

Mozilla/Firefox News

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Created *12/10/2018 - 10:27am*

Submitted by Roy Schestowitz on Friday 12th of October 2018 10:27:28 AM Filed under [Moz/FF](#) [1]

- [Slimmer and simpler static atoms](#) [2]

In Firefox's code we use the term atom rather than intern, and atom table rather than string intern pool. I don't know why; those names have been used for a long time.

Furthermore, Firefox distinguishes between static atoms, which are those that are chosen at compile time and can be directly referred to via an identifier, and dynamic atoms, which are added on-demand at runtime. This post is about the former.

- [Home Monitoring with Things Gateway 0.6](#) [3]

When it comes to smart home devices, protecting the safety and security of your home when you aren't there is a popular area of adoption. Traditional home security systems are either completely offline (an alarm sounds in the house, but nobody is notified) or professionally monitored (with costly subscription services). Self monitoring of your connected home therefore makes sense, but many current smart home solutions still require ongoing service fees and send your private data to a centralised cloud service.

- [WebRender newsletter #25](#) [4]

As usual, WebRender is making rapid progress. The team is working hard on nailing the remaining few blockers for enabling WebRender in Beta, after which focus will shift to the Release blockers. It's hard to single out a particular highlight this week as the majority of bugs

resolved were very impactful.

- [DevEdition 63 Beta 14 Testday, October 12th](#) [5]

We are happy to let you know that Friday, October 12th, we are organizing Firefox 63 Beta 14 Testday. We'll be focusing our testing on: Flash Compatibility and Block Autoplay V2.

- [Mozilla B-Team: happy bmo push day!Mozilla B-Team: happy bmo push day!](#) [6]

- [Mozilla B-Team: happy bmo push day \(last friday\)](#) [7]

- [Firefox removes core product support for RSS/Atom feeds](#) [8]

from Firefox 64 onwards, RSS/Atom feed support will be handled via add-ons, rather than in-product.

[...]

By virtue of being baked into the core of Firefox, these features have long had outsized maintenance and security costs relative to their usage. Making sure these features are as well-tested, modern and secure as the rest of Firefox would take a surprising amount of engineering work, and unfortunately the usage of these features does not justify such an investment: feed previews and live bookmarks are both used in around 0.01% of sessions.

As one example of those costs, 'live bookmarks' use a very old, very slow way to access the bookmarks database, and it would take a lot of time and effort to bring it up to the performance standards we expect from Quantum. Likewise, the feed viewer has its own 'special' XML parser, distinct from the main Firefox one, and has not had a significant update in styling or functionality in the last seven years. The engineering work we'd need to bring these features, in their current states, up to modern standards is complicated by how few automated tests there are for anything in this corner of the codebase.

- [Firefox Reality 1.0.1 - with recline mode](#) [9]

Firefox Reality 1.0.1 is now available for download in the Viveport, Oculus, and Daydream

app stores. This is a minor point release, focused on fixing several performance issues and adding crash reporting UI and (thanks to popular request!) a reclined viewing mode.

[Moz/FF](#)

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Links:

- [1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/118>
- [2] <https://blog.mozilla.org/nnethercote/2018/10/12/slimmer-and-simpler-static-atoms/>
- [3] <https://hacks.mozilla.org/2018/10/home-monitoring-with-things-gateway-0-6/>
- [4] <https://mozillagfx.wordpress.com/2018/10/11/webrender-newsletter-25/>
- [5] <https://quality.mozilla.org/2018/10/firefox-63-beta-14-testdayoctober-12th/>
- [6] <https://mozilla-bteam.tumblr.com/post/178925565713>
- [7] <https://mozilla-bteam.tumblr.com/post/178925508783>
- [8] <https://www.gijsk.com/blog/2018/10/firefox-removes-core-product-support-for-rss-atom-feeds/>
- [9] <https://blog.mozvr.com/firefox-reality-1-0-1-with-recline-mode/>