



Features & Operators

Hello Operators



Web Search Lesson Plan
Module C1



Google Search Operators

Powering Up Your Search



What is an Operator?



%

!

""

*

An operator is a symbol that modifies the words or numbers around it.

&

+

You already know some operators!

-

>

()

\$

#

In search, an operator changes your search query -- often with drastic results!

These operators can help you tweak, refine, and narrow your search.

There are seven basic operators in Google Search.



Search Tools

Using Operators to Narrow Your Search



Exclusion (-)



The minus symbol (-) excludes words from your search results.

Try these searches:

[panthers]

[panthers -sports]

What do you notice?

The plus symbol (+) makes sure the word it precedes is used exactly as you entered it.

Try these searches:

[ball]

[+ball]

What do you notice?

Similar Words (~)



The tilde symbol (~) includes similar words in your search results.

Try these searches:

[food store]

[~food ~store]

What do you notice?

Multiple Words (OR)



The boolean "or" (OR) includes one, the other, or both words in your search results.

Try these searches:

[curl straighten hair]

[curl OR straighten hair]

What do you notice?

Number Range (..)



The dot-dot symbol (..) includes a range of numbers in your search results.

Try these searches:

[academy awards 1965]

[academy awards 1965..1973]

What do you notice?

Fill-in-the-Blank (*)



The star or asterisk symbol (*) leaves space for a missing word in your search results.

Try these searches:

[dark and night]

[dark and * night]

What do you notice?

Exact Phrase (" ")



Double quotes (" ") include only the exact phrase -- *the exact words in the exact order you entered them* -- in your search results.

Try these searches:

[alexander bell]

["alexander bell"]

What do you notice?

Putting It All Together

Can you think of particular examples when these search operators could help you?

- Exclusion (-)
- Inclusion (+)
- Similar Words (~)
- Multiple Words (OR)
- Number Range (..)
- Fill-in-the-Blank (*)



- Exact Phrase (" ")



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