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Google For Lawyers

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Research Librarian

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

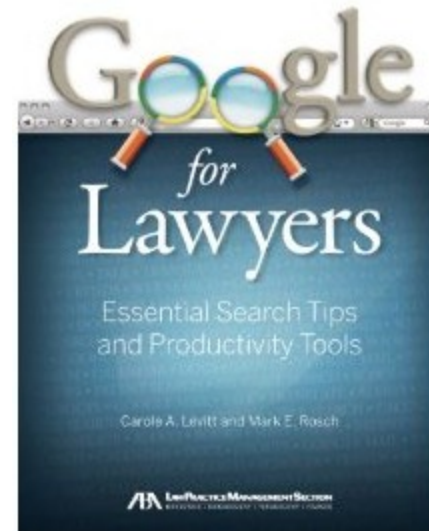


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*Google For Lawyers:
Essential Search Tips
and Productivity
Tools*

By Carole A. Levitt and Mark
E. Rosch

American Bar Association,
2010





Internet Source Credibility Checklist

1. Can you determine the site's owner, editor, or authors when you visit the site?
2. Determine the identity of the site's owner or sponsoring organization if it's not clear from the site itself.
3. Verify credentials by doing an independent search, not just by relying upon what is stated on the site.
4. Discover who else relies on a particular site by conducting a link search.
5. How fresh is the content?



Internet Source Credibility Checklist

6. What is the quality of the content?
7. Is the site missing any content? Is it as complete as its print version (if there is one)?
8. Verify all information by trying to find the same data at another site.
9. Ascertain the top-level domain (TLD) to help decide credibility .
10. Document your search.



How Google Works

- **PageRank:** Stand-alone measure of a page's trustworthiness or reliability
- **Relevance:** How relevant a particular Web page is to the keywords searched for
- **Organic Search Results:** This list of results is determined completely automatically; there is no way to buy one's way in or otherwise guarantee a position on this list. There is no human intervention in determining inclusion or ranking.



Searching Google's Index, Not the "Live" Internet

- You are searching through the content the Googlebot has extracted from Web pages and has stored on Google's indexing servers—and not the "live" Internet
- Creating a searchable index of Web pages is how Google can return its results more quickly than searching Web pages on their "home" servers



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Limitations of Google

- **Proximity Searching:** There is no way to hone your search by requiring that a particular keyword be within 2 words of another keyword
- **Keyword Limit:** Google limits searches to 32 keywords (may be problematic when looking for a specific quotation)
- **Grouping Keywords:** Some search engines allow you to group keywords together with parentheses to help you better organize your query



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Google Search Strategies

Phrase Search	“ “	“Alexander Bell” (will miss Alexander G. Bell)
Search within a specific Web site	site:	Iraq site:nytimes.com Iraq site:.gov
Terms you want to exclude	-	Jaguar -cars -football Iraq -site:.nytimes.com
Fill in the blanks	*	Obama voted * on the * bill
Search exactly as is	+	+cat
The OR operator	OR	San Francisco Giants 2004 OR 2005



