



FactCheckNI



HOME

ABOUT



TOPICS



FACT CHECKS

EXPLAINERS

TOOLKIT

SUBMIT CLAIM

TRAINING

NEWS

EVENTS

CONTACT

Toolkit

Think. Check. Share.

1. Always ask yourself: “Is this information correct?”
2. Check the source: Is it trustworthy?
3. Share accurate information

Here are some simple, practical tools anyone can use to identify misinformation

Some questions to help stamp out false news

Where’s it from?

A trusted source is your safest option.

If you don’t know the source, check out the about page or ask yourself why they’re sharing the story.

If there’s no source, search for one.

You can search for images to find out where they’ve been seen before or search for the story to see where it started.

If it doesn’t look right, be careful.

False news can be hidden on websites made to look like the real thing. Look for the little clues: phony URLs, bad spelling, or awkward layouts.

What's missing?

Get the whole story, not just a headline.

One click can help you spot false news. Read the whole story and watch out for images, numbers, and quotes that don't have sources or that might have been taken out of context.

Images can be faked.

False news stories often contain images or videos that have been changed. Even real images can be made to look like things they're not with a false date or caption.

Check what other people say.

Check out the sources they give. See what trusted news sites or factcheckers are saying – breaking news is quickly picked up by different news sources. In an emergency, look for the official emergency services.

How do you feel?

People who make false news try to manipulate your feelings.

They know that making you angry or worried means they're more likely to get clicks. If it's winding you up, stop and think how you could check it before you share.

If it looks too good to be true, it probably is.

Hope can be used to manipulate us too. Most of the time, the miracle cure doesn't exist.

Don't be the one who doesn't spot the joke.

Sometimes jokes and satire online aren't obvious. Funny or outrageous details, the way it's written, or the site it's on might give it away.

You can also read our beginner's guide

How to teach yourself fact checking

You can read our [Beginner's Guide to Fact Checking](#) and learn some [fact-checking terms](#) at [Co-Inform](#), an EU-funded project to create tools to foster critical thinking and digital literacy for a better-informed society.

Also, these guides will help you spot misinformation and find the most reputable information online:

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- [A beginner's guide to fact checking](#)
- [How-to: Google Cache](#)
- [How-to: Wayback Machine](#)

Full Fact

- [How to find a fact](#)
- [How to spot misleading videos](#)
- [How to spot misleading images](#)
- [How to spot misleading headlines](#)
- [How to spot misleading poll figures](#)
- [How to spot misleading crime reporting](#)

Africa Check

- [Mean, median and mode](#)
- [How to spot cheap, out-of-context and deepfake videos](#)
- [Five steps to fight fake news and false information on WhatsApp](#)
- [Evaluating health claims, quacks and cures](#)
- [Where was that photo taken? How to locate \(almost\) any place on Earth](#)
- [How to verify a Twitter account](#)
- [How to verify a website and the people behind it](#)
- [How to verify images on your smartphone](#)
- [How to spot predatory academic journals in the wild](#)
- [How to stop falling for fake news](#)
- [Defining migration, migrants, and refugees \(and why it matters\)](#)

- [7 steps to detect if someone is talking science nonsense](#)
- [The five-step fact-check](#)
- [Tips to avoid three common statistical errors](#)
- [How to create a map with data](#)
- [How to get started with data visualisation](#)
- [How to get started with data journalism](#)
- [How to spot fakes & hoaxes online](#)
- [Understanding and reporting on opinion polls](#)
- [How reporters can ensure accuracy in their writing](#)
- [Evaluating health claims, quacks and cures](#)

Find fact checkers near you

International organisations [verified](#) by the [International Fact-Checking Network](#) (IFCN):

- Africa: [Africa Check](#)
- Argentina: [Chequeado](#)
- Australia: [The Conversation FactCheck](#); [RMIT ABC Fact Check](#)
- Bosnia & Herzegovina: [Istinomjer](#)
- Brazil: [Aos Fatos](#); [Agência Lupa](#); [Agência Pública – Truco](#)
- France: [France 24 Les Observateurs](#); [Le Monde Décodeurs](#); [Libération Désintox](#)
- Ireland: [TheJournal.ie Fact Check](#)
- Italy: [Pagella Politica](#)
- Georgia: [FactCheck Georgia](#)
- Germany: [Correctiv](#)
- Portugal: [Observador Fact Check](#)
- Serbia: [Istinomer](#)
- Spain: [El Objetivo](#)
- Sweden: [Viralgranskaren](#)
- Turkey: [Dogruluk Payi](#); [Teyit.org](#)
- UK: [Full Fact](#)
- USA: [AP Fact Check](#); [Climate Feedback](#); [Factcheck.org](#); [PolitiFact](#); [Snopes](#); [The Washington Post Fact Checker](#)

You can also learn more about our work with [Co-Inform](#) to foster critical thinking for a better-informed society.



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