

# Address Bar: What it is, why it matters, and quick safety tips

Gridinsoft Help Center

## What it is

The address bar is the box at the top of your browser that shows where you are on the web. Type a site name or paste a link there to go somewhere new. If you enter something that isn't a full address, most browsers treat it like a search.

## Why it matters

- It's your compass: shows the site you're actually on.
- It's your first safety check: the real domain (e.g., example.com) helps you spot fakes.
- It's your shortcut: jump straight to pages, files, or settings.

## How to use it safely

- Double-check the domain before you sign in (look for example.com, not example.com.login-verify.co).
- Prefer saved bookmarks for banks, email, and shops.
- If something looks off, retype the address yourself instead of following a link.
- Avoid copying addresses from pop-ups or messages you don't trust.

## Good to know

- Many browsers combine address + search into one field (often called the "omnibox").
- Secure sites use HTTPS, which encrypts the connection between you and the site.
- The first dot from the right usually separates the real domain from the rest (in store.example.com, the domain is example.com).