



REFERENCE

Web Filtering Database Categories

About This Document

This document provides information about the categories in the Trustwave Web Filtering Database (WFDB).

WFDB is a URL classification database used by the WebMarshal product. The list has been updated for categories available in WebMarshal 7.6 (October 2025).

WFDB is updated daily by automatic processes and human expert reviewers.

Category Listing

The headings in this listing show the groupings used in the Secure Web Gateway.

Adult Content

- Explicit Art
- Obscene/Tasteless
- Pornography/Adult Content
- R Rated

Artificial Intelligence

- AI Agents
- Artificial Intelligence
- Generative AI

Bandwidth

- Image Servers & Image Search Engines
- Peer-to-Peer/FileSharing

• Video Sharing

- VoIP
- Web Based Storage
- Streaming Media

Business/Investments

- Employment
- Financial Institutions
- General Business
- Online Trading/Brokerage
- Real Estate

Community/Organizations

- Community Organizations
- Local Community

Education

- Education
- Reference

Entertainment

- Art
- Entertainment
- Gambling
- Kids
- Movies & Television
- Music Appreciation
- Restaurant
- Games

Government/Law/Politics

- Government
- Legal
- Military Official
- Political Opinion

Health/Fitness

- Fitness
- Health/Medical
- Self Help

Illegal/Questionable

- Criminal Skills
- Dubious/Unsavory
- Hate & Discrimination
- Illegal Drugs
- School Cheating
- Terrorist/Militant/Extremist
- Violence

Information Technology

- Dynamic DNS Servers
- Information Technology
- QR Code Generators
- Search Engines
- Trusted Proxy Relays
- URL Shortening and Redirect Services

Internet Communication

- Chat
- Message Boards
- Online Communities
- Translation Services
- Web Based Email
- Web Logs/Personal Pages
- Instant Messaging (IM)

Internet Productivity

- Banner/Web Ads
- Web Hosts

Internet/Intranet Misc.

- Domain Landing
- Downloads
- Edge Content Servers/Infrastructure
- Invalid Web Pages
- Reviewed/Miscellaneous

News/Reports

- News
- Sports

Religion/Beliefs

- Paranormal
- Religion

Security

- Bad Reputation Domains
- BotNet
- Hacking
- Malicious Code/Virus
- Phishing
- Spyware
- Web-based Proxies

Shopping

- Online Auction
- Shopping

Society/Lifestyles

- Alcohol
- Animals/Pets
- Books & Literature
- Dating/Personals
- Fashion
- Lifestyle & Culture
- Recreation
- Tobacco
- Weapons

Travel/Events

- Travel
- Vehicles

Category Descriptions

Note: The list of categories in this document includes only the categories that are actively maintained. Some additional categories are retained in the database for compatibility with legacy applications.

AI Agents

Sites that use an AI agent. AI agents can autonomously interact with their environment, make decisions, and take actions to achieve predefined goals based on user input. This category includes Model Context Protocol servers.

Sample sites: abacus.ai, copilot.cloud.microsoft

Alcohol

Sites promoting the use of alcohol, including drink recipes, home brewing methodology, advertisements, etc.

- Sites promoting the use of alcohol for consumption purposes, including pubs, bars, breweries, alcohol manufacturers
- Sites which contain drink recipes, bartenders' guides, or drinking games
- Sites which advertise or contain advertisements for alcohol

Informational sites such as essays on drunk driving or court transcripts are not found in this category.

Sample sites: www.budweiser.com, www.samueladams.com, www.jackdaniels.com

Animals/Pets

Sites that provide information or promote animal/pet care, breed, veterinary care, boarding, adoption, and care info.

Sample sites: www.petsonsale.com, www.westminsterkennelclub.org, www.2buyhorses.com

Art

Non-commercial websites that promote, exhibit, and/or display works of art, artists, and provide instruction on the creation of art excluding the following:

- Explicit Art
- Sites for artists, art galleries, or museums
- Sites containing art instruction, graphics tutorials, and art schools

Sample sites: www.lacma.org, www.guggenheim.org, www.metmuseum.org

Artificial Intelligence

Sites that provide machine learning or artificial intelligence resources or platforms, or applications and services based on AI.

