Anatomy of a scam site. How to detect scams.

In this example, I will use a site discovered Sep 30,24.

[www.Joannst.ship](http://www.Joannst.ship)   
It looks like the real thing. Multiple entries, menus all work, even supports multiple languages. The items listed tend to be out of production, and this is listed as a liquidation site. You may have heard they Jo-Anns in in bankruptcy process.

Here’s how to check for scams.

This site fails my scam test. It may be real but would not trust it with my money or information

Here is why:

1. It just feels wrong.
2. I always suspect sites there the URL does not end in “.com”
3. Prices are too good to be true, like 1/10 the normal price
4. Prices are not listed in the standard US format.
5. Go to whois.com..whois and enter the web name, in this case “joannst.shop” and it says it was created 4 days ago from China by a Chinese company.
   1. Raw Whois Data
   2. Domain Name: JOANNST.SHOP
   3. Registry Domain ID: DO11927165-GMO
   4. Registrar WHOIS Server: **whois.west.cn**
   5. Registrar URL: http://west.cn
   6. Updated Date: 2024-09-26T14:29:01.0Z
   7. **Creation Date: 2024-09-26T14:29:01.0Z**
   8. Registry Expiry Date: 2025-09-26T23:59:59.0Z
   9. **Registrar: Chengdu West Dimension Digital Technology Co., LTD**
   10. Registrar IANA ID: 1556
   11. Registrar Abuse Contact Email: email@west.cn
   12. Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +86.2862778877
   13. Domain Status: ok https://icann.org/epp#ok
   14. Domain Status: addPeriod https://icann.org/epp#addPeriod
   15. Registrant State/Province: JiangXi
   16. Registrant Country: CN
   17. Registrant Email:
   18. Admin Email:
   19. Tech Email:
   20. Name Server: NS1.MYHOSTADMIN.NET
   21. Name Server: NS2.MYHOSTADMIN.NET
   22. DNSSEC: unsigned
   23. URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: https://www.icann.org/wicf/
   24. >>> Last update of WHOIS database: 2024-09-30T12:34:39.0Z <<<
6. In google maps, enter the address and do a street view to see a bank branch

The site as of Sep 30, 2024

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated