

Tutorial: TCC LINK VERIFIER

OVERVIEW:

The TCC Link Verifier takes a web address, searches the page for links, and visits every link. For every link visited, a status code is recorded. Codes 400 and above tell us that the link does not work. Codes 300-399 tell us that the link needs to be adjusted. Codes 299 and below tell us that the link works.

DOWNLOAD AND SET-UP:

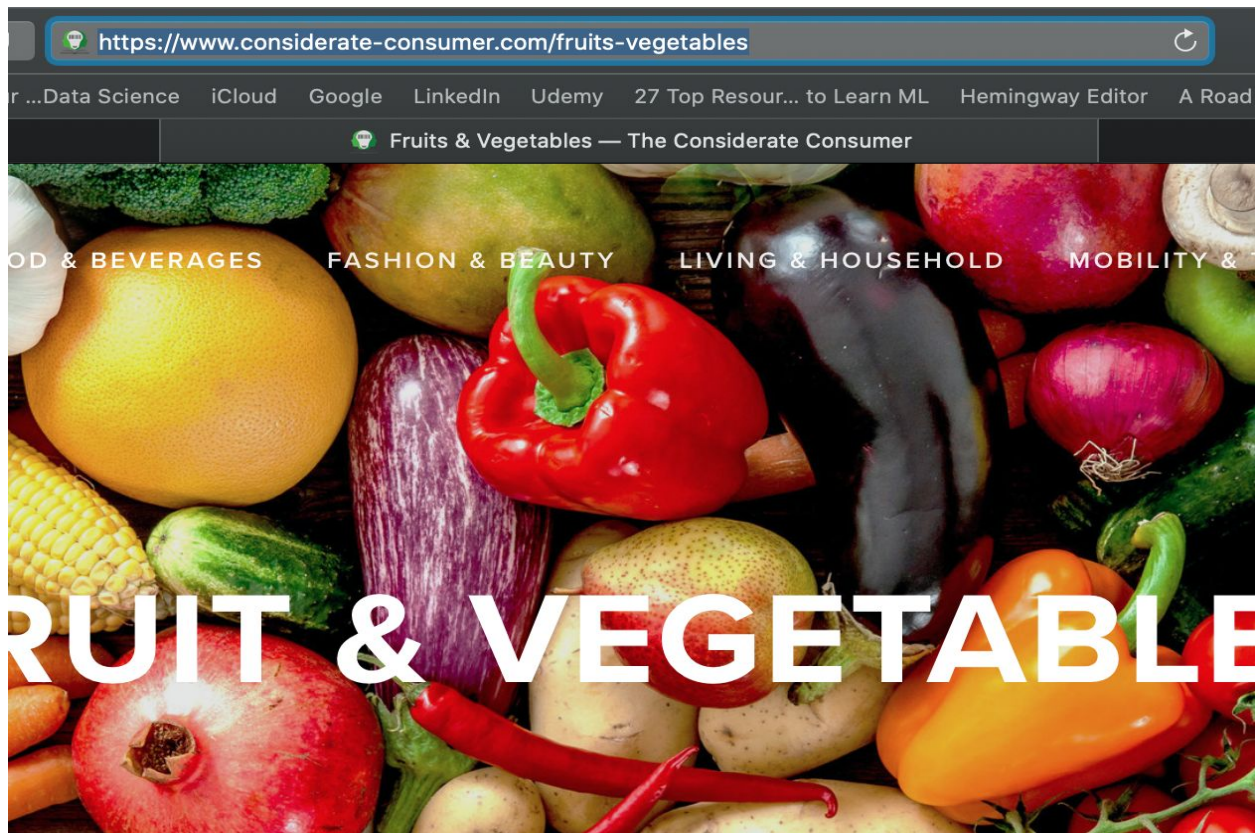
1. Navigate to the folder where the program is saved.
2. Download the "TCC_LINK_VERIFIER" folder to your local machine.
3. Open the folder and make sure all of the necessary files are present.
 - a. "TCC_LINK_VERIFIER.py"
 - b. "README-TCC-LINK-VERIFIER.txt"
 - c. "TUTORIAL-TCC-Link-VERIFIER.rtf"
4. Download and set-up python on your computer (Note: python comes preinstalled on most macs). Here is the link to download python: <https://www.python.org/downloads/>.
5. SET-UP COMPLETE.

STEP-BY-STEP:

1. Open a terminal and navigate to the folder where the python code is stored.

```
Last login: Sun Nov 27 15:41:33 on ttys001
(base) tylerstevenson@Tylers-MacBook-Air ~ % cd Documents/TCC_Python_Code/LINK_VERIFIER
```

2. Now, copy the web address for the page you wish to check. This is located in the bar at the top of the webpage.



3. In the terminal type "python Link_Verifier.py" (Or type python and then hit tab - if only .py in the folder.)

```
((base) tylerstevenson@Tylers-MacBook-Air LINK_VERIFIER % python Link_Verifier.py
```

4. Hit "enter". In the space provided, **paste** the web address. Hit "enter" again.

```
((base) tylerstevenson@Tylers-MacBook-Air LINK_VERIFIER % python TCC_LINK_VERIFIER.py
|*****|
|                Welcome to the TCC Link Verifier!                |
|*****|

Version: 1.0.0

Instructions for use:
  Copy the web address for the target page (e.g. copy : 'https://www.considerate-consumer.com/shopping-bag')
  Wait for program to run - typically <5 minutes
  Output text file will be save to your current working directory.

Any problems or questions? Please consult Tyler Stevenson
For use by The Considerate Consumer Content Management Team

Please enter the URL for the page here:
https://www.considerate-consumer.com/fruits-vegetables
```

5. In the terminal, it should now say "Request Successful". This means that the website has successfully been visited.

6. Now, wait for the program to run. This should take anywhere between 1-15 minutes, depending on the amount of links on the webpage.
7. Note: you may see a line of asterisks (*****) in the terminal. This is OK. It is simply telling you that the program has finished its first run and is now assessing any links with a status code of 429.
8. The program will finish when a message stating "Helper complete." appears.
9. Now, verify the output (see below)

VERIFYING THE OUTPUT:

1. After running this program, there will be a text file output to the current working directory. (This means that the text file should appear in the same folder that the .py is saved.)
2. If this file is not present, either the program has not finished running or the program has failed to generate an output.
3. Open this text file in a text viewer (notepad (windows) or TextEdit (Mac)). If you double click on the icon for the .txt file, your operating system will open the proper text viewer.
4. There should be sections in the document (200 Code, 300 Code, 400 Code, and 500 Code). Note: some of these may be empty -- this means that no links returned with that status code.
5. To check accuracy: copy a link from one of the links in the Status Code 400 or 500 list and navigate to it in your browser. If this gives you the correct code upon return, then the text file is verified. (e.g. If you visit a link in the Status Code 400 list labeled with a 404 status code, when you visit that link, you should see a 404 error code.)

TROUBLESHOOTING:

- REQUEST UNSUCCESSFUL (404 ERROR OR A 429 ERROR)
 - RETRY AGAIN AFTER WAITING (5) MINUTES
 - IF STILL UNSUCCESSFUL TRY NEW LINK