Sample sites: aistudio.google.com, bedtimestory.ai

Bad Reputation Domains

Sites that appear on one or more security industry blacklists for repeated bad behavior, including hosting malware and phishing sites, generating spam, or hosting content linked to by spam email.

Banner/Web Ads

Banner ads served from third party servers and URLs that track online analytics and/or website traffic for marketing report purpose.

Sample sites: ad.linkexchange.com, adbureau.net

Books & Literature

Sites that discuss and promote books, literature, and periodicals distributed with the intention of providing entertainment.

- Authors' sites, publishers' promotional sites (not "How To Publish" or "Let Us Publish Your Book")
- Online books (i.e., Project Gutenberg, eBooks, etc.)
- Books on Tape
- Literary Reviews
- Fan-Fiction or other short fiction works
- Written screenplays/scripts (movies, tv, or drama)

Sample sites: www.ebooks.com,
www.danbrown.com

BotNet

Sites used by botnet herders for command and control of infected machines. Sites that known malware and spyware connects to for command and control by cyber criminals. These sites are differentiated from the Malcode category to enable reporting on potentially infected computers inside the network.

Chat

Sites offering chatrooms and chat services as well as Chat sites accessed via a web browser, excluding the following:

- Instant Messaging
- Chat logs
- IRC client downloads
- IRC channel listings or channel information

Sample sites: www.chatweb.net, www.chat-avenue.com, www.javachatrooms.net

Community Organizations

Sites of non-profit, charity, and community involvement organizations.

I.e., YMCA, March of Dimes, Big Brothers/Sisters, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.

Sample sites: www.habitat.org,
www.pointsoflight.org,
www.national.unitedway.org

Criminal Skills

Sites that promote crime or illegal activity such as credit card number generation, illegal surveillance and murder.

Sites which commercially sell surveillance equipment are not in this category.

Dating/Personals

Contains those websites that are related to personal ads, dating sites, dating services, relationships, introductions, etc.

Personal ads, dating services, dating tips, "how-to find a mate" sites.

Sites which promote introductions for purposes of finding friends or other relationships.

Sites for escort services are categorized as Porn.

Sample sites: www.friendfinder.com,
www.grindr.com, www.match.com,
www.eharmony.com

Domain Landing

Registered hosted pages with no significant appreciable content other than current owner info, solicitation for URL buyers, and or links to seller info.

Downloads

Sites that host downloadable code, movie, video or sound clips. Also includes mobile ringtones, logos, backgrounds and screensavers.

Sample sites: www.sourceforge.net

Dubious/Unsavory

Sites of a questionable legal or ethical nature. Sites which promote or distribute products, information, or devices whose use may be deemed unethical or, in some cases, illegal.

- WareZ
- Unlicensed mp3 downloads
- Radar detectors
- Street racing

Dynamic DNS Servers

Domains used by Dynamic DNS service providers for IP aliasing. Domains in this category should almost always be wildcarded, as they are typically assigned to end users with a customizable sub-domain.

Sample sites: www.changeip.com

Edge Content Servers/Infrastructure

Sites that host images, media and static secondary content for web sites. Sites in this category represent Internet “infrastructure”; they provide web companies with high-bandwidth delivery of arbitrary content. Typically, this content is never directly accessed by the end user. The user’s web browser automatically accesses these sites based on links embedded in the page of the original web site.

The provider’s sales or management sites are not included (note the difference in categorization between akamai.com and akamai.net).

Sample sites: akamai.net, cloudfront.net

Education

Websites of schools, learning centers, universities, and trade schools. Sites that promote and discuss materials and information that aid in teaching.

- Teaching institutions/workshops/technical institutes

- Teaching aids, such as lesson planning guides
- Teacher supplies
- Career development education
- .edu and .ac sites

Sample sites: www.harvard.edu, www.usc.edu, www.otago.ac.nz

Employment

Sites geared toward job seekers, such as online job bulletin boards, classified ad sites, resume-listing services, head hunting firms, etc.

- Resume building sites
- Cover-letter writing sites

Sample sites: www.monster.com, www.careerbuilder.com, www.dice.com

Entertainment

All general entertainment sites excluding the following (which are separately categorized):

- Books & Literature
- Movies & Television
- Music Appreciation
- Restaurants/Clubs

Sample sites: disneyworld.disney.go.com, www.ringophone.com

Explicit Art

Art websites that display art works containing graphic nudity, nude photography, sex acts and/or disturbing images.

