

How to Fix ERR_CACHE_MISS Issue in Google Chrome

TechRounder PDF Edition

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Quick answer

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Google Chrome users often encounter the ERR_CACHE_MISS error, which can disrupt their browsing experience, particularly when submitting forms or loading pages. This issue primarily stems from problems with Chrome's caching mechanism, causing errors in retrieving stored website data. This article provides a detailed breakdown of the error, explains its root causes, and offers step-by-step solutions to resolve and prevent it in the future.

ERR_CACHE_MISS Error

What Is ERR_CACHE_MISS?

The ERR_CACHE_MISS error in Google Chrome occurs when the browser fails to retrieve necessary cache data. It is commonly associated with form submissions, page reloads, and website navigation. Error messages may include:

- "Confirm Form Resubmission - ERR_CACHE_MISS"
- "This page isn't working right now - ERR_CACHE_MISS"
- "Your submission could not be processed due to a cache error."

Why Does This Happen?

Chrome uses cached data to improve browsing speed and performance. When cache-related issues arise, they can lead to this error due to:

1. Corrupted Cache Files - The stored cache data may be outdated or invalid.
2. Incorrect Cache-Control Headers - Websites might not handle caching properly, particularly with POST requests.
3. Browser Extensions Interfering - Ad blockers, security plugins, or VPN extensions may cause conflicts.
4. Network or DNS Issues - Misconfigured DNS settings or unstable network connections can prevent proper caching.
5. Chrome Browser Bugs - Older versions of Chrome may have unresolved caching issues.
6. Server Misconfigurations - Websites may lack the correct HTTP headers or have security policies that prevent caching.

How the Error Affects Browsing

The ERR_CACHE_MISS error impacts users in various ways:

- Interrupted browsing flow - Users must manually refresh or resubmit data.

- Duplicate submissions - A major concern in financial transactions and e-commerce purchases.
- Slow page loads - Since cached data cannot be accessed, sites reload fully from the server.
- Website access issues - Some websites may become inaccessible if the error persists.

For developers, this error can be particularly problematic when testing web applications, as improper cache configurations can cause inconsistent test results.

Diagnosing the Issue

To properly troubleshoot this error, follow these steps:

1. Identify When It Occurs

- After form submissions - Common in login and checkout pages.
- During page reloads - May indicate cache corruption.
- When using the back button - Especially on form-heavy sites.
- Only on certain websites - Indicates a possible site-specific issue.

2. Use Chrome DevTools for Debugging

- Open DevTools ('Ctrl + Shift + I' on Windows, 'Cmd + Option + I' on Mac)
- Go to the Network tab
- Check failed requests to identify POST request issues
- View headers for missing or incorrect 'Cache-Control' settings

3. Test in Incognito Mode

- Open an Incognito window ('Ctrl + Shift + N')
- Load the problematic site and see if the error persists
- If resolved, an extension or cached data is likely causing the issue

Step-by-Step Solutions

1. Reload the Page and Restart Chrome

Sometimes, a simple hard refresh can resolve temporary cache issues:

- Windows: 'Ctrl + F5'
- Mac: 'Cmd + Shift + R'
- Alternatively, type 'chrome://restart' in the address bar and press Enter.

2. Clear Browser Cache

- Go to Chrome Settings -> Privacy & Security -> Clear Browsing Data
- Select "Cached images and files"
- Choose "All time" as the time range
- Click "Clear Data"

3. Disable Browser Extensions

- Navigate to 'chrome://extensions/'
- Disable ad blockers, security plugins, or VPNs
- Restart Chrome and test again

4. Update Google Chrome

- Go to 'chrome://settings/help'
- Chrome will automatically check for updates
- If an update is available, restart the browser

5. Reset Network & DNS Settings

On Windows:

1. Open Command Prompt (Admin)
2. Run the following commands: 'ipconfig /release ipconfig /flushdns ipconfig /renew netsh int ip set dns netsh winsock reset'
3. Restart your computer

On Mac:

1. Open Terminal
2. Run: 'sudo dscacheutil -flushcache sudo killall -HUP mDNSResponder'
3. Restart your computer

6. Disable Cache in DevTools (For Developers)

- Open DevTools ('Ctrl + Shift + I')
- Go to Network tab
- Check "Disable cache"
- Keep DevTools open while refreshing the page

7. Reset Chrome Settings

If all else fails, resetting Chrome can resolve persistent issues:

- Go to Chrome Settings -> Reset settings
- Select "Restore settings to their original defaults"
- Click "Reset settings" and restart Chrome

Alternative Solutions

If the issue persists, consider these additional workarounds:

Try a Different Browser

- If the problem is limited to Chrome, try using Firefox, Edge, or Safari.

Use Incognito Mode for Form Submissions

- This prevents caching issues when submitting sensitive forms.

For Web Developers

- Implement the POST-redirect-GET (PRG) pattern to prevent form resubmissions.
- Use proper cache headers in server configurations: 'Header set Cache-Control "no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate"' 'add_header Cache-Control "no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate";'

Preventing Future Occurrences

Regular Maintenance

- Clear cache and cookies every few weeks.
- Keep Chrome updated to avoid outdated cache handling issues.
- Restart your computer and router periodically to refresh network settings.

Extension Management

- Limit the number of installed extensions.
- Disable extensions that interfere with site functionality.

Network Stability

- Use a wired connection for important transactions.
- Ensure DNS settings are correctly configured.

Security Best Practices

- Enable Safe Browsing in Chrome to protect against phishing and malware.
- Clear sensitive data regularly to maintain privacy.

Conclusion

The ERR_CACHE_MISS error in Chrome can be frustrating, but it is usually fixable with the right approach. By understanding the underlying causes, diagnosing the issue correctly, and following the step-by-step solutions provided, users can quickly resolve and prevent this error in the future. For developers.. By maintaining browser hygiene and keeping network settings optimized, users can enjoy a smoother browsing experience without cache-related disruptions.