

Fake websites are a common threat in the online world that can persuade users to provide their passwords, personal information, and even detailed financial information. These sites try to mimic their real websites design, branding, and URL. The three websites listed are Amazon, Bed bathroom beyond and Tiffany Co.

Let's start with Amazon. In this example, there is a clear error in the website URL as the website is "Amazzonwarehouse.com". The real website consists of just Amazon.com. As well as the URL, this fake website offers a too good to be true sale that consists of all products 70-90% off. Amazon's legitimate website rarely offers these types of discounts even on their prime days and the discounts are usually limited to certain categories not all items. When a user clicks on a product, they are directed to a different link outside of the original website. Amazon products offer their items within the same website and would only redirect you to their app.

Next is Bed, Bath, and Beyond or in this case bedbathclose[.]com. The first mistake here is seen in the URL as it is not remotely close to the original. It is missing an entire word and consists of characters that should not even be in the URL. Within the URL, there is a unlocked "padlock" next to the URL stating that the website is not secure. This website exploits this company's recent bankruptcy and offers unrealistic discounts that consists of 50-80% off. The real company only offers these "close out" sales in person, since they did in fact go bankrupt. There are a few other errors on the website such as font, unusable links that lead to a blank screen, and very poor navigation. The images used on this website are pixelated and are screenshots from the original website.

Lastly, is Tiffany Co. or in this case Tiffanycoshop[.]com. The first giveaway are the extra characters in the URL and consists of an unlocked "padlock" in the URL stating that it is not a secure and legitimate website. Tiffany Co is a high-end luxury brand and is known to be priced significantly high. On the other hand, items on these websites are priced considerably lower and offer unrealistic discounts. An "about us" section in a legitimate website is essential especially for high end brands and this website does not include this at all. Also, social media links are supplied on the page but when it is clicked it directs users to the social media platform not a specific page. By looking up the domain of this website you are able to see when the domain was created, and it was created in April 2023. Tiffany Co has been a company significantly longer than 2023 and has had their online presence longer as well.