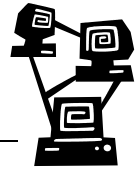


Effective Internet Searching



It is often commented that there is so much information on the Internet and that the information searched for is not found. The following information is designed to assist in helping you to find the information you want on the web.

The first point to realize is that there are generally two types of search engines; the menu driven (*directory*) engines in which the site owners build and maintain menu choices for what they think are popular web sites and information of interest.

Examples of directory engines are:

www.msn.com
www.yahoo.com

The second type of engine is referred to as a *spider engine* and is built around you typing in a search word or phrase from which the internet is searched.

Examples of spider engines are:

www.google.ca
www.youtube.com

Today, the spider engines are most commonly used.

These tips may help find the information you want:

- Use synonyms for the search terms
- Utilize syntax rules where supported:
 - Capital letters for proper names
 - Use quotes around words that belong together
 - Use Boolean logic rules like “-” for not
 - Try using wildcard characters like an asterisk for a string
- Customize your search engine search using “Advanced search”

Additional Tips

1. Learn and know how one engine works through their help files.
2. Use search engines to learn more about searching and other search engines.
3. Review the search hit DNS information and think if the site is really what you want. For example, is the site a commercial site, not-for-profit, educational.
4. Examine the top level domain extension. The dot com’s are typically commercial sites and dot org are non-profit.
5. You may have to use a different Browser if you get a site you want and the information doesn’t display properly.