

Disabling Multi-Touch Swipe in Chrome on OSX to Prevent Back and Forward Actions

This is a nifty little tidbit that could have saved me many a lost page or form fill in Chrome. If you have the Swipe configured for OSX (as I do), it also works as the back and forward button in your Chrome browser. Swipe to go back sounds like a great idea, right?

Right. This is handy sometimes, but not when you spend 15 minutes filling in a web form and then accidentally swipe left with a second finger on the trackpad and chrome goes back a page losing all your work.

(Spoiler alert: This is a very, very, very anecdotal situation I just experienced)

How to Disable Chrome Swipe to Go Back

Just go out to a Terminal window and type the following:

```
defaults write com.google.Chrome AppleEnableSwipeNavigateWithScrolls -bool FALSE
```

You will have to restart your browser in order to complete the change. That will stop the swipe from invoking the “back” or “forward” action within Google Chrome for the two-finger swipe gesture.

How to Enable Chrome to Swipe Back

As you can imagine, the reverse of the command by changing FALSE to TRUE will bring the swipe actions back for you.

```
defaults write com.google.Chrome AppleEnableSwipeNavigateWithScrolls -bool TRUE
```

Hope that helps you as much as it did for me!