

CARRDS Defined

Use this to help you fill out the CARRDS web evaluation sheet on the back.

**Note: CARRDS is ONLY for free Internet sites, NOT for subscription databases like ProQuest or SIRS.

CREDIBILITY:

Who is the author? Is there an email address to contact the author (not the webmaster)? Why do you trust him or her? Example: *The author of this site is a 5th grade class, and so I should use it with caution, if at all. Or, this Civil War site is by a UCLA professor of History, and it provides her email address, so I can trust it.*

ACCURACY:

Based on your knowledge, does the information seem accurate? Example: *Parts of this site are similar to what I already know about Mexico from my textbook, so I think I can trust the information. Or, I don't know anything about my topic yet so I am not sure, Or, This site is different from what I learned before, so I should compare it with other sources before I use it.*

RELIABILITY:

Does the site present an opinion, point of view, bias? Is this opinion clearly stated? What is it? Example: *this site is an anti-smoking, anti-tobacco site. In the "about us" section it says that the purpose of the site is to teach teenagers not to smoke. I understand the opinion and it is fine for my research.*

RELEVANCE:

Does this information help to answer my question? Is it in-depth? Is it too hard, too easy, or just right? Yes or no answers are fine for the first part, then rate the level of the information.

DATE:

When was the information created? Was it revised? Are these dates meaningful in terms of subject matter? Example: *This site is from 2006 and is about Global Warming, so it is up to date. Or, This site is from 1999 and is about the solar system, so I think it may be too old.*

SOURCES:

Does the site have a Works Cited or Bibliography? If they are links, do they still work? Yes or No answers are fine. Elaborate if needed.

OVERALL THIS SITE IS (Circle One):

Very Useful

Somewhat Useful

Not Good

**If this is your answer,
find a different site!**

URL _____
Title of Site _____

Name _____

Use CARRDS to Evaluate Your Sources

Read the definitions and instructions on the reverse (or previous page).
If you still need help, ask a librarian!

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ACCURACY:

RELIABILITY:

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