

# Boolean Search



## What is Boolean?

A search method allowing you to combine search terms using various operators to limit, broaden, or define your search.

## SEARCH OPERATORS

**AND** — e.g. *project AND construction*



Results will contain **both** search terms  
Use this to **narrow** results

**QUOTES** — e.g. *"information technology"*



Results will contain the **exact** search phrase



**OR** — e.g. *contractor OR supplier*



Results will contain **either or both** search terms  
Use this to **broaden** results



**ASTERISK** — e.g. *structur\**



Results that begin with search term — structure, structural, etc.  
**Note:** some databases use \$ or ?

**NOT** — e.g. *infrastructure NOT finance*



Results **won't** contain the latter search term  
Can **exclude** relevant results



**PARENTHESIS** — e.g. *[project OR work] AND hire*



Results will contain the last search term **AND** either or both parenthetical search terms

## OTHER OPERATORS

**SITE** — e.g. *site:twitter.com authors*



Results will contain search terms only from the specified website



**PRICE** — e.g. *hat \$1000*



Results will contain items listed for the search price (approximately)



### USE MULTIPLE SEARCH OPERATORS FOR A MORE PRECISE SEARCH

"information professional" —technologist will return a result including the quoted search phrase **AND** exclude the latter search term



SCAN TO  
DOWNLOAD

### MORE ADVANCED SEARCH OPERATORS

<https://ahrefs.com/blog/google-advanced-search-operators/>