How to Avoid Scam Websites

- **Check the URL**
  Secure websites begin with "HTTPS" and padlock symbol in the URL.

- **Check Domain**
  Look for a domain like .com, .gov, .org, or .edu. Research domains you don't know.

- **Check Address**
  Look for a physical address and working phone number. Scam businesses often have neither.

- **Mind the Grammar**
  Scam websites commonly include frequent spelling and grammar mistakes.

- **Payment Methods**
  Authentic websites use common payment methods like VISA, Mastercard, PayPal, etc.

- **Watch for Warnings**
  If your browser warns you that the site is dangerous, leave the website.

- **Check for Security**
  Secure websites often display badges from well-known security companies to protect personal information.

- **Read Reviews**
  Check a company's reviews on search engines or social media. Read complaints filed with the Better Business Bureau.

Verify as many items on this checklist as possible to avoid scams.