Fashion

Sites promoting, selling, or discussing style and fashion items and services.

- Clothing stores
- Cosmetology

- Jewelry

Sample sites: www.nordstrom.com,
www.4theloveclothing.com,
www.aatatfoodirectory.com

Financial Institutions

Sites related to the financial trade, such as stock trading, financial news, online banking services, and trading exchanges.

Sites for economics theory or business classes are categorized as Education.

Sample sites: www.wellsfargo.com,
www.fidelitymortgage.com,
www.massmutual.com

Fitness

Sites promoting and discussing exercise, yoga, health clubs, nutrition and weight loss.

- Gyms
- Fitness equipment
- Nutrition supplements
- Diet information

Sample sites: www.weightwatchers.com,
www.24hourfitness.com, www.yoga.com

Gambling

Sites which encourage gambling such as betting sites, bookmaker odds, lottery, bingo, horse/dog track, online sport betting, online casinos, etc.

Sample sites: www.casino.com,
www.bookmaker.com

Games

Sites related to computer or other games, such as game download sites, online games, video, and electronic games. Sites that advertise and host online games as well as sweepstakes and giveaways. Sites that offer cheat codes.

- Sites about board games will also be saved in this category

Sample sites: www.playstation.com,
www.warcraft.org, www.gamefaqs.com

General Business

Websites for businesses and commercial organizations where business is defined as an organization that provides goods and/ or services for profit.

Sample sites: www.pg.com, www.kraft.com,
www.tyco.com

Generative AI

Sites that use AI technology to generate text, images, video, audio, code, or other content based on user input.

Sample sites: aifaceswap.io, aimusic.so

Government

Sites of governmental agencies at a national, state, local or international level.

Sample sites: www.ca.gov,
www.whitehouse.gov, www.europa.eu

Hacking

Sites discussing and/or promoting unlawful or questionable tools or information revealing the ability to gain access to software or hardware/communications equipment and/or passwords.

- Password generation
- Compiled binaries
- Hacking tools
- Software piracy (game cracking)

Hate & Discrimination

Sites that contain material related to the discrimination of any group of people based on race, religion, gender, nationality, etc.

Sites which concentrate on violence or the destruction of human life, including a single person or an entire race/religion/ gender/etc.

- Sites focused on the superiority of one race/religion/gender/ etc., while degrading others with use of propaganda or violent action.
- Sites which discriminate or promote discrimination based on race/religion/gender/etc., or support and promote partisan historical opinion.

Sample sites: www.kkk.com,
www.stormfront.org

Health/Medical

Sites of medical practices, hospitals, health insurance providers, nursing homes, and care centers. Sites that promote and provide information on prescription medicines and over the counter treatments. Sites offering information and references on health, medicine, preventative health care and other health-related topics.

Sample sites: www.webmd.com,
www.bluecross.com, www.stjude.org

Illegal Drugs

Sites that promote the use or purchase of illegal drugs. These may include offering marijuana, growing methods, techniques and products for testing clean for drugs, information on acid and/ or “mushrooms,” and all other forms of narcotics.

- Promotes sale/use of illegal narcotics
- Instructs on making or growing illegal narcotics
- Promotes sale/use of paraphernalia for express use with illegal narcotics
- Promotes illegal sale/use of LEGAL narcotics
- Promotes techniques/products for testing clean with drug tests
- Glorifies the effect of illegal narcotics
- Promotes sale/use of questionably legal “supplements” with a narcotic effect

Sites which deal with information about illegal substances or their effects (i.e., police department page informing parents what to look for) are not in this category.

Sample sites: www.hightimes.com,
www.erowid.org

Image Servers & Image Search Engines

Web servers and search engines whose primary function is to deliver images, artwork, personal photos, photo galleries, and free images/pictures for commercial use (Does not include adult content categorized elsewhere).

Sample sites: images.google.com,
www.flickr.com, www.istockphoto.com

Information Technology

Sites containing reviews, discussions, distribution, and promotion of computer programs, software, systems and hardware. Sites that contain discussion, reviews, news, and advocacy on computers, technological devices, and general technology. Sites which offer information, resources, hosting and guides for the creation of computer software and websites.

