# A yellow flame with a blue text  Description automatically generated(Approx. 470 words)

# Firefox Browser

#### What is new and improved

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During a Zoom meeting with one of my Milwaukee computer clubs and Senior Planet "Lunch and Learn," there was a discussion about the Firefox web browser. I do not personally use Firefox as my primary browser, but I decided to give it a quick look to see what is new.

Firefox constantly receives updates with new features and improvements, so some new features might depend on which version you are using. Here are some noteworthy features recently added to Firefox:

#### **ENHANCED PRIVACY**

* **Copy Link Without Site Tracking:** This feature ensures that copied links no longer contain tracking information attached by websites. This is a handy tool for preventing your browsing activity from being monitored across different platforms.
* **Global Privacy Control:** This opt-in feature allows you to inform websites that you do not want your data shared or sold. It is enabled by default in private browsing mode and helps you take control of your online privacy.
* **Enhanced Canvas Fingerprinting Protection:** Firefox's private windows and ETP-Strict privacy configuration now includes improved protection against canvas fingerprinting, a technique used to track users based on their unique browser configurations.
* **Cookie Banner Blocker:** This feature automatically blocks cookie banners and refuses cookies for supported websites in private browsing mode. It is currently being rolled out for users in Germany and might become available in other regions soon.
* **URL Tracking Protection:** This feature removes unnecessary tracking parameters from URLs, making it harder for websites to track your browsing activity across different platforms. It is enabled by default in private windows for all users in Germany and might be expanded to other regions later.

#### **IMPROVED PERFORMANCE AND FUNCTIONALITY**

* **Hardware decoding support for AV1 video codec:** This feature enables smoother layback of AV1 videos by utilizing your **c**omputer's graphics hardware. It requires the Microsoft AV1 Video Extension on Windows systems.
* **Voice Control commands on macOS**: Mac users can now control Firefox using voice commands, making browsing more convenient and hands-free.
* **Wayland compositor on Linux:** Firefox on Linux now defaults to the Wayland compositor when available, leading to improved touchpad and touchscreen gestures, swipe-to-navigate functionality, better graphics performance, and more.
* **Larger and clearer focus indicator**: The focus indicator highlighting the currently active element in Firefox has been improved with increased size, contrast, and a white box shadow for better visibility.

These are just some of the recent new features in Firefox. The browser is constantly evolving, so be sure to keep an eye out for future updates that might bring even more exciting improvements and privacy protections.

I hope this gives you a good overview of some of the cool new things you can find in Firefox! Let me know if you have any questions.