



## SEARCHING THE WEB WITH GOOGLE

Objectives:

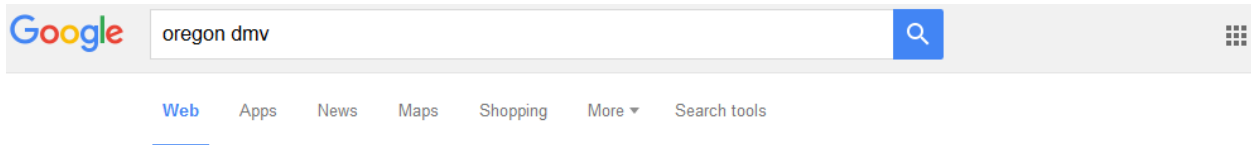
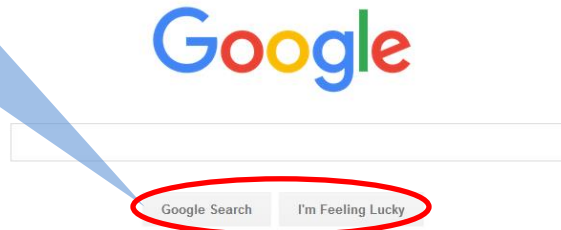
- Learn how to use Google to find information
- Develop techniques for improving search results
- Learn to evaluate search results



# The Anatomy of a Google Search

You will *never need* to use these two buttons. They are remnants of the original Google Search Engine and no longer have any *practical* use.

Gary Gmail Images 2 G



About 1,490,000 results (0.65 seconds) ← Indicates the number of search results & search time.

This is an **advertisement.**

**Oregon DMV Info - dmv.org**  
[www.dmv.org/Oregon](http://www.dmv.org/Oregon)  
 DMV Forms, License, & Registration. Our Comprehensive Guide to the DMV. 180 Million Visits a Year · No Need to Stand In Line · Over 500 Million Served

**Title/Link** – Click to go to the **website**

**State of Oregon: Oregon DMV - Oregon.gov**  
[www.oregon.gov/odot/dmv](http://www.oregon.gov/odot/dmv) Oregon  
 DMV is currently allowing several private businesses to conduct our behind-the-wheel drive test. These businesses may offer quicker, more convenient ...

**Driver & ID Information**

ID Cards. Use the links below to access information about ID ...

**Titling & Registering a Vehicle**

Replacing Oregon Titles - New Vehicle - Changing Your Name

**Online Services**

Online Services ... and mail it to DMV instead of using the online ...

**DMV office**

Portland Area - Willamette Valley - DMV office - The Coast - ...

**Contact Us**

You may also call your local DMV office. However, the phone calls ...

**Forms & Publications**

Using DMV Forms & Publications. Fillable Forms Fillable forms ...

[More results from oregon.gov »](#)

These are links to specific **webpages** within the Oregon DMV website.

**Oregon DMV - Online Change of Address Login**  
<https://dmv.odot.state.or.us/cf/addresschange/>  
 DMV uses the same address for all vehicles registered in your name and for your Driver License, Permit or ID Card. ... Your Driver License, Permit or ID Card record. If your Driver License, Permit or ID Card is currently valid, we will place a new address sticker in the mail in one ...

**Snippet** – A brief description of the webpage

**Oregon DMV - Online Services**  
<https://dmv.odot.state.or.us/cf/vrr/index.cfm>  
 Welcome to Oregon DMV's Online Registration Renewal, where you can quickly and easily complete your vehicle registration renewal(s) via the web.

# Tips for getting the best search results

**Use specific keywords.** Try to be as specific as possible. For example, if you want information about a buckeye tree, typing *buckeye* will result in information about trees, but it will also contain results related to football, Ohio, and candy. Add the word **tree** for better results.

**Skip the words you don't need.** Unlike the game show *Jeopardy*, you do not need to phrase your search in the form of a question. Google ignores small words like *the, a, an, by, of,* and focuses on relevant keywords. You can still include those words, but *strong keywords are the key to good search results.*

**Don't worry about capitalization or punctuation.** Google ignores capitalization and most punctuation.

**If at first you don't succeed, try saying it another way.** If you don't get the results you want, try rephrasing. Think of synonyms related to your search. For example, search *fitness* instead of *exercise*. If you used quotation marks, try removing them. Take out a word. Try a different word. For example, if you are searching *usb drive*, you may want to try alternative words with the same meaning, such as *flash drive* or *thumb drive*. Don't just use technical terms. Try real-world terms and slang. Experimenting with word selection will help you master the art of the web search. *Try to have fun while experimenting.* 😊

## Evaluating your search results

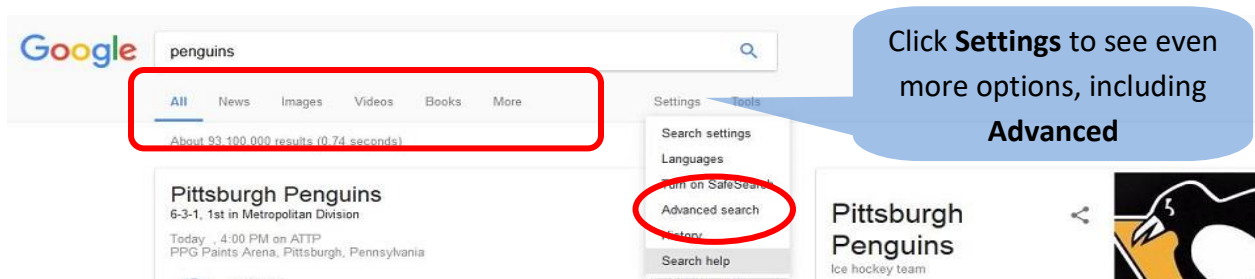
**Consider the source of information:** Many websites have an **About** page. Usually a link to the **About** page can be found at the top or bottom of a website's homepage. Find the **About** page and take a look at it. Is it clear who created and maintains the website? If so, what are the creator's qualifications on the topic you are searching? For example, you may choose a veterinarian's website over a general blog post for pet care information.

