

Real and Fake Websites

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Introduction


Misinformation is everywhere you can see. There are media outlets lying to you, websites with pages of fake information, and textbooks that may just be wrong about history. In this day and age, it is important to be able to understand the difference between real and fake websites and how to spot them.

Real VS Fake

Let us say someone created three real websites and three fake websites to show people, asking them to spot the difference between real and fake. Would the average person be able to? This would definitely spread awareness on how easy it is to create fake websites and fake information, but people have been doing this for over a decade now.

First off, why do people spread misinformation and create fake websites? Psychologically, it may be for power or for followers. If people read a clickbait headline and it gets clicks, it only makes the person responsible want to do it again. Some people create fake information just to troll others. It can be a pass time to some, although it does not make it right. It can be the same situation with phishing emails and scams. They want to attract gullible people who may just not know any better.

Now, how would one go about spotting fake websites and/or information? Most of it does not lie in the information itself, but in the website. Websites with little transparency or



information about the author/founder are usually untrustworthy. If they do not cite any sources or do any research, it is also likely fake. It is always good to cross-reference information from one source to another, just to make sure it is trustworthy. Looking into the background of the website can help determine if it is fake or real.