Mozilla: The Android Firefox Preview, Glean Spyware, and Firefox on Librem 5 (PureOS)

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Firefox Preview for Android - Interesting [2]

After I've published my recent series of Firefox articles, mostly the review of versions 71 & 72, and the important essay on why you should be using it as your primary browser, I got a bunch of emails from readers suggesting I take Firefox Preview for a spin. This seems to be the next-gen edition of Firefox for Android, designed to be faster, lighter and more appealing, and hopefully endear a bunch of hearts to Mozilla's effort.

While I'm not too keen on anything touch, I still want to be able to have a hassle-free, stupidity-free browsing experience anywhere, including the mobile, so I set about testing Firefox Preview. As the test device, I used my Motorola Moto G6 phone, which ought to be fairly representative of the kind of results we should be seeing. Let us begin, then.

William Lachance: This week in Glean (special guest post): mozregression telemetry (part 1)[3]

As I mentioned last time I talked about mozregression, I have been thinking about adding some telemetry to the system to better understand the usage of this tool, to justify some part of Mozilla spending some cycles maintaining and improving it (assuming my intuition that this tool is heavily used is confirmed).

Coincidentally, the Telemetry client team has been working on a new library for measuring these types of things in a principled way called Glean, which even has python bindings! Using this has the potential in saving a lot of work: not only does Glean provide a framework for submitting data, our backend systems are automatically set up to process data submitted via into Glean into BigQuery tables, which can then easily be queried using tools like
I thought it might be useful to go through some of what I've been exploring, in case others at Mozilla are interested in instrumenting their pet internal tools or projects. If this effort is successful, I'll distill these notes into a tutorial in the Glean documentation.

- **Desktop Firefox in Your Pocket with the Librem 5** [4]

  The first part tells Firefox to use the Wayland display stack instead of X11, which has fullscreen support with keyboard input. Finally --no-remote is a workaround to a Firefox bug, which has already been fixed and will find its way into Debian, as well as the PureOS and the Librem 5 soon.

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