

How to install an SSL Certificate

SSL installations explained
in (almost) plain English



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A quick-start SSL Certificate installation handbook

SSL installations explained in (almost) plain English

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Introduction

SSL certificates are an Internet security staple.

Installing them can be a bit tricky for people without a technology background, as most online guides are overflowing with techie jargon.

The purpose of this PDF is to clear things up and help you navigate the process yourself, without having to spend hours upon hours on research.



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.

Certificate Authority (CA): A well-trusted company, specialised in the issuing of SSL certificates.

Certificate Signing Request (CSR): A request, related to the issuing of SSL Certificates.

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

Different types of SSL certificates require different levels of authentication.

The more advanced SSL certificate you are after, the longer will the authentication take.

This is largely due to the fact that Extended Validation certificates serve as identifiers of your website's legitimacy.

Any CA, issuing an Extended Validation SSL certificate has to run extensive background checks to determine that you are indeed who you claim to be online. Extended validation certificates are way better at instilling trust in your visitors, due to this.

The two most popular SSL Certificate Types are:
Domain Validation and Extended Validation.

The former is most popular for blogs and SME company websites that do not work directly with sensitive or otherwise private information.

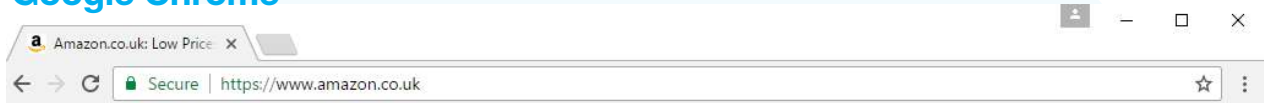
The latter certificate is the SSL of choice for E-commerce and other shopping-related websites.

Domain Validation SSL Certificate

Offer standard levels of protection but lack the full-on green colourisation of the bar. This is the most affordable type of certification as its issuing takes little to no human interaction.

Below you can see examples of Domain Validation certified websites in different popular browsers.

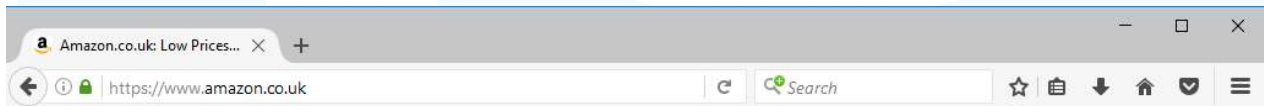
Google Chrome



Microsoft Edge



Mozilla Firefox



Opera



Extended Validation SSL Certificate

The second most common type of SSL certificate that every Internet user has ran into.

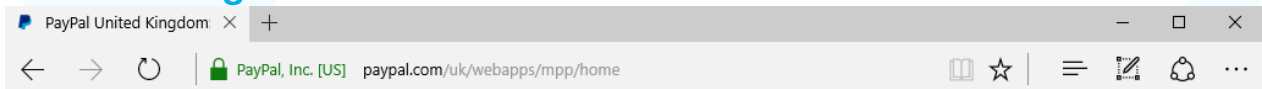
It identifies the company's legitimacy by placing its name in the address bar, alongside the padlock.

Below you can see examples of Extended Validation certified websites in different popular browsers.

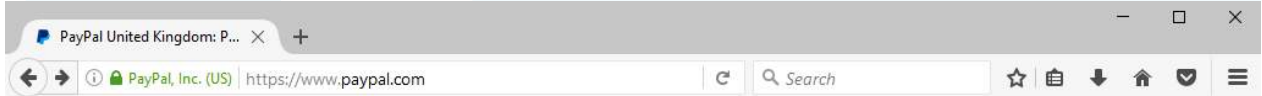
Google Chrome



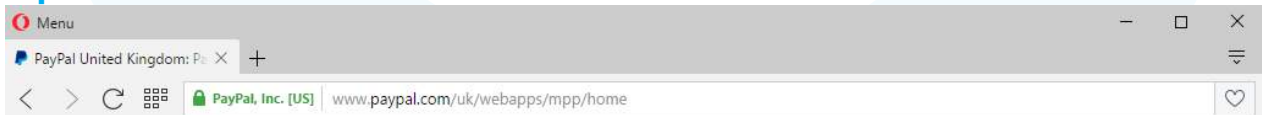
Microsoft Edge



Mozilla Firefox



Opera



Certificate Signing Requests

Certificate Signing Requests (CSR) are documents, that need to be generated before you are allowed to purchase an SSL certificate.