Sample sites: www.cnet.com, www.zdnet.com,
www.slashdot.org

Instant Messaging (IM)

Sites that offer and enable the download of Instant Messaging.

- Client-based applications for IM
- Central servers for IM applications

Invalid Web Pages

Sites where a domain may be registered but no content is served or the server is offline.

Kids

Child friendly sites. Sites designed specifically for children (Does not include educational games).

Sample sites: www.4kraftykidz.com

Legal

Sites pertaining to legal services, personal legal reference and on-line legal aid.

- Law firms
- Legal reference
- Law libraries
- Legal services (notaries, etc.)

Sample sites: www.lawyers.com,
www.lawreview.org

Lifestyle & Culture

Sites that contain material relative to an individual's personal, community or cultural identity, or organizational/club affiliations.

Sites on political or religious affiliation are not in this category.

Local Community

Sites of community governmental agencies and sites that promote and announce community events and community involvement.

- City websites
- County websites
- Chamber of Commerce

Sample sites: alabamablueberryfestival.com,
arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz

Malicious Code/Virus

Sites that promote, demonstrate and/or carry malicious executable, virus or worm code that intentionally causes harm by modifying or

destroying computer systems often without the user's knowledge.

Message Boards

Websites that offer message boards, bulletin boards, and forums.

Websites which offer visitors the ability to discuss topics with one another via Internet message board software. Websites that provide downloads and customizations of web message board software.

Also includes guestbook sites.

Sample sites: www.messages.yahoo.com

Military Official

Official websites of government backed military organizations. The entire .mil top-level domain.

Sample sites: www.navy.mil, www.army.mil,
www.usmc.mil

Movies & Television

Sites that discuss and promote film and television. This includes official sites of movies and television programs as well as those of film and television celebrities. Also included are personal fan sites of the aforementioned.

Sample sites: www.elstreestudios.co.uk,
www.duckrabbit.info

Music Appreciation

Sites that discuss and promote music, musicians, and the methods in which they are distributed. These sites include official websites of musicians as well as fan sites that promote musical subjects and artists.

- Playlists
- Lyrics
- Legal/Licensed mp3 distribution

Sample sites: launch.yahoo.com,
www.artistdirect.com

News

Websites that distribute news, current events, and headlines.

Sample sites: www.cnn.com, www.nytimes.com, news.yahoo.com

Obscene/Tasteless

Sites that contain explicit graphical or text depictions of such things as mutilation, murder, bodily functions, horror, death, rude behavior, executions, violence, and obscenities etc.

Sites which contain or deal with medical content are not in this category.

Online Auction

Sites that offer access to online auctions where visitors can bid on various items. Since online auctions are rarely monitored, they may expose users to materials that would otherwise

be filtered under categories such as Adult Content, Illegal/ Questionable, etc. (Does not include classified advertisements, which is categorized under shopping or news)

Sample sites: www.trademe.co.nz, www.ebay.com

Online Communities

Sites that promote online social networking. The content of such sites is mostly comprised of personal pages linked together in a social network that can be based on any criteria, such as schools, universities, business, or friendship.

Sample sites: www.facebook.com, www.linkedin.com

Online Trading/Brokerage

Sites that facilitate online active trading of securities.

Sample sites: www.etrade.com

Paranormal

Sites dealing with subjects of the paranormal. This includes topics such as mysticism, UFOs, Astrology, Numerology, the Occult, and conspiracy theories.

Sample sites: www.prairieghosts.com, astrology.yahoo.com

Phishing

Deceptive information pharming sites that used to acquire personal information for fraud or theft. Typically found in hoax e-mail, these sites falsely represent themselves as legitimate Web sites to trick recipients into divulging user account information, credit card numbers, usernames, passwords, social security numbers, etc. Pharming, or crimeware misdirects users to fraudulent sites or proxy servers, typically through DNS hijacking or poisoning.

Political Opinion

Opinions dealing with political concerns such as party platforms, political reform, candidate advocacy, PACs, lobbying organizations, etc.

