

## Evaluating websites

While the internet should not be your primary source of information when doing research, it can be helpful. The key is to learn how to use the internet to get what you need. Be sure and check with your teacher as to what kinds of internet sources they will accept.

### 1. Best search engines to use:

Google [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

Teoma/Ask.com [www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com)

Yahoo! Search <http://search.yahoo.com/>

Informative site on search engines from UC Berkeley

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/SearchEngines.html>

### 2. Reasons to use a Search Engine:

- To find the correct spelling of a word
- To find background information on a topic
- To find pictures of something (keep in mind copyright)
- To find other sources of information.

### 3. Things to look for in a credible website:

- Author
- Audience
- Content
- Currency
- Sources

### 4. Tips for doing a Google search:

- Limit the domains that you are searching (ie: .edu, .gov, .org)
- Use “quotation marks” to search more effectively
- Don’t necessarily use the first pages that come up. Search through a couple of pages.