These are encoded files, allowing you to send your CA a public key along with some identification data. They are generated by your server.

After your CSR has been approved the Certificate Authority company, you can then proceed with your purchase and begin the installation process of your SSL Certificate.

The installation process itself will vary, based on your specific server and configuration.

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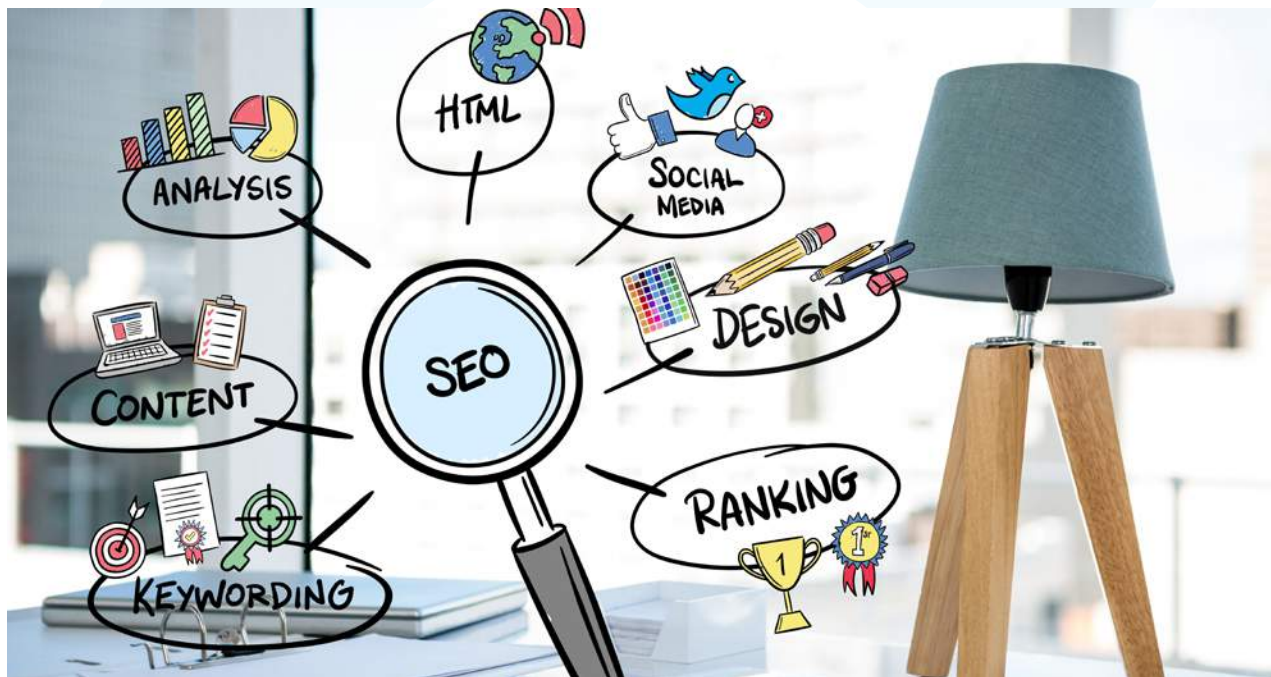
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-----END CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
    
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Summary

Installing an SSL certificate on your website is a crucial step that must be taken by any website owner of today.

Not only does it protect information and instil trust in your clients, it is also incredibly important for Search Engine Optimisation.

Google have put a lot of time and resources in raising SSL certificate awareness and following their example promptly will place you much higher in search results.



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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