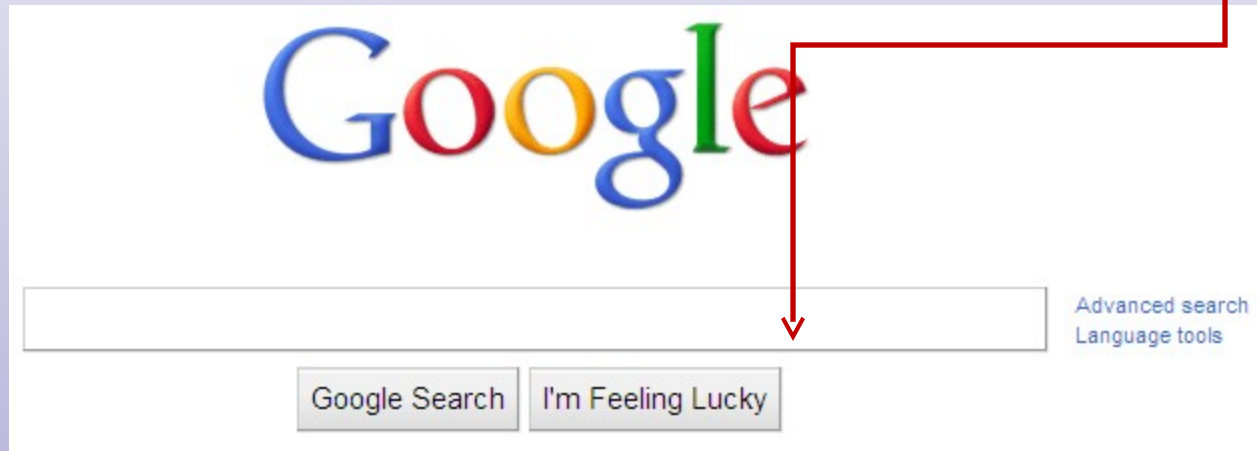
“Noise” or “Stop” Words and Punctuation

- Treats many short or inconsequential words, single letters, and single digits as “noise” or “stop” words and ignores them
- Includes: I, Of, Am, The, Where, How, Who, Etc
- There are two ways to force Google to search for “noise” words
 1. Phrase search using quotation marks
 2. Put a + directly before the term (without a space)
- Ignores most punctuation and special characters
- Includes: periods, commas, exclamation points, question marks, @, <, >



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I'm Feeling Lucky



Will take you directly to the Web page it has determined to be the most relevant to your search



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Advanced Search

[Advanced Search](#)

Use the form below and your advanced search will appear here

Find web pages that have...

all these words:

this exact wording or phrase:

[tip](#)

one or more of these words:

 OR OR

[tip](#)

But don't show pages that have...

any of these unwanted words:

[tip](#)

Need more tools?

Reading level:

Results per page:

Language:

File type:

Search within a site or domain:

(e.g. youtube.com, .edu)

[+ Date usage rights numeric range and more](#)

Advanced Search

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Advanced Search

e **Advanced Search** [Advanced Search](#)

damages injuries "negligence per se" automobile OR car OR vehicle -hummer

Find web pages that have...

all these words:

this exact wording or phrase: [tip](#)

one or more of these words: OR OR [tip](#)

But don't show pages that have...

any of these unwanted words: [tip](#)



Hidden Features of the Advanced Search Page

[Date, usage rights, numeric range, and more](#)

Date: (how recent the page is)

[Usage rights:](#)

Where your keywords show up:

Region:

Numeric range: ..
(e.g. \$1500..\$3000)

[SafeSearch:](#) Off On

Page-specific tools:

Find pages similar to the page:

Find pages that link to the page:



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Google Cache

Google

About 1,080,000,000 results (0.08 seconds) [Advanced search](#)

- Everything**
- Images
- Videos
- News
- Shopping
- More

Denver, CO
[Change location](#)

[State of California](#)
Official state government site provides information and links for virtually every aspect of the state, including business and agriculture, education, ...
[Taxes - Job Opportunities - Agency Directory - California Tax Service Center](#)
[www.ca.gov/](#) - Cached - Similar

[California State Parks](#)
Information on services and facilities in the park system, along with ...
[www.parks.ca.gov/](#) - Cached - Similar

[California Department of Motor Vehicles](#)
The Department of Motor Vehicles enhances traffic safety through the testing ...
[dmv.ca.gov/](#) - Cached - Similar

[+](#) Show more results from ca.gov



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Wonder Wheel

The screenshot shows a Google search for "wrongful negligence" with approximately 6,580,000 results. A Wonder Wheel diagram is displayed, centered on "wrongful negligence" and branching out to related terms: [wrongful neglect](#), [constructive negligence](#), [employee negligence](#), [negligence wrongful death](#), [wrongful malpractice](#), [wrongful strict liability](#), [wrongful tort](#), and [wrongful abuse](#). The left sidebar includes filters for "Everything", "Any time", and "Wonder wheel". A red arrow points from the "Wonder wheel" filter to the diagram.



