by default.
 - Insecure, unmaintained.
 - Not an open web technology.
- Can be enabled per-domain with an add-on.

Main Window XUL

- TabClose, TabSelect, TabOpen events no longer bubble up to gBrowser. Use gBrowser.tabContainer instead.
- toolbox element is not direct child of window anymore.
- browser elements in tabbrowser are not direct children of notificationbox anymore.

Other

- Passing JS objects between threads is no longer possible.
 - Possible ChromeWorker improvements.
 - em:requires is no longer supported.



UI

UI

- Tabs on top (or bottom!).
- App tabs.
- Panorama.
- Application menu.
- The statusbar is now the Add-on Bar, hidden by default.

Toolbar buttons

- Main article.
- Windows: 18x18 (really 16x16).
 - CSS workaround for small icons mode.
- Mac OS X: 20x20 (really 16x16).
 - Recommended monochrome.
- Linux (Gnome): 24x24 and 16x16.
- Theme handles disabled state.



Why??

Bug 616472



Questions?



New in Firefox 4

Animation

- CSS transitions.
- SMIL, animated SVG.
- MozBeforePaint.
- WebGL, canvas.

Advanced CSS

- -moz-calc
 - width: -moz-calc(100% - 80px);
- -moz-element
 - Use arbitrary HTML as a background image.

Web

- WebSockets.
 - Simple, low latency, bi-directional communication.
- Content Security Policy.
 - Restricts inserting content into webpages, even locally.

Bootstrapped Extensions

- Bootstrapped Extensions.
- Can be installed / uninstalled without restart.
- No overlays or chrome registration. Limited.
- Need to clean up everything they add.
 - install and uninstall triggers.

Other

- HTML5
- WebM video.
- Services.jsm.
- JS-ctypes API.
 - ChromeWorker.
- Easier to place XUL over content.
- Load code modules from chrome URLs.

Finally

- Featured add-ons must be compatible by RC1.
- Free ~~hat!~~ t-shirt!
 - Compatible by January 7th.

Thanks!

- Visit regularly:
 - [Firefox 4 for developers.](#)
 - [Add-ons Blog.](#)
 - [Add-ons Forum.](#)
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