

Is pbs.org legit? TrustSniffer's high-trust assessment: 90/100

pbs.org

Verdict

90

OUT OF 100

HIGH TRUST

pbs.org appears legitimate.

Our checks found nothing pointing to fraud. Ordinary care still applies when you pay or sign in.

Not Scam

Low Risk

Assessed 2026-08-17 by automated analysis. Classification confidence 75%.

What this site appears to be

Official PBS site content: program listings, news articles, donation and membership prompts, sign-in and account management, and links to PBS services and shop. Standard nonprofit media site with clear donation and membership flows.

Evidence status and limitations

- Evidence completeness: UNKNOWN
- The real-world operator identity was not independently verified.
 - Module-level completeness metadata is unavailable for this legacy report.

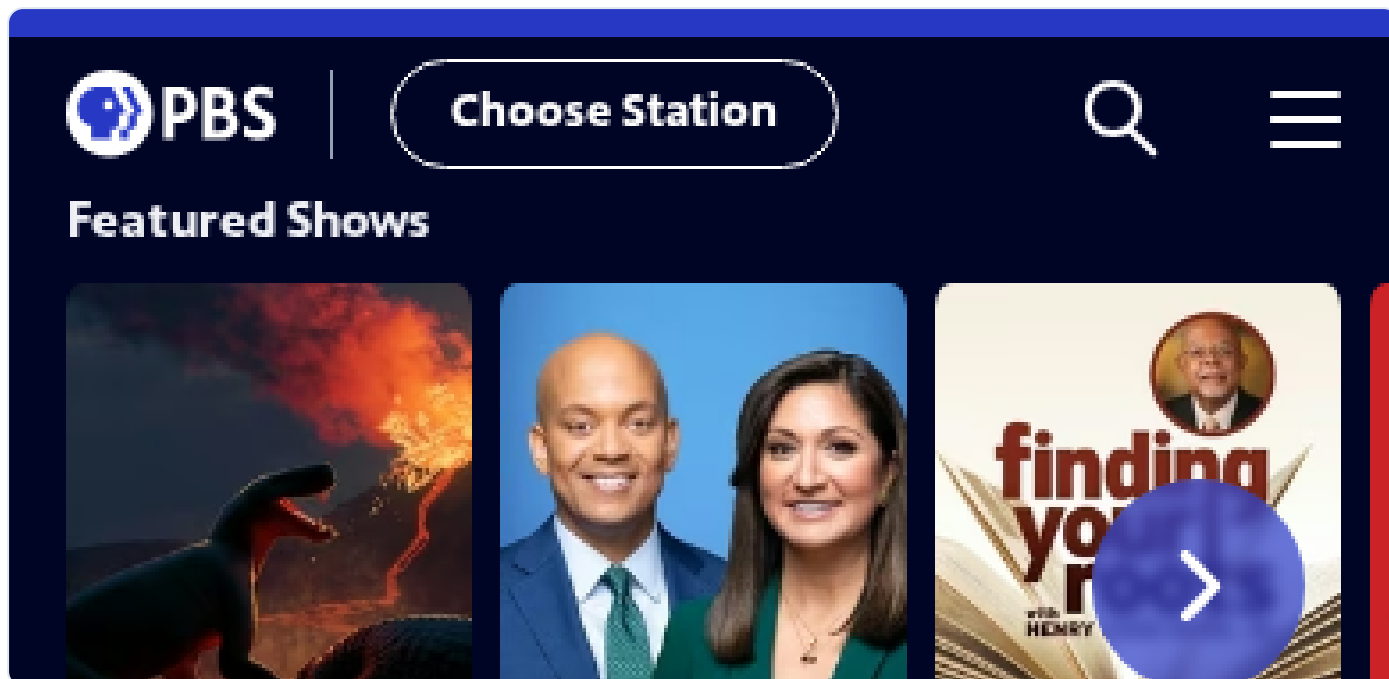
At a glance

The checks that decide most of this verdict.

Malware engines	None flagged it VirusTotal	CLEAR
Google Safe Browsing	Not listed Google	CLEAR
Abuse reports on the host	0 reports AbuseIPDB; shared hosting inflates this count	NOTED
Domain age	31 years old Registered history	CLEAR
Web archive	Archived since 1996 5000 snapshots	CLEAR
Certificate	Encrypted connection Issued by Amazon RSA 2048 M01	NOTED

The page as captured

<https://www.pbs.org/>



What pbs.org served when TrustSniffer captured it on 2026-08-17. The page may look different now.

Key findings

- Automated classification: Not Scam.
- Domain age: more than 10 years (registration continuity).
- Public web-archive history exists since 1996.
- No flags from the reputation services TrustSniffer consulted at assessment time.

Full analysis

Overview

This website is the official PBS public-broadcasting platform, presenting television and digital programming, news, membership and Passport access, donation opportunities, account services, and an online shop; its apparent model is nonprofit public media funded through viewer support, sponsorship, memberships, and retail activity.

