

Before you use that website in your research...

GET

R E A D T H E U R L .

- Look for the owning entity (person, company, or organization) in the website address (URL). Are they an authority on the subject?
- Identify the URL extension:
gov = government com = commercial or business mil = military
edu = education org = any organization net = any organization

E X A M I N E T H E C O N T E N T .

- Based on what you already know about your topic, is the information on the website useful & accurate?
- Are additional links and resources provided?
- Is the site current and updated? (look for a date, often at the bottom of the webpage)

A S K A B O U T T H E A U T H O R O R O W N E R .

- Sometimes the author is hard to find. Look for clues in the URL, on "About" pages within the site, or use easyWhois.com to find clues as to the author.

L O O K A T T H E L I N K S .

- Look at links to other websites. Are the linked websites credible?
- Use altavista.com to look for "back" links by typing link:<http://theurlyouwanttocheck.com>