

# Website Validity Checklist

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Use the following checklist, outlined in the power point presentation, to know if the websites you are researching are valid or not.

- ✓ The site is professional.

**Where did you find this site? Who published it? (Check the copyright info)**

- ✓ Anyone can create a webpage. So check to see is the website a professional site. Professional sites include:  
.gov/.org/.mil/.museum/.aero/.edu

**How does your cite end?**

- ✓ Is it clear who has written the information? Check to see if the author of the website is qualified. Credentials should prove the author's knowledge and experience on the subject of the website (Ph.D/ Dr., professor, professional, business owner, company owner, etc.).

**Who created the site? AND who is author of the particular article you are reading?**

- ✓ Information must be credible and error free.

**Scan the website and check information on website with other scholarly sources. If the information cannot be produced elsewhere it is most likely non-credible. Write down two other website sources where you find the same information.**

- ✓ Site is published and copyrighted.

**Look on the webpage to see if website has a sponsor. The sponsor of the webpage must be reputable or put out by a known scholarly company (Time Magazine and Mc-Graw Hill). Write down the sponsor. (Look for a large organization name or logo)**

- ✓ Links to other sites verify the same information.

**Are there links to other sites? This establishes credibility. View these other sites. Information between main site and sites provided through links should be the same. Do they? Describe what these links are and explain if they work or not.**

✓ References

**Search the website for references and links that reflect the quality and amount of research put into work. List two references that you have found.**

✓ Relevant topics

**Topics discussed on website should be relevant to what website is about. The aims of the website should be clear. Search the site to see if the site fulfills its aims about its topic. *Does the website stay on topic? Explain in 2 sentences below if it does or not.***

✓ Information is unbiased.

**Are there advertisements on the page? The website should show a minimum of bias. As you read the website ask yourself "Is the author trying to sway my opinion?" If so, the website may be a form of advertisement, not reliable information. *How does the website sway you to think one way? OR does your website offer both sides of an issue? In 2 sentences, describe.***

✓ Website must be current.

**When was the site produced? Check to see when the webpage was published or when it was last updated. The date or latest update should be current. *List the website date.***