

# TOOLS, USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES

## TWITTER

**Official Twitter Help** <https://goo.gl/yNSSjo>

**twXplorer:** excellent breaking news tool that is useful to find out what hashtags people are using <https://goo.gl/21xKuz>

**Twitter advanced search** <https://goo.gl/sDQPwg>

**Twitter search tips:** short cuts for searching Twitter <https://goo.gl/zVIs3P>

**Twitter list scraper** <https://goo.gl/QvXOBM>

**Twitter lists search tool** <https://goo.gl/SqW1rJ>

**Foller.me** excellent verification resource with extensive info on a user's Twitter account <http://foller.me/>

**Who tweeted that first?** Find the original tweeter and get back to the original source <http://ctrlq.org/first/>

**TweetBeaver** is a powerful suite of free tools that lets you take a close up look at a Twitter account, plus loads of other useful verification functions  
<https://tweetbeaver.com/index.php>

### Bot spotters

Botometer helps you indentify whether a Twitter account is human or a bot  
<https://botometer.iuni.iu.edu/#/>

**BotOrNot** helps you check how many of your Twitter follows are real people  
<http://botornot.co/>

**Hoaxy** is a powerful fact-checking tool. It visualises both the source and the spread of online claims. It also shows any fact-checks that have been done that verified or debunked a claim <https://hoaxy.iuni.iu.edu>

AfricaCheck blog on how to verify a Twitter account  
<https://africacheck.org/factsheets/guide-verify-twitter-account/>

**How to use some of Twitters newer features** <https://goo.gl/RITUQm>

**Setting up and using Twitter lists** <https://goo.gl/jZwwu8>

**Twitter Setting Twitter shortcuts to speed up social media newsgathering**  
<https://goo.gl/FTK4KX>

**Everything you need to know about Twitter's 140 character update**  
<https://goo.gl/TIPgxt>

**Using Twitter lists to get to the heart of a story** <https://goo.gl/d9nlLK>

## **SOCIAL MEDIA SEARCH TOOLS**

**Storyful Multisearch** Chrome-only browser extent that allows you to search several social media platforms, including Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and Tumblr

**Google Advanced search** <https://goo.gl/bUEcRR>

**Searching Facebook:** shortcuts for searching Facebook: <http://graph.tips/>

**Find out when a web page was first posted on the Internet and cached versions of web pages**

<https://goo.gl/llLkgZ>

<https://goo.gl/yMQ3wt>

<https://archive.org/web/>

<http://cachedview.com/>

**Find cached web pages in Google Search results**

<https://goo.gl/qANm73>

## **SEARCH ENGINES**

**How to create a Google alert** <https://goo.gl/5COLwg>

**WolframAlpha** Excellent search engine for answering questions: How far? How deep? What was the first? What was the weather on a given day?

<http://www.wolframalpha.com/>

**DuckDuckGo Go:** Search engine that doesn't track you <https://duckduckgo.com/>

## VERIFICATION

**Verification Handbook online resource** <http://verificationhandbook.com/>

**TinEye** Finds where else a photo has been used and allows you to check whether the one you have has been altered or manipulated. Also helps find newest, oldest, most changed versions of a photo you're want to check on <http://www.tineye.com/>

**RevEye Reverse Image Search:** Browser extension that searches multiple search engines and TinEye, either one at a time or all at once (available for Chrome and Firefox) Search for it in the Chrome or Firefox app store and download)

**Is it edited?** Easy to use tool that will tell you whether a photo has been edited or manipulated <http://imageedited.com/>

**Google reverse image search** Useful for verification of pictures to find where else a photograph has been used – and, importantly, when it was used  
<https://goo.gl/FzCtLc>

**RevEye** (available as a Chrome, Firefox, Android and iPhone download) find it in the relevant app shop

**Google Advanced Image search** To search for photos  
[http://www.google.com/advanced\\_image\\_search](http://www.google.com/advanced_image_search)

**KnowNews** browser extension: this tool tells you the credibility of SA news sites. If you're on a site you think is dodgy you can report it through the tool. If the people behind it agree, they'll add a warning about the site to the tool (Chrome only) <https://goo.gl/NLS95T>

**B.S. Detector** is similar to KnowNews, but exposes US and European that publish disinformation and fake news. While KnowNews only identifies websites, B.S. Detector also flags fake stuff on Facebook and Twitter (Chrome: <https://goo.gl/G9KF7V> and Firefox <https://goo.gl/xtyHrr>)

