

What is SSL?

SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) is a standard security technology for establishing an encrypted link between a server and a client - typically a web server (website) and a browser; or a mail server and a mail client (e.g., Outlook).

What is an SSL Certificate?

An SSL certificate protects the information that is flowing to and from a website to a server. It encrypts names, addresses, passwords, account and credit card numbers and more so your information is unreadable to hackers and others.



How does it work?

An SSL certificate serves as an electronic “passport.” It establishes the website’s authenticity and credibility and enables the browser and Web server to build a secure, encrypted connection.

Credibility is established by checking the digital certificate, which includes:

- The Certificate holder’s name (individual or company)
- The Certificate’s serial number and expiration date
- The Certificate holder’s “public” cryptographic key
- The digital signature of the Certificate-issuing authority
- Extended SSL Certificates give the site visitor an additional visual cue, displaying the Certificate holder’s name against a distinctive green background in the visitor’s browser



How does the customer know the site is secure?

Once a visitor is on an SSL-protected page, the visitor will see the https:// prefix in the URL.

The “s” added to the end indicates the presence of SSL encryption.

