Firefox Extensions Are Incompatible With New Version Or New Updates

Note: In order to fix this problem you will need to modify the .rdf files in the extensions that are incompatible. Also keep in mind that you could run in to compatibility issues, so remember that it is always best to download the new version of the extension where possible.

1) You will need to download a program called "WinRaR". You can find it at the following link http://www.download.com/WinRAR/3000-2250_4-10007677.html?tag=lst-1&cdlPid=10745708 if this link no longer works just Google "WinRaR". Once you have this program you can continue with step 2

2) The first thing you need to do is find the location where you have all of your extensions saved when you downloaded them. If you did not download them for installation later, you will have to find all of the extensions again that you want to keep. In other words, you are going to have to go back to Mozilla's site and re-download the extensions again and save them in a folder.

3) Now that you have all of your extensions in a folder, you will need to open that folder and find the first extension you want to modify. Right-click on it and select open with, and open it with WinRAR.

4) You should now see a list of files. Left-click on the … Folder one time and then click on Extract To.

5) Now you can browse to a folder that you want these files extracted to so that you can work with them. I recommend creating a separate folder to keep the confusion down, but it is up to you. Once you have browsed to the folder that you want the files extracted to click on ok.

6) Now you should be back at the WinRAR screen. You will need to double-click on the … folder or browse in the address bar to the location where you just extracted the files to.

7) Once you get to that folder where you extracted the files double-click on it and you should see a list of the files that you just extracted.

8) Now you should see a list of files (this list will vary depending on the extension), but you should see a file called install.rdf

9) Double-click on that file and it will ask you what you want to open it with. Click select program from a list and chose note pad or another text editor.

10) Now with the file open find the following lines

    <em:minVersion>1.0</em:minVersion>

    <em:maxVersion>1.6</em:maxVersion>

11) You want to change the <em:maxVersion>1.6</em:maxVersion> to a number that is higher than your current version of FireFox, but do not get crazy as you can cause compatibility issues. Therefore, for this example we are going to change it to 3.0. The end result should look like this <em:maxVersion>3.0</em:maxVersion>. You will need to do this for all the lines that read <em:maxVersion>1.6</em:maxVersion>. Note: there are usually two or more places that you have to change this number.

12) Once you have done this you will need to go to file and save. Now go to file close. You should have a message that reads the following. File "install.rdf" was modified. Do you with to update it in the archive? Click Yes.

13) Now you should be back in WinRAR. You will need to highlight all of the files that are in the current window with the exception of the … folder since this file will take you up a directory it is not part of the others.

14) Once you have them highlight you will need to click on the Add button. A box will pop up that is called Archive name and parameters. In the Archive name box type what you want this new extension to be called and give it an .xpi extension. So your file name should look like this filename.xpi

15) In the Archive Format box make sure ZIP is selected. If RAR is selected it will not work. Also, make sure you check you file name to see if the .zip extension was added to it. For example your filename might look like this filename.xpi.zip

16) If it does go back to the Archive name box and remove the .zip Your file name should now look like the following. filename.xpi

17) Now click on OK.

18) Now close WinRAR and go to the location where you extracted the files. You should see a new file there with the filename you just gave it and an extension of .xpi

19) Right-click on that file and select open with. Pick a program from the list and then choose Firefox. Now Click on Ok.

20) Now double click on the file and it should open Firefox with a prompt. Click on Install and it should now install that extension.

21) Now restart Firefox and you extension should now be there.

Trouble-shooting.

1) If you mess any of these steps up it will not work. Make sure you read the steps carefully.

2) You get an error message that says invalid install package. You chose RAR instead of ZIP. You have to start all over.