

Module 4: Browse the internet safely



What is the internet?

- The internet connects people through computers, phones and other devices worldwide.
- You can use it to search for recipes, health info, news, shopping, and more.
- To access the internet, your device needs to be connected to Wi-Fi or mobile data.
- You use a browser (like Chrome or Safari) to get online, and a search engine (like Google) to find what you need.



Search the internet

- Type keywords or a short question (not a full paragraph) into the search bar.
- Look at the blue heading (title), green or grey link (web address), and the short description.
- Select the link to open it, and use the Back arrow to return to your search.
- Use tabs like "Images" or "News" to filter your results.



Use tabs

- **Tabs** let you open several websites at once (like flipping pages in a book)
- To open a new tab:
 - Open a web browser
 - Select the Tabs icon (often two overlapping squares or a number in a square)
 - Select the + symbol to open a new tab



Return to sites

- **Bookmarks** save your favourite websites so you can return to them easily
- To bookmark a site:
 - Navigate to a useful website (e.g. www.abc.net.au or local library)
 - From the browser menu, select Bookmarks
 - Select "Add to bookmarks" or "Add to Favourites"
- The browser **History** helps you find websites you've visited before
- To view history:
 - From the browser menu, select "History"
 - Select a page to reopen it



Recognise safe vs risky websites

- Safe websites usually:
 - Have a padlock in the address bar and start with "https://"
 - End in .gov.au, .org or known company names (e.g. telstra.com.au)
 - Are clearly written and don't pressure you
- Risky websites might:
 - Show pop-ups, flashing warnings or spelling errors
 - Ask for personal info quickly
 - Have strange web addresses
- Don't open links in messages unless you're sure they're real
- When in doubt, ask someone you trust or type the company's official name or web address into your browser (not from a link). If you're still unsure, call their official number for help.



Key terms

- **Internet** – the system that connects computers, phones and information around the world
- **Wi-Fi** – a way to connect to the internet wirelessly, often available at home and in public places like libraries and cafes
- **Data** – what lets your phone use internet when you're not on Wi-Fi
- **Website** – a place on the internet (like an online newspaper, library, or shop)
- **Browser** – an app that lets you visit websites (e.g. Chrome, Edge)
- **Search engine** – a tool that helps you find websites or information (e.g. Google)



User guide

Scan the QR code (with your camera) or select the link.

[Tips to staying safe online](#)

