

Week 3 Theme: Think Before You Click, Post or Share

CYBER
AWARENESS
MONTH

Avoiding Unsafe Websites

Always test a website

Sometimes it can be hard to tell if a website you want to navigate to is an unsafe one. Today's challenge is to learn how to check if a website has been flagged as unsafe. Visit [VirusTotal](https://www.virustotal.com) and select "URL". Test a website link, such as the "Ontario.ca" website. This common cyber security service searches and compares that link to URL/domain blacklisting services. Best of all, you help raise the global security level through sharing links to examining bodies for research and development.



What you need to know

We often hear about the dangers of clicking on suspicious links in emails, text messages or other communications from instant messaging apps. While most of us do our best to report these attempts, did you know simply navigating to an unscrupulous website can allow malware to cause harm to your device or network? **Malware is software designed to cause damage to your computer** without your consent and can spread to others on your network.

We benefit from the protections of a highly skilled team of professionals to keep our workplace cyber safe. Not all compromises can be prevented. When working remotely, we introduce new complications to our security posture. And we no longer benefit from the available protections we would have while in the office. With roughly 90% of incidents resulting from human error, we are all responsible to think before we click.

Adapted by ECNO, participating members from OASBO ICT and the Ministry of Education from materials created by the Ontario Cyber Security Centre of Excellence for Cyber Security Awareness Month 2020.

