

# WebCT OWL



## Browser Check in OWL

## Overview

The Browser Check in OWL is a useful tool in determining if your computer system is compatible with the OWL system. In this manualette, we'll be looking at:

- How to access Browser Check
- The different components of the Browser Check page:
  - Browser Check
  - Cookies Check
  - Javascript Check
  - Pop-up Blocker Check
  - Java Check

## How to Access Browser Check

1. The Browser Check can be accessed at <http://webct.uwo.ca>
2. At the top right of the browser page, there is a "Check My Browser" button. Clicking on this button will lead you to another page with a long purple button called "**Click here to Check Your Browser.**"
3. Clicking on this button gives you a pop-up window with a series of elements that the system is checking your computer for.
4. If everything is correct, you will see a series of **green checkmarks**.



5. **Red X's** are given to areas where your computer is not properly configured. We will be going over each of these elements in more detail throughout this manualette.
5. The Browser Check can also be accessed in two places on the login page
 

The first it is located right next to the login area.






The second it is located on the top right of the window

Clicking on either of these two links will produce a popup identical to the popup seen previously.

### Browser Check Results

This browser check will ensure your browser is configured so the complete functionality checked, mandatory or recommended changes are indicated.

For more information, see the [Browser Tune-up Page](#).

	<b>Browser Check</b> This browser is validated for use with the Learning System. It appears that you are using <b>Microsoft® Internet Explorer 7.0</b> browser.
	<b>Cookies Check</b> Cookies are enabled. The Learning System uses a cookie to keep track of your current session. Your current state as you navigate through the application.
	<b>Javascript Check</b> Javascript is enabled. Almost every part of the Learning System relies on Javascript for the ability to use Javascript enabled.
	<b>Pop-up Blocker Check</b> Pop-up blocker is turned off. The Learning System sometimes uses small browser windows to deliver requested content.
	<b>Java™ Check</b> It appears you are using Java 2 Runtime Environment version <b>1.6.0_03</b> (Sun Microsystems Inc.)

## Browser Check

1. This portion of the Browser Check checks the web browser on your system to make sure that it is compatible with OWL.



2. Here, your web browser is confirmed compatible with a **green check**. A **red "X"** means that your browser is not compatible. As well, the current web browser and version that you are using are given to you in bold.
3. The following browsers are currently recommended for **Windows** operating systems:

- i. **Internet Explorer**
- ii. **Mozilla Firefox**

4. The following browsers are currently recommended for **Mac** operating systems:

- i. **Safari**

5. If your web browser is not compatible, you can click on the "**Browser Tune-up Page**" link available at the top of the page. From there, you can download one of the supported browsers. Unsupported browsers will work with OWL, but not all features will function properly.





## Javascript Check (*continued*)

- ii. In *Mozilla Firefox*, on the top toolbar, go to **Tools > Options**. Select the **Content** tab, and make sure that the following options are selected with a checkmark: **Enable JavaScript** and **Enable Java**. Click OK.

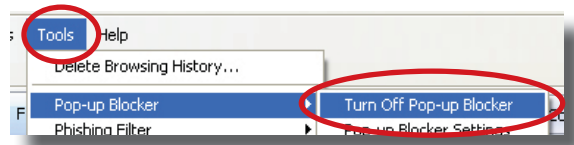


- iii. In *Safari*, on the top toolbar, go to **Safari > Preferences**. Select the Security tab and make sure that the following options are selected with a checkmark: **Enable JavaScript** and **Enable Java**. Close the window to save settings.

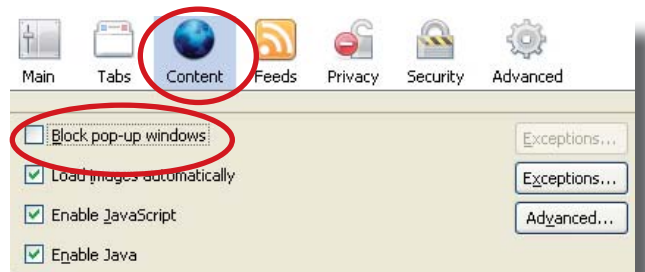


## Pop-up Blocker Check

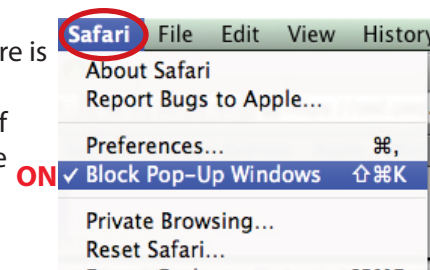
1. OWL needs the pop-up blocker turned off for all of its functions to work properly. If you have a **red "X"** in this section of the browser check, then you need to turn off your pop-up blocker.
2. To turn off your pop-up blocker:
  - i. In *Internet Explorer*, on the top toolbar, go to **Tools > Pop-up Blocker > Turn off Pop-up Blocker**. Click OK.



- ii. In *Mozilla Firefox*, on the top toolbar, go to **Tools > Options**, and then click on the **Content** tab. Deselect **"Block pop-up windows"**; or if you choose to keep the blocker on, that you set in the Exceptions to not block OWL. Click OK.



- iii. In *Safari*, on the top tool bar, go to **Safari**. If there is a "checkmark" beside **Block Pop-Up Windows**, then you need to click on that option to turn off the pop-up blocker. You can check to make sure the pop-up blocker is off, by returning to Edit and observing that there is no longer a checkmark beside the pop-up blocker option.



## Java™ Check

1. To run OWL properly, a supported version of a program called **Java™** is required.
2. If you have a **red "X"** in this section of the browser check, it means that your computer does not have Java installed, or that the version installed is not supported.
3. To install Java, simply go to **http://www.java.com** and select **"Free Java Download"** on their main page. Next, just proceed through the installation until it is complete.
4. When finished, close your browser and reopen to have Java take effect.
5. If the latest version of Java available is not currently supported, you can always download a supported version from **http://webct.uwo.ca > Check My Browser**. Under the Java heading you will find a link to download Java.

\*\*\*It is important to note that methods used in this manulette to correct the Browser Check will differ from computer to computer depending on the version of the browser residing on each users computer. If you still have difficulties with any of these methods, please do not hesitate to contact the **ITS Help Desk** at **519-661-2111 x 83800**. \*\*\*