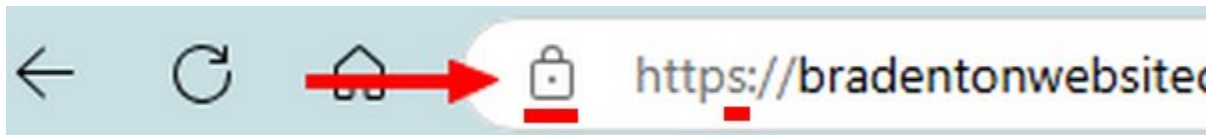


# http vs https URL/Web Address and SSL

By Professor Floyd Jay Winters 10/05/2024

An **SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) certificate** is a digital file that verifies a website's identity and encrypts communication between a web browser and a web server. Businesses pay extra for an SSL, and it also takes a little extra setup on the server. Notice the lock in the address bar below for a business website with an SSL certificate.



For the purposes of course, there is no need to spend the extra time and money to buy an SSL certificate. However, a real business needs an SSL certificate to demonstrate to customers that they have a secure website.

Below is what many visitors to your site and I see if you submit an **https** URL/Web address to an assignment dropbox when you do not have an SSL certificate. So, if you do not have an SSL, be sure to submit an **http** address instead of an **https** address.

Your address should be **http://YourSiteName.com** not **https://YourSiteName.com**

