

# Search operators

If you're not finding what you're searching for after using some [basic search tips](#), try a search operator. Add these symbols or words to your search terms in the Google search box to narrow down your results. Don't worry about memorizing the operators - you can use the [Advanced Search page](#) to generate many of these searches.

When you search using an operator, don't add any spaces between the operator and your query. A search for `site:nytimes.com` will work, but `site: nytimes.com` will not.

<p><b>Search for an exact word or phrase</b></p>	<p>Use quotes to search for an exact word or set of words. This option is handy when searching for song lyrics or a line from literature.</p> <p><code>"imagine all the people"</code></p> <p><b>Tip:</b> Only use this if you're looking for a very precise word or phrase, because otherwise you could be excluding helpful results by mistake.</p>
<p><b>Exclude a word</b></p>	<p>Add a dash (-) before a word or site to exclude all results that include that word. This is especially useful for synonyms like Jaguar the car brand and jaguar the animal.</p> <p><code>jaguar speed -car</code> or <code>pandas -site:wikipedia.org</code></p> <p><b>Tip:</b> You can also exclude results based on other operators, like excluding all results from a specific site.</p>
<p><b>Search within a site or domain</b></p>	<p>If you are looking for more results from a certain website, include <code>site:</code> in your query. For example, you can find all mentions of "olympics" on the New York Times website like this:</p> <p><code>olympics site:nytimes.com</code></p> <p><b>Tip:</b> Also search within a specific top-level domain like <code>.org</code> or <code>.edu</code> or country top-level domain like <code>.de</code> or <code>.jp</code>.</p> <p><code>olympics site:.gov</code></p>
<p><b>Search for pages that link to a URL</b></p>	<p>Using the <code>link:</code> operator, you can find pages that link to a certain page. For example, you can find all the pages that link to google.com.</p> <p><code>link:google.com</code></p> <p><b>Tip:</b> You can also search for links to specific pages, like <code>google.com/images</code>.</p> <p><code>link:google.com/images</code></p>
<p><b>Search for pages that are similar to a URL</b></p>	<p>To find sites that are similar to a URL you already know, use the <code>related:</code> operator. For example, when you search for related sites to the New York Times, you'll find other news publication sites you may be interested in.</p> <p><code>related:nytimes.com</code></p>
<p><b>Fill in the blank</b></p>	<p>Use an asterisk (*) within a search as a placeholder for any unknown or wildcard terms.</p> <p><b>Tip:</b> Use with quotation marks to find variations of that exact phrase or to remember words in the middle of a phrase.</p> <p><code>"a * saved is a * earned"</code></p>
<p><b>Search for either word</b></p>	<p>If you want to search for pages that may have just one of several words, include <code>OR</code> (capitalized) between the words. Without the <code>OR</code>, your results would typically show only pages that match both terms.</p> <p><code>world cup location 2014 OR 2018</code></p> <p><b>Tip:</b> Enclose phrases in quotes to search for either one of several phrases.</p> <p><code>"world cup location 2014" OR "world cup location 2018"</code></p>