

Research Databases - Advanced Searching Cheat Sheet

Database	Useful Advanced Features	Truncator or Wildcards	Boolean Connectors	Phrase Searching	Proximity
WorldCat (FirstSearch) search tips (pdf)	Field searching: ns:0022-3840 (for ISSN) SU=lichens (by subject) For items in any ARC library: (li:ULB or li:AZM or li:ULF or li:BQM or li:CKM or li:HCD or li:HCQ or li:FTB or li:NKK or li:MTW or li:ULY) and su:lichens	Mammal+ (finds plurals) ? for 0-9 characters * for unlimited characters # for single character	AND implied in basic search AND NOT OR nesting when using more than one: ("new england" OR Massachusetts) AND (lichens or flora)		solar w4 panel? (order typed) solar n4 panel? (any order)
ScienceDirect search tips	Use Search tab to screen by subject area, fields such as title or affiliation	Auto stemming	AND implied AND NOT OR	"New England" Use quotes around phrases "New England" Use quotes around phrases	Fire w/5 clothes (must be within 5 words)
EBSCOhost search tips	Many useful field limits in Advances: - NAICS 3635* for industries	* zero or more characters ? = one character Auto stemming for plurals	AND NOT OR		
JSTOR search tips	Useful limiters: - Search for words in title - Search for articles only Boost relevance of words with ^n: cat^7 dog	* zero or more ? = one character & to search for plurals	AND NOT OR		
Engineering Village search tips	Review their 135 page User Manual to become proficient in this powerful tool. Ability to search just title or subject terms Many limits by document type and treatment limit: Historical, Literature Review for example. Etc	Auto stemming (but can turn off) * multi-character ? = one character Left truncation: *sorption returns adsorption, absorption, resorption	AND NOT OR		NEAR/n for any order laser NEAR/4 diode ONEAR/n for exact order Thomas ONEAR/1 Edison Would return <i>Thomas Alva Edison</i>