What is a secure website?

A secure website protects any banking and personal information that you share with it. When you shop or share personal information online, make sure you always use secure websites.

How can you tell if a website is secure?

To check if a website is secure, look for a picture or icon next to the website address.

On some browsers, this icon will be a padlock. An open padlock means the website is not secure, and a closed padlock means it is secure. You can click the padlock for more information.

On Google Chrome, there are three possible icons:

- The danger icon means the website is not secure and might be dangerous.
- The information icon means the website is not secure.
- The tune icon, or two lines with circles on them, means the website is secure.

You can click on the icon for more information:

Check that the website address starts with **https://**. The "s" means the website is secure. Websites that start with http:// and don't have the "s" aren't secure.

Now it's your turn

Look at the website addresses below. Which websites are secure and which ones are not secure? Circle your answers.

http://www.bigprizes.com	Secure	Not secure	Not sure
https://www.cbc.ca	Secure	Not secure	Not sure
https://www.amazon.ca	Secure	Not secure	Not sure
http://www.shoponline.ca	Secure	Not secure	Not sure
http://www.charitydonate.com	Secure	Not secure	Not sure

Think about it

- What are some examples of information you might share on a website?
- Select one of the website addresses above that you think is secure. How can you tell?
- What would you do if a website is asking for your information and you're not sure if it's safe?