



Tips for Evaluating Web Pages

Accuracy

- Are the sources for any factual information clearly listed so they can be verified in another source?
- Is the information free of grammatical, spelling, and typographical errors?
- Is it clear who has the ultimate responsibility for the accuracy of the content of the material?
- If there are charts/graphs containing statistical data, are they clearly labeled and easy to read?
- What is the purpose of the document and why was it produced?

Authority

- Is it clear who is responsible for the contents of the page?
- Are the author's qualifications for writing on this topic clearly stated?
- Is there a link to a page describing the purpose of the page's sponsor?
- Is there a way of verifying the legitimacy of the page's sponsor?
- If the material is protected by copyright, is the name of the copyright holder given?

Objectivity

- What goals/objectives does this page meet?
- How detailed is the information?
- What opinions are expressed by the author?
- Is the information provided as a public service?
- Is the information free of advertising?
- If there is any advertising on the page, is it clearly differentiated from the informational content?

Currency

- Are there dates on the page to indicate: when the page was written; when the page was first placed on the Web; when the page was last revised?
- Are there any other indications that the material is kept current?
- If material is presented in graphs/charts, is it clearly stated when the data was gathered?
- If the information is published in different editions, is it clearly labeled what edition the page is from?

Coverage

- Is there an indication that the page has been completed, and is not still under construction?
 - If there is a print equivalent to the Web page, is there a clear indication of whether the entire work is available on the Web or only parts of it?
 - If there are links, do they complement the document's theme?
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