

## Spot Fake Canadian Pharmacies

According to the various spam trackers and other internet groups that track popular keywords, one of the top spam email topics is Canadian pharmacies. Nearly everyone has received at least one email offering them prescription drugs from Canada for very low prices and absolutely no prescription. However, there are some fake Canadian pharmacies out there that don't spam. They rely on people coming to them, and people do. However, these sites are just as much a scam as the ones that flood your inbox with emails. Here are some tips on how to avoid them. First of all, why Canada? Well, the answer is fairly simple. Most of the targets of scam sites, in fact most of the users of online pharmacies, are from the United States. Many of them actually used to drive to Canada to purchase medication because it's often cheaper. Once the internet became widespread, these people started ordering online, but they continued to use their favorite Canadian pharmacy instead of pharmacies located elsewhere. Canadian pharmacies are also known as being trustworthy. Many people believe drugs bought from Canada are perfectly safe because Canada isn't a third world country or a country that has ever had any suspicions cast on it. Because of these facts, scammers often pretend to be located in Canada in order to appear trustworthy. One way of spotting a fake Canadian pharmacy is to check out the seals they display on their website. Many do actually have seals guaranteeing that they are legitimate, but often, this approval actually comes from an organization that doesn't exist! One of the favorites is the Canadian International Drug Association, or the CIDA. This is a fake association that is based off of the Canadian International Pharmacy Association, or CIPA. The logos look very similar. In fact, many of these fraudulent pharmacies simply take a CIPA logo and change the P to a D. Another non-existent entity that is often cited as approving an online pharmacy is the American Drug Administration, or ADA. Again, this is another fake group that is based off of the FDA, the true U.S. drug administration. The ADA logo looks very similar to the FDA logo. Again, sometimes the only difference is the changing of a single letter. You can also spot a fake pharmacy (or any fake business, for that matter) by the fact that they use an unsecure website to take your personal information. Check the URL of the site when entering any personal information. If it doesn't say "https" at the beginning, it's not a secure connection.

## About the Author

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