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GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys)

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BRAG: Bridge the Research and Analysis Gap
June 7, 2011



Q: What is FDsys?

A: A digital library for federal government information

B: Learn more on YouTube:

C: See the Brooklyn Law Blog for more tutorials



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- Why use FDsys?
 - It's free
 - Authenticated documents
 - Contains a lot of full-text government documents





Q: What can one find on FDsys?

A: Primary legal materials from all three branches of the federal government and other government publications

- *Examples:* U.S. Code, Federal Register, Code of Federal Regulations, public and private laws etc.



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Accessing FDsys:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>

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- Ways to use **FDsys**:
 - Searching → Use Advanced Search
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FDsys Help

http://www.gpo.gov/help/index.html#simple_search.htm

Home > Performing Searches > Simple Search

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SIMPLE SEARCH

A **simple search** is one that uses a **Search Box** and is similar to typical search engines such as Google. It is simple in that all you have to do is enter keywords separated by spaces in the Search Box, and the search engine will search the metadata and full text of the government publications for all combinations of those keywords.

A **complex query** also uses the **Search Box** but is complex in that it uses a number of keywords that are separated by operators to narrow the search. Complex queries are covered in Section 3.4: Search Query Operators.

Procedure

Step 1. Enter one or more keywords into the **Search Box**.
Step 2. Click on the **Search** button.
Step 3. View results on the Search Results page.

Example

Find all documents that contain the keyword *Clinton*.

Step 1. Enter *Clinton* in the **Search Box** and
Step 2. Click on the **Search** button
Step 3. View results on the Search Results page that contain the word *Clinton*.

GPO'S FEDERAL DIGITAL SYSTEM

Done

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Questions?

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