**Who is the intended audience?** Is the website intended to reach a particular audience? Are they trying to sell you something, or to provide you with unbiased information? Many websites are created just to get you to buy a product, or to persuade you to believe something that may or may not be accurate.

**Is the website current?** Look for dates to indicate if the information is recent, or outdated.

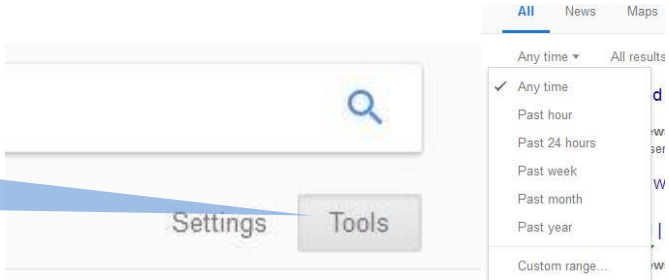
**How is the information presented?** Evaluate whether the information on a website is accurate. Verify the information on other sites, if possible. Consider the content—is it disparaging or one-sided? Is there evidence that the author has done research? Is it based on opinions or facts?

# Other Search Options & Search Operators



Operator	Used in a Search	Search Results
<b>"" (quotes):</b> Search for an exact phrase.	"mickey mouse"	Displays results containing the exact phrase
<b>Site Search:</b> Search within a specific website. (No space between : and words)	Searching the web:coosbaylibrary.org	All results from the Coos Bay Public Library website
<b>Domain Search:</b> Search for results in a specific domain (com, edu, gov, org) using <b>site:</b> (no space)	unemployment site:gov	Displays results containing the word <i>unemployment</i> , only within government websites
<b>Exclude a Word:</b> Use - (minus) before search term. Good for searching words with multiple meanings	tacoma -toyota	Results for <i>tacoma</i> will not include results for <i>toyota</i> , but will include information on Tacoma, Washington.
<b>Exclude a Site:</b> Use - (minus) before the site you want to exclude from your search	pandas -wikipedia.org	Results for <i>pandas</i> will not include results from Wikipedia
<b>Search for Either Word:</b> Use a capital <b>OR</b> between words	solar OR lunar eclipse	Results will include either <i>solar</i> or <i>lunar</i> , but not necessarily both.
<b>Fill in the Blank (Wildcard):</b> Use * (asterisk) to find unknown words	radio * wagon	Results will include <i>radio</i> and <i>wagon</i> with commonly appearing word(s) in between
<b>Unit Converter:</b> Convert units of measurement	12 inches in cm	First result will be displayed in Google Unit Converter
<b>Define Operator:</b> Use <b>define</b> before a word	define oceanography	First result will be the definition of <i>oceanography</i>
<b>Political Issues Operator:</b> Search a politician's name followed by <b>views</b> or <b>issues</b>	george bush views or jeff merkley issues	First result will be a list of political issues with quotes, & articles the quotes came from
<b>Search within a range of numbers</b> Search object you are looking for followed by a price range with ... in the middle of the numbers	sewing machine \$300..\$500	Results will include pages with sewing machines priced between \$300 and \$500
<b>Image Search:</b> Search for a picture, or get information about a picture you found online.	To search for pictures of frogs, click <b>images</b> , then type <b>frogs</b> in the search box.	If you find a picture of a frog and want more info about it, drag picture to the search box.
	Your results will include many pictures of frogs.	Your results may include species info, or info about the picture itself.

Select **Tools** to conduct a time range search.



## Have Fun While Practicing!

The best way to master searching the web is to practice. Learning this skill takes time. *Have fun* while you practice at home or at the library. I recommend searching topics you find interesting or would like to learn more about. Practice at your own pace.

*If you need more help, visit the Reference Desk at the library, or set up a 1-on-1 appointment!*

### Searching the Web Word Search

E F F P H P R V D C F K Z Y I C A T  
 L Y R P C T L F M M T K P C L D N F  
 G F G H R I E E C I T C A R P E P L  
 O B C D A O A P U S E I Q D M E K E  
 O K D T E T Y V P A I O G E G K F S  
 G P J K S F D Y L I D U S B E B V S  
 C Y K J D J Q G L J N I F H A Z K D  
 I W O J E N W S C P T S O M F S C O  
 N G K E C P K V I R P M B U O W Q J  
 O R C Q N E A E E T E X N B P R E N  
 F I B L A T Y V Y P E I U T E N T H  
 A Y I G V J D N A W A Z J A R S E V  
 W Z I W D A H G C M O W X M A U J S  
 N P E R A K E U O G T R R W T Y H N  
 A L G M Z H Q D S F B H D D O B K T  
 S E A R C H E N G I N E M S R L K L  
 P S Y F I O O A D O L W K Q T X W V  
 Y C Z N W T Q L I N K K N V I B Q L

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|---------------|-----------------|
| ADVERTISEMENT | DOMAIN          |
| GOOGLE        | KEYWORDS        |
| HOMEPAGE      | PRACTICE        |
| LINK          | SNIPPET         |
| OPERATOR      | SITE            |
| SEARCH ENGINE | ADVANCED SEARCH |