

# Google Guide

## Search operators

Use these operators or use **Advanced Search**. 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.

### Search for an exact word or phrase

**"search"**

Use quotes to search for an exact word or set of words on a web page. This is helpful when searching for song lyrics or a line from a book. But only use this if you're looking for an exact word or phrase, otherwise you'll exclude many helpful results by mistake.

**"imagine all the people"**

### Search for either word

**OR**

If you want to search for pages that may have just one of several words, include **OR** (capitalized) between the words. Without the **OR**, your results would typically show only pages that match both terms.

**world cup location 2014 OR 2018**

### Exclude a word

**-search**

Add a dash (-) before a word or site to exclude all results that include that word. This is especially useful for words with multiple meanings, like Jaguar the car brand and jaguar the animal.

**jaguar speed -car**  
**pandas -site:wikipedia.org**

### Search within a site or domain

**site:**

Get results only from certain sites or domains. For example, you can find all mentions of "olympics" on the NBC website, or any .gov websites.

**olympics site:nbc.com**  
**olympics site:.gov**

### Search for pages that link to a URL

**link:**

Find pages that link to a certain page. For example, you can find all the pages that link to google.com.

**link:google.com**

### Search for pages that are similar to a URL

**related:**

Find sites that are similar to a URL you already know. If you search for related sites to the Time.com, you'll find other news publication sites you may be interested in.

**related:time.com**

### Fill in the blank

**\***

Add an asterisk within a search as a placeholder for any unknown or wildcard terms. Use with quotation marks to find variations of that exact phrase or to remember words in the middle of a phrase.

**"a \* saved is a \* earned"**

### Search for a number range

**..**

Separate numbers by two periods without spaces (..) to see results that contain numbers in a given range of things like dates, prices, and measurements.

**camera \$50..\$100**

- Find information about a site** Get information about a URL, including the cached version of the page, similar pages, and pages that link to the site.  
**info:** [info:google.com](http://info:google.com)
- See a cached version of a site** See what a page looks like the last time Google crawled the site.  
**cache:** [cache:washington.edu](http://cache:washington.edu)

## Punctuation and symbols in search

Most punctuation is ignored, but a few symbols work in search.

- [+]** Search for Google+ pages [[+Chrome](#)] or blood types [[AB+](#)]
- [@]** Find social tags [[@google](#)]
- [\$]** Find prices [[nikon \\$400](#)]
- [#]** Find popular hashtags for trending topics [[#throwbackthursday](#)]
- [-]** Show that words around a dash are strongly connected [[twelve-year-old dog](#)]
- [\_]** Connect two words [[quick\\_sort](#)]. Your search results will find this pair of words either linked together ([quicksort](#)) or connected by an underscore ([quick\\_sort](#)).

Even though the symbols above are supported, including them in your searches doesn't always improve the results. If we don't think the punctuation will give you better results, you may see suggested results for that search without punctuation.

<https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/136861>

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