**FirstDraftNews guide for verifying photos (download and print out and stick it on your wall)** [https://firstdraftnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/FDN\\_verificationguide\\_photos.pdf](https://firstdraftnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/FDN_verificationguide_photos.pdf)

**FirstDraftNews guide for verifying videos (download and print out and stick it on your wall)** [https://firstdraftnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/FDN\\_verificationguide\\_videos.pdf](https://firstdraftnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/FDN_verificationguide_videos.pdf)

**Jeffrey's Exif Viewer** to check Meta data in a photo, including when it was taken: [goo.gl/IF43vd](http://goo.gl/IF43vd)

**Forensically** Advanced tool for checking whether a picture has been faked, its metadata, where it was taken (if it is geo-tagged) and lots more <https://goo.gl/wtiSwu>

**YouTube Data Viewer** Insert the URL of a YouTube video and this tool will give you details of the video, including when it was uploaded. (Be aware that the upload date is not the same as the creation data of the video) The tool will also take screen grabs from the video and allow you to do a Google reverse search to find other iterations and earlier posts of the same video if they exist <http://www.amnestyusa.org/citizenevidence/>

**Video Vault:** Use this tool to preserve videos, take screenshots to do a reverse search, slow down and speed up video and more to simplify the verification process <https://www.bravenewtech.org/>

**InVID Verification Plug-in:** A powerful video and photo verification tool with basic and advanced functions. Read how to use it here: <http://www.invid-project.eu/tools-and-services/invid-verification-plugin/>. Scroll down to “Release versions” to download for Chrome, Firefox or Mac OS

## **VERIFICATION RESOURCES**

**FirstDraftNews:** A coalition of media organisations where verification is at their core. The site is a treasure trove of essential newsgathering and verification resources for journalists. (Make sure you sign up for the excellent newsletter. Scroll to the bottom of the page to sign up) <https://firstdraftnews.com/>

**The Internet is awash with fakes, hoaxes and urban legends that spread like wildfire. These are a few go-to site to visit before tweeting or sharing rubbish – and throwing your name away in the process**

**Sites that debunk fakes and hoaxes**

**Snopes** <http://www.snopes.com/>

**AfricaCheck** <https://africacheck.org/>

**Hoax Slayer** <http://www.hoax-slayer.com/>

**bellingcat** <https://www.bellingcat.com/>

**FirstDraftNews** A coalition of news organisation involved with verification. The site is a veritable treasure trove of free verification resources, tutorials and training material <https://goo.gl/weccDq>

**Hoax of fame** <https://goo.gl/z3xfXS>

**wafflesatnoon** <https://goo.gl/v8Z8V7>

**DOMAIN AND IP INFO**

**IP Address and Domain Information** - Chrome browser extension

**Worldwide** <https://who.is/>

**South Africa** <http://co.za/whois.shtml>

**WORLDWIDE PHONEBOOKS**

**Phonebooks worldwide** Search by country for local phone books  
<http://www.numberway.com/>

## **BROWSER EXTENSIONS FOR CHROME AND FIREFOX**

(Search for them in the Firefox or Chrome app store and save to your browser bookmarks bar. Some will then be available on your mouse right click

Scraper: easy-to-use tool to get data out of web pages and into spreadsheets (only available for Chrome) <https://goo.gl/wgq7Uy>

**See similar Google pages**

### **Google Translate**

**Klout** While a low Klout score may not have a negative connotation, a high Klout score does indicate that the user has been around a while and is active on social media

**SCREEN GRAB TOOLS** (Chrome and many also available for Firefox in the relevant app shop)

### **Full Page Screen Capture**

**Nimbus Screen shot** (can also annotate a screen grab)

### **Spam protector**

**10 Minute Mail** Get a temporary email to protect you from spam when signing on to a dodgy site or if you don't want to leave tracks <https://goo.gl/hO0MaB>

## **INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM**

### **Advanced tools for investigative journalists**

<http://pudo.org/material/investigative-tools/>

### **Investigative Dashboard**

find researchers and expert sources to help you, search databases and for visual networks of influence <https://goo.gl/n65H3Z>

### **PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION TOOL (for South Africa)**

<http://foip.saha.org.za/>

## **DATA JOURNALISM**

**Data Journalism Handbook** – free PDF download  
<http://datajournalismhandbook.org/1.0/en/>

**List curated by Raymond Joseph**

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