

“SIFT”: A Method for Evaluating Information Sources

website with information that seems credible, but you're not sure, you could try Googling the author of the source, or use fact-checking websites such as [Snopes](#) or [Media Bias/Fact Check](#)

How can the “SIFT” Method Help me in my Studies?

It can sometimes be difficult to determine whether the information presented to you is credible or not. Taking the time to stop, investigate the information source, find better coverage, and trace claims, quotes, and media back to their original sources can help you understand the context of information sources and better judge their reliability and trustworthiness. This is especially important if you are planning to use a source for your own assignment. The quality (or lack thereof) of the information sources you select affects the quality of your own work.

Need Help?

If you need assistance with using the SIFT method, please visit us at the Research Help Desk on the first floor of the Patrick Power Library. You can also schedule an appointment with a librarian, call, text, or email for assistance. See our [Research Help page](#) for more information on how to contact us.

The SIFT Method was created by Mike Caulfield. This guide is adapted from Mike Caulfield's blog post [SIFT \(The Four Moves\)](#), which is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#) (CC-BY-4.0).