

An SSL (Secure Socket Layer) certificate is not necessary for general web site security. These certificates are used on web sites that provide shopping carts (e-commerce) utilize secure forms or provide financial type services where it's important to safeguard personal information like your credit card or social security number.

You will know if you're on a site page that utilizes some kind of SSL encryption by checking the bottom of your browser window. The little lock icon is the indicator and is in the closed lock position if the page uses SSL encryption and in the unlocked position if it doesn't.

SSL Certificates are available in different levels of security and can be costly depending upon the amount of security your particular web site needs for its secure application.

In many cases a web site that provides a shopping cart can be configured to use a third party payment processing feature ([PayPal](#) or [Mal's](#) for example). These web sites already have an SSL certificate in place! Taking advantage of their inexpensive services instead of providing your own certificate can save you quite a bit of money!

Before proceeding to purchasing an SSL Certificate, do talk with your designer and check out all your options. You may find it's not necessary. Should you need an SSL certificate, contact us and we will work with you to get you set up.

Thank you for your cooperation!

*Digital Mouse Designs | Web Hosting*