- Campaign sites
- Political parody or negative sites

Sample sites: www.gop.com, www.democrats.org

Pornography/Adult Content

- Sites that portray sexual acts and activity.
- Sites that portray sexual acts or simulated sexual acts.
- Sites with explicit nudity (including see-through clothing) that reveals in whole or part, nipples, bare butts, or sexual organs
- Frontal nudity
- Sex toys
- Sites with links that lead to nude pictures
- Sexual fluids

- Explicit sex stories/writings
- Lesbian acts
- Oral activity on sexual parts
- Bestiality
- Bathroom fetishes
- Any bizarre sex acts of objects with sexual organs
- Porno videos for sale with explicit descriptions of tape and/or pictures
- Swinger sites containing sexual pictures or descriptions
- Any adult verification system sites that doesn't have sample pictures
- Descriptions of sex sites that require credit card or payment or membership ID
- Fetishes

QR Code Generators

Sites that generate QR codes or provide tools for generating QR codes.

Sample sites: myqrcode.com, qr.io

R Rated

Services pertaining to anything that involves 18 and over material such as lingerie and swimsuits, revealing pictures. Sites that are adult in nature without being explicitly pornographic.

Sample sites: www.lingerie.com, www.bikini.com

Real Estate

Sites pertaining to the buying, selling, renting, and leasing of Commercial and Residential properties.

Note: Sites offering home loans are categorized as "Financial Institutions".

Sample sites: www.realestate.yahoo.com, www.move.com, www.realtor.com

Recreation

Sites pertaining to outdoor activities and non-competitive athletic activities, such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, rock climbing. Sites that pertain to hobbies, collecting, clubs and social organizations. Sites pertaining to horticulture, gardening and yard maintenance. Sites pertaining to decorating and crafting.

Sample sites: crochet.about.com, www.tramper.nz, www.treasureclub.net

Reference

Reference collections including encyclopedias, atlases, historical data, biographies, how-to, etc. Sites which offer language tools and references such as dictionaries, thesaurus and translators. Information resources on scientific subjects. Science subjects include: biology, physics, mathematics, chemistry etc.

Sample sites: dictionary.reference.com, www.britannica.com, www.wikipedia.com

Religion

Sites that pertain to mainstream religious institutions such as churches, temples, mosques, etc.

- Church sites (service times, location, church event calendars, etc.)
- Sites with religious opinion or "witnessing"
- Sites that pertain to discussion and/or advocacy of religious organizations, religious opinion and opinions formed from a religious viewpoint.
- Sites promoting cult subject matter, use of mind control, paranoia, fear, and any other type of psychological control or manipulation.

Sample sites: www.zencenter.org, www.olacathedral.org, www.tbala.org, www.catholic.org, www.jewfaq.org, www.buddhanet.net, www.rael.org, www.heavensgate.com

Restaurant

Sites that provide information, promote, list, review, or advertise dining, catering services, restaurants, cafes, eateries, take-outs and fast food.

Sample sites: www.mcdonalds.com,
www.blackangus.com

Reviewed/Miscellaneous

Content that has been manually reviewed and does not fall under current categories.

School Cheating

Sites that may facilitate school cheating by providing academic content, test answers, or essays. AI sites such as chat.openai.com, and sites for answering questions such as ask.com are not included.

Sample sites: acemyhomework.com, essays.io

Search Engines

Major portal sites that either search the Internet or have a directory-based database of sites. Includes all sub-URLs under the main site.

Sample sites: www.yahoo.com,
www.google.com, www.bing.com

Self Help

Sites that include information such as therapies, counseling services, motivation, conferences, articles, self-awareness, spirituality etc.

- Rape crisis centers
- Sites that contain information on emotional and/or mental wellness.
- Counseling services, conferences

Sample sites: www.homecarechattanooga.com,
www.parenting.com

Shopping

Sites that contain consumer oriented online shopping, online malls, classifieds, and online trading/auction services.

Sample sites: www.amazon.com,
shopping.yahoo.com

Social Opinion

Sites that contain opinion on a variety of social topics.

Sample sites: www.prochoiceamerica.org,
www.peta.org,

Sports

Sites for professional, collegiate, and other competitive baseball, basketball, hockey, football & soccer teams, sports magazines, sporting events such as winter & summer Olympics, etc.

