Google Advanced Search Operators

Alongside Boolean operators (AND, OR) and phrase searching (using quotation marks to search for an exact match to multi-word terms, e.g. "climate change"), Google search operators can help you to focus and refine your search.

Search operators

Combine your keywords with search operators to make your Google search more efficient:

Site:

Focus your search on a particular website or web domain. For example:

- Galaxies site:nasa.gov
- Education site:gov.uk

filetype:

Limit your search to pages that end in a particular suffix. Useful for finding different types of files, such as PDFs or Excel spreadsheets. For example:

- PowerPoints: Guidelines filetype:ppt
- Spreadsheets: Currency filetype:xls
- PDFs: Employment filetype:pdf

intext: intitle: inurl:

Finds an exact match to a single search term in either the text, title or URL of a webpage. For example: intitle:Nissan

Use 'allintitle:' or 'allinurl:' to match multiple search terms, e.g. allintitle:Nissan electric

- (minus sign)

Use the minus sign immediately before a term to exclude pages that contain it. For example: car industry -"commercial vehicles"

* (Wildcard)

Use an asterisk to stand in for 1 to 5 terms between two words. For example: "Solar * Panels"

.. (numeric range)

Used with numbers of any kind, such as years, temperatures, weights, prices, and distances. For example: £300..£500

Advanced Search

Search operators can also be applied, alongside filters, using the <u>Google advanced search</u> tool.