



Ron E. Lewis Library Guide to Web Page Evaluation
http://library.lsc.edu/04_GetHelp/documents/WebPageRubric.pdf

Use this rubric to think critically about information found on the Web.

Check your C-A-R-B-S!	POINTS: 0	1	2	3
C for Currency How important is it for your topic to have recent information? Is it science, technology, and medical information need as recent as possible. If yes, how current is the information?	There is no indication of when the site was created or updated.	The date created is over 5 years ago with no date for revision (update). But, how recent it should be depends upon the topic.	The site was created or revised (updated) within the last 5 years	The site was created or updated within the last 2 years. If there is a list of sources, they are fairly recent.
A for Authority. Locate the author and Google the author's name (or the sponsoring organization) to find out more. What else have they published on the topic? Web domain? Info from .edu, .org, .gov, or .mil is generally more authoritative than a .com site.	There is either no author, or the author is possibly a student or just any person publishing on the Web with no subject expertise. The organization is unknown. Text errors indicate the author is not an authority or expert.	Author is named and seems like an authority but there are no credentials. The organization is of unknown or of questionable authority. Web groups can name themselves to sound very close to well-known .orgs	Author is named but degree of expertise is not clear. Or the organization, it is well-known, and but the degree of expertise on this subject is not clear.	The author's credentials are given and indicate that he/she is an expert. If a group author, the group or organization is well-known and credible on the topic.
R for Relevance Is this the information you need on a topic? Consider the type of information needed, such as primary vs. secondary sources, or reference articles vs. magazine articles vs. scholarly journal articles. How on-topic is it?	It mentions my topic briefly but not much else. Or it isn't the type of information I need.	It helps a little, but it's not enough or it's a mostly about something else.	It provides more of what I need, but I will still need more or better information.	It is exactly on the subject and is the right type of information.
B for Biased or Biased Is the information factual or opinion? Is it stating a point of view, or promoting an idea, service or product? If you need opinions, then consider the author's authority, their logic and evidence for their opinions.	The purpose of the page is to sell or promote an idea, service or product. It is not a factual or balanced point of view. The opinion is not backed up with facts or the facts are distorted.	The purpose of the page is to sell or promote something, but it also provides some factual information. Expressed opinion is somewhat logical and is based upon evidence.	The purpose of the page is to educate or to offer mostly factual information on a topic. Expressed opinion is logical with more good evidence for the opinion.	The purpose of the page is to provide information of a scholarly or academic nature. Evidence is scientific and is presented as charts, graphs, and statistics etc.
S for Source of Information Are the sources of information clearly stated? Are photos clearly labeled and sources cited?	Information is provided without any indication as to where it comes from.	There is a vague reference to the information source. Assumptions will have to be made as to the source of the information.	There is a general statement about the source of the information but not enough to allow location of the original sources.	There is a good list of references or "works cited" for further information. Images are clearly labeled and sources are credited.
Score Totals:	0 to 3 points	4 to 7 points	8 to 11	12 to 15
Meanings	Very questionable source. Don't use or cite it.	OK to use for background on a topic. But don't cite it.	Good source to use and cite for college research.	Excellent source to use and cite for college research.