

# How to check if a Website is secure

Using SSL to verify  
safety and legitimacy



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## Introduction

Secure Socket Layer (SSL) certificates serve two purposes. They verify the legitimacy of a given website and protect user data.

This PDF will show you how to distinguish between certified websites as well as certification types.



## Glossary

**Browser:** A piece of software, used to access (browse) the Internet. Examples: Microsoft Internet Explorer (IE, Edge); Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, and Google Chrome.

**Decryption:** “Un-scrambling” information and putting it back in its original format.

**Encryption:** Information “scrambling”. This makes it impossible for third parties to use

**Key:** A mathematical formula (algorithm), used to encrypt or decrypt information. The longer they key, the stronger the encryption.

**SSL Certificate:** A type of code used to encrypt and decrypt data online, via the use of keys.



## SSL Certificate Types

There are different types of SSL certification, providing various benefits to the website. The two most common types that you will encounter are Domain Validation SSL certificates and Extended Validation SSL Certificates. All SSL-protected websites have their addresses starting with **https://**.

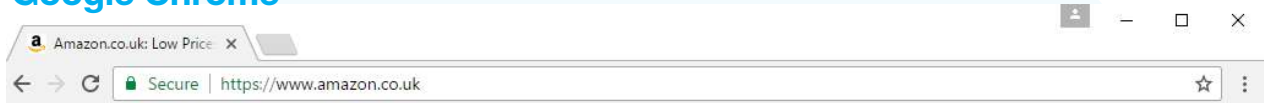


## Domain Validation SSL Certificate

The most basic type of SSL certification, providing safety to the given domain. It is signified by the well-known green padlock in the address bar in front of the **https://**.

How different browsers identify Domain Validation SSL Certificates:

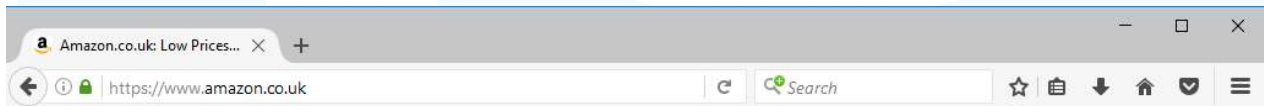
### Google Chrome



### Microsoft Edge



### Mozilla Firefox



### Opera



## Extended Validation SSL Certificate

These SSL certificates grant extended user protection by showing the company name in the address bar as well.

This serves to instil even more trust in the visitors, as they are assured that this is the legitimate website and not some phony scam.

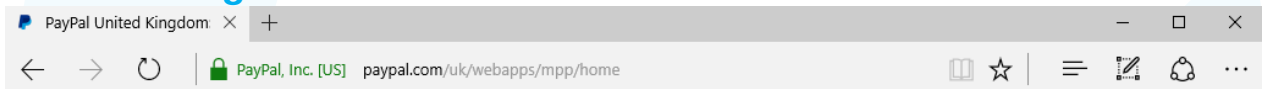
Extended Validation (EV) certificates are only granted to websites that can provide proof for their legitimacy.

How EV SSL Certificates look in the popular browsers:

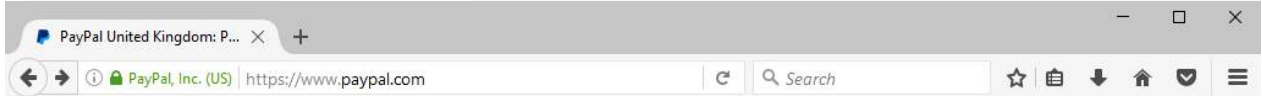
### Google Chrome



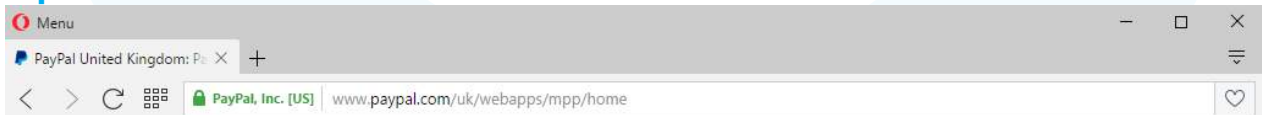
### Microsoft Edge



### Mozilla Firefox



### Opera



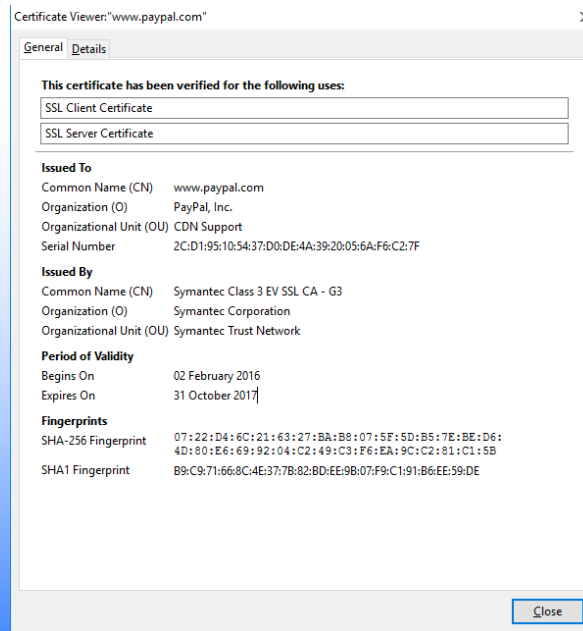
## E-commerce websites and Extended Validation Certificates

EV certificates are a staple when it comes to the security of e-commerce and other sensitive information-collecting websites.

This is done in the name of user comfort and security.

When visiting an EV SSL website, users do not need to be afraid that their details and information can be stolen.

These SSL certificates are never given out without an extensive background checks, making sure that the company is legitimate.



## How do I know if a certificate is valid?

The information that your browser sees about a website is not limited to what it shows you by default in the address bar.

Should you wish to see details such as who the Certificate Authority (the trusted company, issuing the certificate) is, when the certificate was issued, when it expires and more, you can easily review that.

However, this is rarely necessary, as modern day browsers come with a built-in list of CAs that they trust and they will not show self-issued certificates as fully trusted.



## Summary

The sense of security is crucial for Internet users.

This makes it twice as important for business owners along with everyone who is in a website managing position.

On one hand, you need to feel safe as a user and on the other, you want your visitors to feel protected.

Now is the time to join the cause, before Google begins implementing more drastic measures to promote cyber security and SSL awareness.



## Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to download and read this PDF.

Hopefully, the information in it helped you understand **SSL certification** better.

Should you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact us.  
Our experts are always happy to help!

### For More Information

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