

Evaluating All Resources: The CRAAP Test¹

Answer the following questions,
based on a 10 point scale
(1=worst, 10=best)

- Provides criteria to determine the reliability of your resources
- Can be used for all types of resources (print, electronic, audio-visual)

50-45
Excellent

45-40
Good

39-35
Average

34-30
Borderline
Average

30-below
Unacceptable

¹Developed by California State University, Chico

Currency

- When was the information published?
- Has it been updated or revised?
- Are the links still functioning?

Relevance

- Does the information relate to your search topic?
- For whom is the information written (children, adults, rocket scientists)?
- Do you feel comfortable citing/quoting this source in your paper?

Authority

- Who is the author, publisher, creator, sponsor of the site?
- Can you locate the author's credentials or affiliations?
- Is the author qualified to write this information?
- Can you find contact information (address, email, phone)?

Accuracy

- Where does the information come from?
- Are their sources or references? Has the information been reviewed by anyone else?
- Are there grammatical or spelling errors?
- Does the language seem biased or strongly favoring one side?

Purpose

- What's the purpose of this information?
- Educational material, sales pitch, entertainment?
- Is the information politically or religiously charged?
- Does the information seem opinionated?

Websites to Assist in Evaluating Websites

- Web Page Evaluation Checklist (University of California, Berkeley)
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/EvalForm.pdf>
- Evaluating Web Pages: Techniques to Apply & Questions to Ask (University of California, Berkeley)
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html>
- Evaluate Web Pages Tutorial (Widener University)
<http://www.widener.edu/libraries/wolfgram/evaluate>