PRO NEWS INSIGHT

Website check worksheet

Tick a box when you complete a check. Record anything you still need to verify.

Website address _____ **Date** _____

Identify the site

- [ ] **Copy the full address.**
  Compare each letter, hyphen and ending with a source you already trust.
- [ ] **Find the publisher.**
  Open About and Contact. Record the name the site gives and where it appears.
- [ ] **Cross-check the identity.**
  Find an independent source linking the same organisation to this exact domain.
- [ ] **Read the registration record.**
  Use ICANN Lookup for supported domains. Note the date and any redacted fields.

Check the claims

- [ ] **Choose one claim that matters.**
  Write down the exact statement, along with its author and publication date.
- [ ] **Follow its source.**
  Find the original notice, report or dataset. Read the passage that supports the claim.
- [ ] **Check dates and context.**
  Compare the date, country and scope in the source with the article you are reading.
- [ ] **Check who benefits.**
  Look for an advertising label, affiliate disclosure or an offer to sell a placement.

Before you act

- [ ] **Read browser warnings.**
  A certificate or deceptive-site warning is a reason to leave the page.
- [ ] **Look up the exact address.**
  Record the date and wording of the Google Safe Browsing result. Status can change.
- [ ] **Inspect the destination.**
  Preview the address behind a link before following it or starting a download.
- [ ] **Verify sensitive requests separately.**
  For a payment or login request, open the service from an address you already know.

Evidence or question to follow up

Use these lookups ICANN Lookup Google Safe Browsing FTC phishing guidance