

“Go.USA.gov makes me proud to be an American.”

— Esther Dyson, Former chairwoman of ICANN, investor or board member of: Flickr, del.icio.us, Eventful, Netbeans, Powerset, Systinet, ZEDO, CV-Online, Medscape, and Medstory



USA.gov Short URLs

Short URLs have become an essential part of social media communications. They make it easy to share long links with your audience and let you track clicks on your links.

Unfortunately, short URLs can create a poor user experience. A short URL could take a user to a trustworthy site or a spam site, but a user would have no way of knowing before he or she clicks. That's why **USA.gov** has made it easy for people to create short, trustworthy .gov URLs that only point to official U.S. government information.

Go.USA.gov

Go.USA.gov is a URL shortener that lets anyone with a government e-mail address create short, trustworthy .gov URLs to use on online services with character restrictions. **Go.USA.gov** only shortens government URLs - that is: .mil, .gov, .fed.us, .si.edu, and .state.xx.us URLs.

You must have a verifiable U.S. federal, state, or local government e-mail address to register for a **Go.USA.gov** account. Visit <http://go.usa.gov> to sign up now.

Using **Go.USA.gov** is easy: Just sign in, copy and paste the government URL, and click shorten.

Over 7,000 government employees already use **Go.USA.gov** and have shortened more than 150,000 URLs.

1.USA.gov

1.USA.gov is the result of a collaboration between **USA.gov** and **bitly.com**, the popular URL shortening service. Now, whenever anyone uses bitly to shorten a URL that ends in .gov or .mil, they will receive a short, trustworthy **1.USA.gov** URL in return.

To create a **1.USA.gov** URL, simply go to <http://bitly.com>, paste in a long .gov or .mil URL, and click shorten. There's no need to log in. You can also create **1.USA.gov** URLs using any tool that already integrates with bitly, like TweetDeck or Seesmic.

Since anyone can create **1.USA.gov** short URLs, there are thousands created and shared every day.

Quick Facts

- ▶ The public can click on **Go.USA.gov** or **1.USA.gov** URLs knowing they will lead to official U.S. government information.
- ▶ **Go.USA.gov** and **1.USA.gov** track the number of clicks each shortened URL receives, allowing users to measure the impact of their outreach.
- ▶ **Go.USA.gov** is open source and was developed in Drupal. If you would like to contribute to future enhancements, please contact us.

If you have questions about **USA.gov** short URLs, please e-mail go.usa.gov@gsa.gov.



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