Scam/Impersonation Risk

No contradictions were observed across the available evidence: there were no phishing, impersonation, malicious-reputation, or blacklist indicators, and the site's content, branding, and operating model are consistent with an established public broadcaster. The homepage uses conventional sign-in, donation, membership, and shopping flows rather than presenting deceptive investment, cryptocurrency, prize, or unusually high-return propositions. The available evidence supports an apparently legitimate site, although it does not independently prove the real-world operator identity.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage presents “PBS: Public Broadcasting Service,” program listings, PBS News, donation and membership prompts, account access, and PBS Shop content, with no recorded red flags.
- The domain was registered in 1995 and is approximately 31.35 years old; archival records contain 5,000 snapshots spanning 1996–2011 across 16 tracked years.
- External reputation screening recorded 0 malicious and 0 suspicious detections, with no confirmed blacklist or phishing result; the site is ranked 905 in the recorded global traffic ranking.

Regulatory Verification Notes

The observed business model is nonprofit public broadcasting rather than a financial or investment service. The available page content clearly describes donations, sponsorship, membership and retail support, but no specific financial-services license or registration number is presented; this is a limited regulatory-disclosure point rather than evidence of deception. The site’s apparent legitimacy is supported by its long registration continuity, sustained historical presence, recognized corporate registrar, established page authority, and clean external reputation. No third-party broker-dataset match was recorded, but that signal is contextual and does not constitute a licensing determination. The operator’s real-world identity remains independently unverified.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage identifies the service as PBS and describes programming, donations, membership/Passport access, sign-in, and PBS Shop activity.
- The domain registration record lists CSC Corporate Domains, Inc. as registrar and an expiration date of 2027-04-20.
- The site’s TLS certificate uses DV validation, was issued by Amazon RSA 2048 M01, and is valid through 2027-02-08.
- The site is served through AS16509, Amazon.com, Inc., US.

What to Verify Next

Before credential or payment interactions, an enterprise or consumer user should independently confirm the merchant or donation recipient through an official PBS or station contact route, review the applicable privacy, donation, membership, and shop terms, and confirm available payment-protection and return arrangements for any purchase. Where a transaction involves a local station or other affiliated entity, the relevant entity and any applicable registration should be checked directly with the responsible public registry.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage provides distinct routes for account access, donations, membership benefits, and shopping, supporting separate review of the applicable terms.
- The observed site includes cookie-preference controls and a privacy-policy reference, which can be reviewed before account activity.
- The available content distinguishes PBS services from station selection and PBS Shop activity, supporting independent confirmation of the specific counterparty.

Summary Verdict

The overall posture is **high trust and low risk**, with convergent evidence consistent with an established, apparently legitimate public-media website. Normal browsing and ordinary service use are supported by the assessment, while the positive trust conclusion should not be treated as independent proof of the operator’s real-world identity.

Infrastructure Integrity

The website is protected by AWS CDN/WAF infrastructure, which is a meaningful mitigating control against direct exposure and common delivery-layer abuse, but protective hosting alone is not proof of legitimacy. Observed resolution consisted of CDN edge infrastructure rather than a directly identified origin server.

EVIDENCE

- CDN/WAF protection was identified as AWS.
- Edge infrastructure was observed on AS14618, Amazon.com, Inc., US.
- Two edge IP addresses were recorded: 54.225.198.196 and 54.225.206.152; no likely origin candidates were identified.

Closing Assessment

Ordinary use is proportionate to the available evidence, provided that account and payment actions follow standard independent checks of the relevant counterparty, terms, and payment protections.

Written analysis generated 2026-08-17 by the TrustSniffer Analysis Engine from the evidence in this report.

What the analysis found

No rule findings contributed to this verdict.

Identity verification

Status	UNVERIFIED
Identity score	30/100
Identity verification confidence	50%

- No on-site identity signals detected

Identity verification measures whether the site can be independently connected to a real-world brand or person. It is separate from the classification confidence.

What TrustSniffer observed

First-party facts recorded during the assessment of pbs.org.

- The request stayed on pbs.org. It was not redirected to another domain. CLEAR
- Registration is published under CSC Corporate Domains, Inc.. CLEAR
- DNS for this domain is served by awsdns-25.org, across 4 name servers. NOTED
- The registration is paid up to 2027-04-20. NOTED
- The earliest public archive of this site is from 1996-12-25. CLEAR

- It is hosted on AMAZON-02, from a server in US. NOTED

Domain intelligence

Registrar	CSC Corporate Domains, Inc.
Hosting	AMAZON-02 - Amazon.com, Inc., US
Country	US
Server IP	2600:9000:278c:6000:0:3833:24c0:93a1
Name servers	ns-1230.awsdns-25.org, ns-1674.awsdns-17.co.uk, ns-193.awsdns-24.com, ns-806.awsdns-36.net
SSL issuer	Amazon RSA 2048 M01
SSL expiry	2027-02-08
Domain age	31.35 years (continuous registration)
Domain expiry	2027-04-20
Archive first seen	1996-12-25
Archive snapshots	5000
Reputation	VirusTotal: 0 flagged AbuseIPDB: 0 reports Google Safe Browsing: 0 matches

About this assessment

A trust score summarises the evidence TrustSniffer could collect about pbs.org at assessment time. It is a starting point for your own judgement, not a guarantee: a high score means the signals were consistent with a legitimately operated site, a low or critical score means several risk patterns were present.

TrustSniffer assesses a website from the evidence it can collect at a point in time: domain registration and age, hosting and certificate, the content the site served, and third-party reputation feeds. A score is a summary of that evidence, not a guarantee and not a legal finding. There is no human rating and no user review in it. A site can change after it is assessed.

This report online: <https://trustsniffer.com/report/pbs.org> · assessed 2026-08-17