Also includes other competitive sports, such as NASCAR racing

Sample sites: espn.go.com, www.nba.com,
sportsillustrated.cnn.com

Spyware

Sites that promote, offer or secretively install software to monitor user behavior, track personal information, record keystrokes, and/or change user computer configuration without the user's knowledge and consent malicious or advertising purposes.

Includes sites with software that can connect to "phone home" for transferring user information.

Streaming Media

Sites that offer streaming video and other streaming media excluding Peer-to-Peer/File Sharing

Sample sites: www.hulu.com

Terrorist/Militant/Extremist

Sites that contain information regarding militias, anti-government groups, terrorism, anarchy, etc.

- Anti-government/Anti-establishment
- Bomb-making/usage

Tobacco

Sites that sell or promote the use of tobacco related products.

Sites that sell cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, etc.

Sites that are specifically designed to glamorize the use of tobacco related products

Translation Services

Websites that provide free online text and web page translation tools or web-based screen readers.

Sample sites: www.babelfish.com, translate.google.com

Travel

Sites that offer travel tickets and reservations, travel clubs, travelogues, visitor information bureaus, travel promotions, etc.

Sites relating to traveling, such as travel agencies, cruise lines, airfare, etc.

This category does not include destination sites. For example, the official Disneyland site is not in this category, but a page offering package tours to Disneyland would be in this category.

Sample sites: www.expedia.com, www.travel.com, www.travelocity.com

Trusted Proxy Relays

External relay proxies from trusted providers, used to obfuscate IP addresses or dissociate browsing history from individual IPs. Examples include Apple's iCloud Private Relay and Google's IP Protection.

URL Shortening and Redirect Services

Sites that host redirect services for URLs or domains, masking the requested destination. This includes URL shortening services.

Sample sites: bitly.com, tinyurl.com

Vehicles

Sites that discuss, promote, and offer information on cars, trucks, motorcycles, watercraft, aircraft and other forms of transportation.

- Dealerships/carshows
- Car parts and accessories
- Street racing

Sample sites: www.ford.com, www.harley-davidson.com, www.cessna.com

Video Sharing

Sites that allow users to post, share and view videos. These sites may also be categorized as Streaming Media, and possibly R-Rated. The Video Sharing category gives customers the ability to selectively block only viral video sites, which tend to affect productivity. The difference between Video Sharing and Streaming Media is that in video sharing the content is provided by a user community rather than the site operator.

Sample sites: www.youtube.com, www.vimeo.com,

Violence

Sites that portray, describe or advocate physical assault against humans, animals, or institutions.

VoIP

Sites that provide information and/or products to facilitate telephone calls using the Internet. VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) refers to a category of hardware and software that uses the Internet as a transmission medium for telephone calls by sending voice data in packets using IP

rather than by traditional circuit transmissions of the PSTN.

Sample sites: www.skype.com, www.lingo.com

Weapons

Sites that provide information and promote the collecting, maintenance, advocacy and sales of legal firearms, knives, swords and related items.

Sample sites: www.remington.com,
www.buckknives.com, www.swords.com,
www.nra.org

Web Based Email

Sites that offer online web-based e-mail services; this excludes ISPs, which provide standard POP or IMAP e-mail accounts.

Sample sites: www.hotmail.com,
www.gmail.com, mail.yahoo.com

Web Based Storage

Sites that offer storage for personal files on remote servers for backup or exchange purposes.

Sample sites: www.filesanywhere.com,
www.dropbox.com, drive.google.com

Web Hosts

Sites that offer domain names and Web space for hosting fee-based Web pages.

Sample sites: www.godaddy.com

Web Logs/Personal Pages

Web sites from personal or non-commercial sources which feature commentary and articles written in a log or journal format (Blogs).

Sample sites: www.blogger.com,
www.wordpress.com

About Trustwave

Trustwave helps businesses fight cybercrime, protect data and reduce security risk. With cloud and managed security services, integrated technologies and a team of security experts, ethical hackers and researchers, Trustwave enables businesses to transform the way they manage their information security and compliance programs. More than three million businesses are enrolled in the Trustwave Fusion® cloud platform, through which Trustwave delivers automated, efficient and cost-effective threat, vulnerability and compliance management. Trustwave is headquartered in Chicago, with customers in 96 countries. For more information about Trustwave, visit <https://www.trustwave.com>.