

Javascript debugging

Firefox

Install [Firebug](#)¹

Important note about firefox3

Firebug isn't working properly in Firefox 3 beta (coming by default with Ubuntu Hardy).

We recommend installing firefox 2 separately to get a more stable debugging environment. Below is a strategy to keep this firefox 2 installment completely separated from your distribution's defaults. (This involves adding a new user to ensure that the settings and profiles (kept in hidden files in the user's home directory) are not conflicting).

1. # adduser ffx2
2. download the tgz of ffx2 from <http://getfirefox.com>², and copy that to ~ffx2/
3. install the software as this new user 'ffx2'
 1. \$ su - ffx2;
 2. \$ mkdir local; cd local
 3. \$ tar zxvf zxvf ../fire*tar.gz
 4. \$ cd firefox
4. still as ffx2: create a fresh profile (ubuntu seems to populate it with some default settings only making sense to ffx3)
 1. \$./firefox/firefox --profileManager
5. add some useful start-stop scripts (so you don't have to change users to run ffx2)
 1. \$ vi .bash_aliases

```
#launch ffx with param passing
ffx2() {
  xhost +;
  sudo su - ffx2 -c "export DISPLAY=:0.0; ~/local/firefox/firefox $* &";
}
```

2.

```
# kill it off in case it hangs
kffx2() {
  sudo killall -u ffx2 -s 9 -r firefox
}
```

Internet Explorer

option 1: [DebugBar / Companion.js](#)³

Installation involves:

- Install [Microsoft Script Debugger](#)⁴.
- And then [Installing Companion.JS](#)⁵

1. <http://www.getfirebug.com/>
3. <http://www.my-debugbar.com/wiki/CompanionJS/HomePage>

option 2: [Visual Web Developer Express](#)⁶

Installation involves:

- Download and (lengthy) install, plus a required reboot half-way.
- Registration (and getting a windows live id) to obtain a free key

Recommended usage trick from [Bernie](#)⁷.

6. <http://www.microsoft.com/express/download/>

7. <http://www.berniecode.com/blog/2007/03/08/>