Internet Skills 201

Mercer Public Library
Teresa Schmidt, library director
August 19, 2019

Let's get started!

https://pir.org/internet101quiz/

How does the internet work?

Who regulates it?

ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) - maintains IP and DNS

Domain names

Web hosting

Who reviews information on the internet?

What's a URL?

http://foldername.domain.TLD/folders/folders/folders/file.asp

HTTP - Hypertext Transfer Protocol

HTTPS - Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure

Domain name

Top-level domain - .com, .gov, .edu, country domains (.ca, .us, .uk, .ru, .tv),
         and newer TLDs like .info, .inc, .travel, and many more

Look carefully!
cgi-ebay.com is not Ebay, *www.mybonk.com* is not your bank, *youtube.com.ru* is not YouTube!

What is a browser?

Firefox

Chrome

Opera

Safari

Microsoft Edge

Internet Explorer

Tor

Do you need or want more than one?

|	THE SURFACE WEB	THE DEEP WEB	THE DARK WEB
How to Access	Traditional search engine	Requires password, encryption, or specialty software	Requires Tor Project or similar to view
Includes	All indexed web pages	All unindexed web pages	Subset of unindexed web pages inside the deep web
Size	Approximately 4.47 billion pages	Massive, likely 4-5x larger than the Surface web	A subset of the Deep Web, but immeasurable in size
Uses	Email, social media, video, legitimate business websites, etc.	Usually used for legit purposes that require anonymity	Sometimes used for illegal activities
Who uses it?	Anyone with an internet connection	Whistleblowers, journalists, etc.	Hackers, sellers & buyers of illegal merchandise
Can be browsed anonymously?	No, nearly all activity can be seen by your ISP.	Usually, especially if you use a VPN to access.	With precautions, yes.

How do you find things on the web?

Search Engines

Google.com

Bing.com

Yahoo

DuckDuckGo

Ask.com
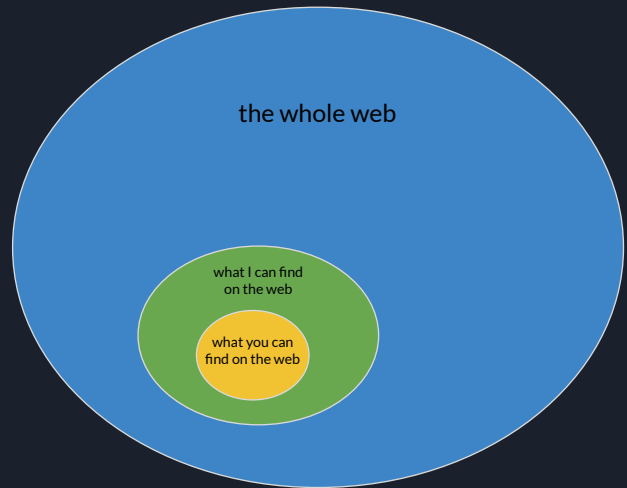
Search engines aren't the last stop
when you're looking for information!

Common Questions

What's a cookie?
Small bits of data stored as text, usually including a unique user identifier and a bit of information about that user. https://www.whoishostingthis.com/resources/cookies-guide/

What's a Virtual Private Network (VPN)?
Allows you to browse the web through another network. Most commonly used for torrenting, bypassing geographic restrictions, avoiding ISP tracking or throttling, OR logging into a corporate network.
https://www.howtogeek.com/133680/htg-explains-what-is-a-vpn/

Do I really need to create unique passwords? What's a password manager?
LastPass, Dashlane, 1Password, OR built-in features in Google, iOS

What's two-factor authentication? What are biometrics?

Common Scams

Tech Support scams
Blue Screen of Death (BSOD), tech support, ransomware, popup warnings, even phone calls
NEVER call the number "just in case" and never give an unknown person access to your computer!

Phishing and Spoofing
Sending emails and mocking up sites to steal your login information

"Social" scams
Romance interest, grandchild, fake Facebook profiles, your package was delayed
Also play on fear and desire to avoid trouble: IRS, Social Security, the police
NEVER call back "just in case"

What's two-factor authentication? What are biometrics?

Evaluating Content Online

It's NOT hopeless!
There are good ways to evaluate information online, and there are good online sources.

What's the CRAAP test?
Currency, relevance, authority, accuracy, purpose

Snopes.com and Factcheck.org
Both good sites for quick fact checking, although neither is foolproof.

General observations
Pay attention: What's the URL? Is there an About page with real information on it? Are articles credited to an author, and is there author bio information? Is the site full of intrusive ads? Are there dates on the articles? What's the writing style?

Security steps to take

Utilize anti-virus and anti-malware software
Windows Defender is built-in to Windows 8 and 10.

Remove pre-installed software you don't use
Don't install helper toolbars or other unnecessary software.

Don't allow websites to send notifications
These are super-annoying at best! Always say "block" or "no thanks," even on a website that you otherwise trust.

Set your browser to block pop-up windows
This can be a common way in for malicious messages like tech support scams

Watch for unusual messages when browsing
There's no reason a website needs to install a missing *.dll* file or anything else, really!

Keyboard shortcuts (aka 'hotkeys')

Ctl-c = copy

Ctl-v = paste

Ctl-x = undo

Ctl-s = save

Alt-F4 (PC) or Control-Q (Mac) = quit program

Control-Shift-Escape (PC) = task manager

Option-Command-Esc (Mac) = Force quit applications

Fun things to do online

Check out the Wayback Machine at archive.org

Check out the top 50 websites - www.alexa.com/topsites

Explore the universe from your desktop with Google Sky Tool - www.google.com/sky/

Stay on top of new things with howtogeek.com

Check out EFF's privacy suggestions: techcrunch.com/2018/04/14/how-to-save-your-privacy-from-the-internets-clutches/

What are your favorite sites?