

# BrowserFreedom review guide

## What is BrowserFreedom?

Simply put, BrowserFreedom allows the creation of rules to determine which sites should be opened with which browsers. These rules can be based on the parts of the URL or in which app the link was clicked.

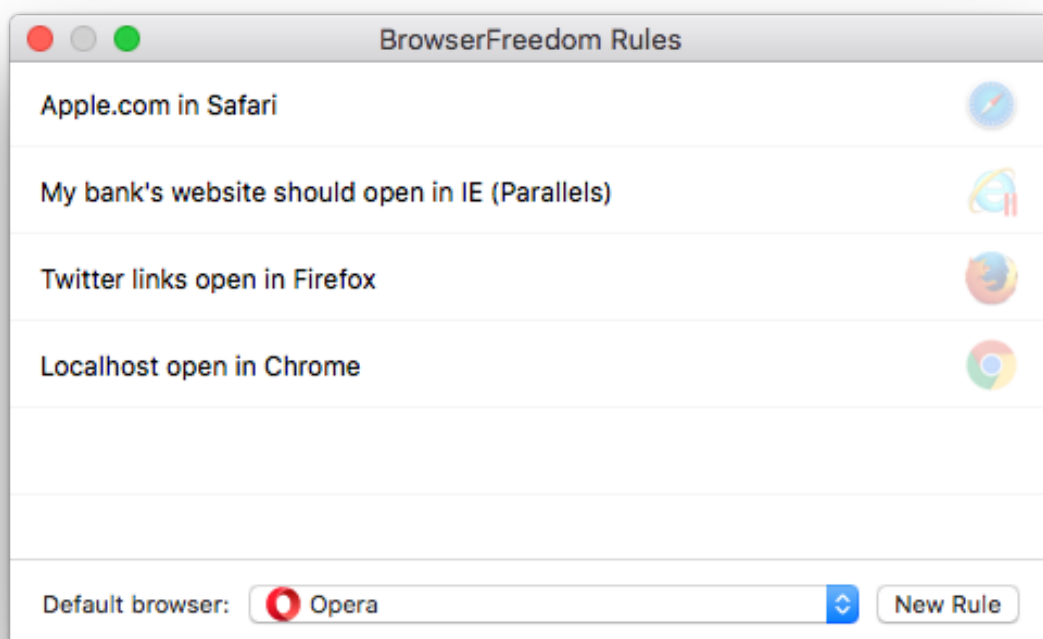
For instance, let's consider this link: <https://getbrowserfreedom.com/example.mp4>

In this link, "https" is the **scheme**, "[getbrowserfreedom.com](https://getbrowserfreedom.com)" is the **host**, "/"example.mp4" is the **path** and "mp4" is the **extension**. These are the parts that can be used to create rules in BrowserFreedom.

Additionally, if the user wants to always open links clicked within certain apps on a specific browser, there's the **app** property, which could be set to "Twitter", for instance, to match links clicked while using the Twitter app for OS X.

## First launch

When first launched, BrowserFreedom will ask you to become the computer's default browser. BrowserFreedom itself is not a browser, but It can handle URLs and pass them to the "real" browsers based on the rules defined. If no rule matches a specific URL, It just opens It in the default browser set by the user inside the app.



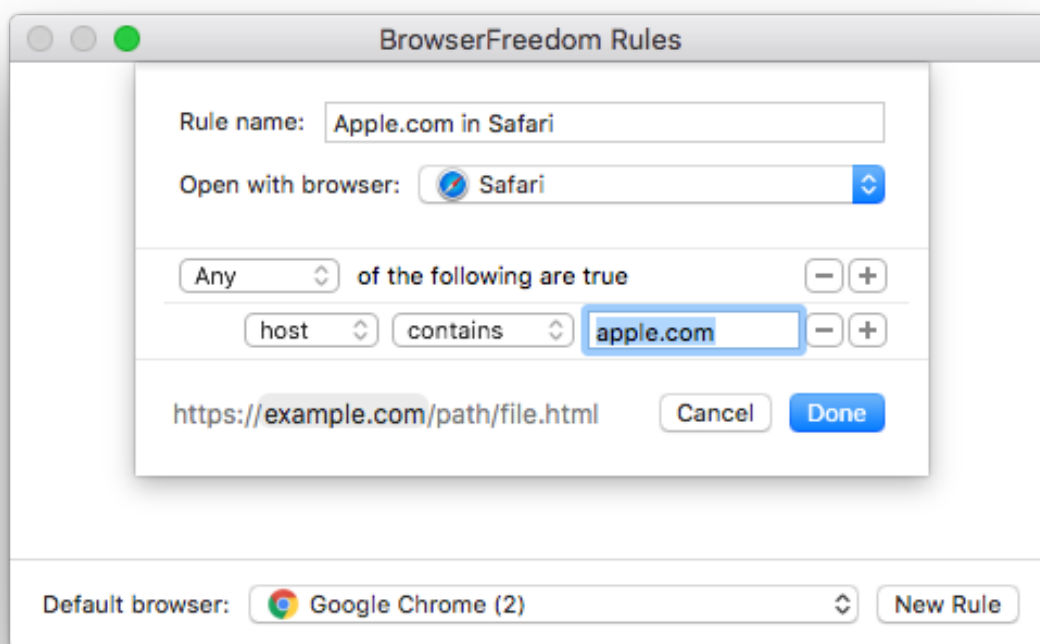
## Creating a rule

To create a rule, click the “New Rule” button in the lower-right, set a descriptive name for the rule, select which browser will be used for links matching that rule and then start adding conditions.

The most used conditions will probably be “host”, to open a certain site in a specific browser, or “app”, to open links from an app in a specific browser.

After naming the rule, selecting the browser and adding the conditions, click “Done” to save the rule.

The rule is now in effect and the window can be closed. When the configuration window is closed, the app keeps running in the background.



## Fast default browser switching

With fast default browser switching, a global shortcut is created which allows quick access to all browsers installed on the system and allows you to switch the default browser.

To create this keyboard shortcut, go to "Preferences" on the app's main menu.

On the preferences sheet, check "Enable fast default browser switching" and press the key combination you want to use, I personally use command+option+B.

## Enabling and disabling browsers

While the preferences window is still open, take the opportunity to uncheck any apps that appear on the list at the top which you don't want to use as browsers. Some apps register themselves as browsers with the system even though they are not (Evernote and Parallels are good examples of this). Unchecking those apps on the preferences window does nothing to them, It only hides them from appearing in fast default browser switching and on the default browser selection menu.

