Internet Tutorials

How to Choose a Search Engine or Directory

Fields & File Types	
If you want to search for...	**Choose...**
Audio/Music	AllTheWeb | AltaVista | Dogpile | Fazzle | FindSounds.com | Lycos Music Downloads | Lycos Multimedia Search | Singingfish
Date last modified	AllTheWeb Advanced Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search | Exalead Advanced Search | Google Advanced Search | HotBot Advanced Search | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
Domain/Site/URL	AllTheWeb Advanced Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search | AOL Advanced Search | Google Advanced Search | Lycos Advanced Search | MSN Search Search Builder | SearchEdu.com | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
File Format	AllTheWeb Advanced Web Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search | AOL Advanced Search | Exalead Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
Geographic location	Exalead Advanced Search | HotBot Advanced Search | Lycos Advanced Search | MSN Search Search Builder | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
Images	AllTheWeb | AltaVista | The Amazing Picture Machine | Ditto | Dogpile | Fazzle | Google Image Search | IceRocket | Ixquick | Mamma | Picsearch
Language	AllTheWeb Advanced Web Search | AOL Advanced Search | Exalead Advanced Search | Google Language Tools | HotBot Advanced Search | iBoogie Advanced Web Search | Lycos Advanced Search | MSN Search Search Builder | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
Multimedia & video	All TheWeb | AltaVista | Dogpile | Fazzle | IceRocket | Singingfish | Yahoo Video Search

Page Title/URL	AOL Advanced Search | Fazzle | Google Advanced Search | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search | ZapMeta Advanced Web Search

Search logic	
If you want to use...	**Choose...**
Boolean operators	AltaVista Advanced Web Search | AllTheWeb Advanced Search | Dogpile | Google [OR only] | Ixquick
Full Boolean logic with parentheses e.g., *behavior and (cats or felines)*	AlltheWeb Advanced Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search | Exalead | Ixquick | MSN Search
Implied Boolean +/-	Most search engines offer this option
Boolean logic using search form terminology	Most advanced search options offer this, including: AllTheWeb Advanced Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search AOL Advanced Search | Exalead | Google Advanced Search | IceRocket Advanced Search | MSN Search Search Builder | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
Proximity searching	Exalead | Google [by default] | Ixquick

Search options	
If you want..	**Choose...**
Alternative search terms	SurfWax
A user fill-in search form	Many search engines offer this, including: AlltheWeb Advanced Web Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search | AOL Search Advanced Search | Google Advanced Search | IceRocket Advanced Search | Lycos Advanced Search | MSN Search Builder | Teoma Advanced Search | Yahoo Advanced Web Search
Search for documents similar to those in existing results	Google
Truncation	Exalead | Ixquick
Your search stated in plain English	Ask Jeeves | Brainboost | Ixquick | MSN Search
Translation of pages retrieved as search results, or any text or Web page, to and from selected languages	Babel Fish

An exact phrase within quotations	Most search engines offer this option
An exact phrase from a template choice	Many search templates offer this. For example: AllTheWeb Advanced Search | AltaVista Advanced Web Search | Fazzle | Google Advanced Search | IceRocket Advanced Search
Multiple search tools searched simultaneously with duplicate records removed	Chubba | Clusty | Copernic | Don Busca | FastSeeks | Fazzle | Ixquick | Mamma | MetaCrawler | Query Server | SurfWax | Yooci | more...

Search Results	
If you want...	**Choose...**
Results based on linking, i.e., number of links from highly rated Web pages	A9 | Alexa Web Search | AltaVista | Google | Google Web Directory | Teoma [Many search engines use this technology as part of their results ranking strategy]
Results clustered by concept and/or type of site (a "horizontal" in addition to a single vertical list of results)	Accumo | All 4 One MetaSearch | Clusty | Don Busca | Exalead | iBoogie | Infonetware | metaEUREEKA | Kartoo | KillerInfo | Mooter | Teoma | Turbo10 | Ujiko | Vivisimo
Option to search on related topics	AllTheWeb | Dogpile | Factbites | Teoma
Clustering of results into one hit per site with the option to see all	AllTheWeb | AltaVista
Results in graphical format	Kartoo | Mooter | Ujiko
Results with thumbnail images of retrieved sites	Don Busca | Exalead | IceRocket
Queries stored at the site and notification of new results	Google Alert | Karnak | TracerLock
Queries stored by the search service for repeat searches	Copernic

Specialty Searches	
If you want to search...	**Choose...**
The Deep Web (not generally covered by search spiders)	Complete Planet | Google | Search.Com | Turbo10 [Many search engine sites offer deep Web searches. For example, see Ixquick and InfoGrid]
Blogs	Blogdex | Blogdigger | Bloglines | BlogPulse | Bloogz | Clusty | Daypop | Feedster | Globe of

	Blogs | Google Blog Search | IceRocket | Popdex | Technorati
Files in FTP sites (text, multimedia, software, etc.)	FileIndexer.com | Ftpsearchengines.com | Oth Net
News (multiple sources searched simultaneously)	AlltheWeb: News | AltaVista - News | FindNews.org | Google News Alerts | InfoGrid | NewsNow | NewsTrove.com | Pandia Newsfinder | RocketNews | Topix.net | The WorldNews Network
News (RSS feeds)	Daypop | Memigo | NewsIsFree
RSS feeds	2RSS.com | Chordata | Daypop | Feed-Directory.com | RSSfeeds.com | Syndic8.com
Saved Web pages	Furl | Spurl.net
Site analysis	GoLexa
Usenet newsgroup postings	Google Groups
Reference sources (dictionaries, encyclopedias, e-mail and address lookups, calculators, quotations, news, government info, statistics etc.)	Reference Collection (U Albany Libraries)
Professionally maintained directories	About | Academic Info | BUBL LINK | INFOMINE | Librarians' Index to the Internet | Resource Discovery Network | Scout Report Archives | Virtual Learning Resources Center | WWW Virtual Library | more...
Directories maintained by volunteers	JoeAnt | Open Directory Project (DMOZ)

http://www.internettutorials.net/choose.html