

Double Click Show & Tell Notes - November 2024

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AdGuard for Safari Ad-Blocking extension (free)

AdGuard for Safari was designed to conform to Apple's restrictions for ad blocking browser extensions and is the most popular ad blocker for Safari. It is free and can protect you from ads, trackers, phishing, and malicious websites.

<https://adguard.com/en/adguard-safari/overview.html>

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DuckDuckGo Privacy for Safari (free)

DuckDuckGo Privacy Essentials comes packed with best-in-class privacy essentials and makes browsing Safari even faster. It's main function is to block tracking cookies, i.e. to prevent most 3rd-party cookies from tracking you as you browse from site to site.

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/duckduckgo-privacy-for-safari/id1482920575?ct=funnel_help

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Mullvad VPN (about \$5.50 per month)

Mullvad is a highly regarded VPN service. It offers a DNS content blocking option: DNS blocking can block unwanted content on the entire system rather than just in the browser.

<https://mullvad.net/en>

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Ad blocking and tracker blocking test results

Ad and tracker blockers were tested using the current version of Safari (v. 18.1). Using an ad and tracker test page, the percentage of sites that were blocked is listed for various blocker scenarios, including no blocking, single agent blocking and combined blocking.

Test page: <https://d3ward.github.io/toolz/adblock.html>

04% All blockers off

30% DuckDuckGo

96% Mullvad (**allows** ssl.google-analytics.com and weather-analytics-events.apple.com)

96% Mullvad + DDG (**blocks** ssl.google-analytics.com, **allows** weather-analytics-events.apple.com)

99% AdGuard (**allows** samsung-com.112.2o7.net)

99% AdGuard *with added user rule* (**blocks** samsung-com.112.2o7.net)

99% Adguard + Mullvad (**blocks** samsung-com.112.2o7.net)

99% DuckDuckGo + Adguard (**blocks** samsung-com.112.2o7.net)

Notes:

DuckDuckGo and DDG = DuckDuckGo Privacy Essentials

Mullvad = Mullvad VPN with DNS Content Blockers enabled

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MailTrackerBlocker (\$6.99)

MailTrackerBlocker is an email tracker blocker for Apple Mail on macOS. Email marketers and other interests embed invisible trackers in HTML emails so they can track if you've read an email, which device you used, how often, when and where you opened your email. Enable the included Mail Extension to find out who is tracking you and to block these spy pixels in your emails.

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mailtrackerblocker-for-mail/id6450760473?mt=12>

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Nightfall (free)

Nightfall lets you manage macOS's dark mode from the menu bar. Left click the icon to toggle dark mode; right click to reveal additional options.

<https://github.com/r-thomson/Nightfall>

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