

PRINTABLE GUIDE

Understand the internet, websites and browsers

The internet connects devices and services. The web uses that network to deliver pages in a browser. A website groups related pages under an address.

Any phone or computer | 2 min read | 4 steps

Before you start

- ☐ A connected device for the optional practice
- ☐ A familiar website address

1. Identify your connection

Your device might reach the internet through home Wi-Fi, an Ethernet cable or mobile data. Wi-Fi is a local connection and can work even during a provider outage; the symbol alone does not prove a website will load.

- ☐ Done this step

2. Find your browser

Look for an app such as Edge, Chrome, Safari or Firefox. A browser displays web pages. It may start with a search page, but the browser and the search service are different things.

- ☐ Done this step

3. Visit an address

Click the address bar, type a familiar website address and press Enter or Go. A domain identifies the website, while the rest of a longer address often points to a specific page. Check spelling before signing in.

☐ Done this step

4. Follow one link and return

Choose a harmless menu link within the site to open another page. Use Back to return. Some sites update content without changing the address. If one site fails, try another before concluding your whole internet connection is broken.

☐ Done this step

Try it for yourself

Open a familiar site and name the browser, website and connection you used.

☐ I tried the task.

My notes

Is everything online a website?

No. Email, calls and other apps also use the internet. They may connect to services without showing a normal web page.

Official help and the online guide

Understand the internet - https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn_web_development/Howto/Web_mechanics/How_does_the_Internet_work

Understand browsers and websites - https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn_web_development/Getting_started/Environment_setup/Browsing_the_web

Read online: <https://plaintech-guides.pages.dev/guides/internet-and-web-explained/>