

What is a pop-up?

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A 'pop-up' or 'pop-up window' is a small screen that literally pops up, or opens automatically, over the top of your browser.





This can happen when you're on a website and mouse over something, or the website may simply detect that you're present and open the pop-up. It can usually be closed by clicking on a small cross found in the top right-hand corner of the window.

Pop-ups are often a form of online advertising. Sometimes they're issued by legitimate companies, but they're also frequently part of '[phishing](#)' expeditions, fraudulent schemes to obtain your personal or financial details, so it's important to exercise caution.

That said, not all pop-ups are bad. They can sometimes be an important feature of a website, providing you with further information or instruction.

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Next steps

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