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Google News

Google news

Advanced Search

Find results	with all of the words	<input type="text"/>	Sort by relevance	<input type="button" value="Search"/>
	with the exact phrase	<input type="text"/>		
	with at least one of the words	<input type="text"/>		
	without the words	<input type="text"/>		

Date	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Return articles added to Google News	<input type="text" value="anytime"/>	<input type="button" value="v"/>			
	<input type="radio"/> Return articles added to Google News between	<input type="text" value="Apr"/>	<input type="text" value="29"/>	and	<input type="text" value="May"/>	<input type="text" value="29"/>
News source	Return only articles from the news source named	<input type="text"/>	<i>e.g. CNN, New York Times</i>			
Source Location	Return only articles from news sources located in	<input type="text"/>	<i>A country or a U.S. state</i>			
Location	Return only articles about a local area	<input type="text"/>	<i>City, State, or Zip Code</i>			
Author	Return only articles written by	<input type="text"/>	<i>e.g. John Smith or "John Smith"</i>			
Occurrences	Return results where my terms occur	<input type="text" value="anywhere in the article"/>	<input type="button" value="v"/>			

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Google News Archive

<http://news.google.com/archivesearch>

The screenshot shows the Google News Archive Search page. At the top left is the Google News logo. To its right is the text "News Archive Search" and a "More about" link. Below this is a paragraph of introductory text: "News archive search provides an easy way to search and explore historical archives. In addition to helping you search, News archive search can automatically create timelines which show selected results from relevant time periods." At the bottom, there is a search input field, a "Search Archives" button, a "Show Timeline" button, and two links: "Advanced archive search" and "Archive search help".

Google news News Archive Search [More about](#)

News archive search provides an easy way to search and explore historical archives. In addition to helping you search, News archive search can automatically create timelines which show selected results from relevant time periods.


[Search Archives](#) [Show Timeline](#) [Advanced archive search](#)
[Archive search help](#)

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Google's Uncle Sam: A Specialized Search for Federal Governments

 **Advanced Search** [Advanced Search](#)

Use the form below and your advanced search will appear here

Find web pages that have...

all these words:

this exact wording or phrase: [tip](#)

one or more of these words: OR OR [tip](#)

But don't show pages that have...

any of these unwanted words: [tip](#)

Need more tools?

Results per page: ▼

Language: ▼

File type: ▼

Search within a site or domain:
(e.g. youtube.com, .edu)

[+ Date, usage rights, numeric range, and more](#)

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Google Alerts

Web Images Videos Maps News Shopping Gmail more ▾

Google alerts
beta

Search terms: [Preview results](#)

Type: ▾

How often: ▾

Volume: ▾

Your email:

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Google Finance

Google finance

Example: "CSCO" or "Google"

Company Google Inc. (Public, NASDAQ:GOOG) [Watch this stock](#) Find more results for **GOOG**

Summary **520.90 +2.77 (0.53%)** Range 516.30 - 521.79 Mkt cap 167.86B Shares 322.25M
52 week 433.63 - 642.96 P/E 20.23 Beta 1.17
May 27 - Close Open 518.48 Div/yield - Inst. own 64%
NASDAQ real-time data - [Disclaimer](#) Vol / Avg. 1.75M/2.79M EPS 25.75

[News](#) [Option chain](#) [Related companies](#) [Historical prices](#) [Financials](#)

Markets **News** **Portfolios** **Stock screener** **Google Domestic Trends**

Recent quotes chg | %

Compare: Dow Jones Nasdaq MSFT YHOO BIDU AAPL AOL [more »](#)

Zoom: 1d 5d 1m 3m 6m YTD 1y 5y 10y All

May 25, 2011 - May 27, 2011 +2.64 (0.51%)

Wed May 25 12 pm 2 pm Thu May 26 12 pm 2 pm Fri May 27 12 pm 2 pm

Volume (thous / 2min)

News:

- A** [Light-footed Google in \\$4.6bn tax dodge](#)
The Australian - 4 hours ago
- B** [Business Highlights](#)
istockAnalyst.com - May 27, 2011
- C** [Google, Facebook lose social network patent ruling](#)
Reuters - May 27, 2011
- D** [Credit Rating Initiation: Google](#)
Toronto Star - May 27, 2011
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Cabot Wealth Advisory - May 27, 2011

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Google Finance

Google Inc. historical prices [Watch this stock](#)

Show: **Daily** | [Weekly](#)

May 30, 2010 - May 29, 2011 [Update](#)

Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
May 27, 2011	518.48	521.79	516.30	520.90	1,746,296
May 26, 2011	517.70	522.12	515.00	518.13	2,118,981
May 25, 2011	517.33	522.77	517.25	519.67	1,301,567
May 24, 2011	520.37	523.96	518.15	518.26	1,888,538
May 23, 2011	516.60	520.00	513.40	518.39	2,252,638
May 20, 2011	531.80	531.99	523.13	524.03	2,318,873
May 19, 2011	532.73	536.54	529.72	531.25	2,471,136
May 18, 2011	529.54	530.33	525.70	529.81	1,954,293
May 17, 2011	515.43	531.22	515.03	530.46	3,304,874
May 16, 2011	526.31	527.27	516.40	518.42	2,956,554
May 13, 2011	534.61	535.92	529.05	529.55	2,107,641
May 12, 2011	535.24	536.94	530.91	535.05	1,448,203
May 11, 2011	540.14	543.55	533.69	535.45	2,338,875
May 10, 2011	540.00	544.43	537.54	542.66	2,041,355

Historical chart



Export

 [Download to spreadsheet](#)

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Google Groups and Blogs

- Use to keep up-to-date in practice area
- Use to find and/or background witnesses, experts, and clients
 - Groups to which an individual belongs
 - Messages authored by individual
 - Email address
 - Postings may reveal opinions/biases
- Remember: You are searchable as well!



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Google scholar Advanced Scholar Search

Find articles with **all** of the words
with the **exact phrase**
with **at least one** of the words
without the words
where my words occur

anywhere in the article ▾

Author Return articles written by

e.g., "PJ Hayes" or McCarthy

Publication Return articles published in

e.g., J Biol Chem or Nature

Date Return articles published between

—
e.g., 1996

Collections

Articles and patents

Search articles in all subject areas (include patents).

Search only articles in the following subject areas:

Biology, Life Sciences, and Environmental Science Medicine, Pharmacology, and Veterinary Science
 Business, Administration, Finance, and Economics Physics, Astronomy, and Planetary Science
 Chemistry and Materials Science Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
 Engineering, Computer Science, and Mathematics

Legal opinions and journals

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Courts

Search court opinions from the following courts:

[Clear selection](#)

State courts - [Select all](#)

- Alabama
 - Court of Appeals
 - Court of Civil Appeals
 - Court of Criminal Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Alaska
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Arizona
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Arkansas
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- California
 - Appellate Div.
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Colorado
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Connecticut
 - Appellate Court
 - Supreme Court
- Missouri
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Montana
 - Supreme Court
- Nebraska
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- Nevada
 - Supreme Court
- New Hampshire
 - Supreme Court
- New Jersey
 - Appellate Div.
 - Supreme Court
- New Mexico
 - Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court
- New York
 - Appellate Div.
 - Appellate Term
 - Court of Appeals
- North Carolina
 - Court of Appeals

Federal courts - [Select all](#)

- Supreme Court
- Court of Claims
- Court of Customs and Patent Appeals
- Court of Intl. Trade
- Customs Court
- Tax Court
- Board of Tax Appeals
- 1st Circuit
 - Court of Appeals
 - D. Maine
 - D. Massachusetts
 - D. New Hampshire
 - D. Puerto Rico
 - D. Rhode Island
 - Bankruptcy Courts
 - Bankruptcy Appellate Panel
- 2nd Circuit
 - Court of Appeals
 - D. Connecticut
 - D. Vermont
 - ED New York
 - ND New York
 - SD New York
 - WD New York
- 7th Circuit
 - Court of Appeals
 - CD Illinois
 - ND Illinois
 - SD Illinois
 - ND Indiana
 - SD Indiana
 - ED Wisconsin
 - WD Wisconsin
 - Bankruptcy Courts
- 8th Circuit
 - Court of Appeals
 - Minnesota
 - D. Nebraska
 - D. North Dakota
 - D. South Dakota
 - ED Arkansas
 - WD Arkansas
 - ND Iowa
 - SD Iowa
 - ED Missouri
 - WD Missouri
 - Bankruptcy Courts
 - Bankruptcy Appellate Panel

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Google Scholar

“Putting Google Scholar to the Test on Patent Research” by Andrea L. Hamilton, *The Colorado Lawyer*, May 2010 ; 39-MAY COLAW 79



Free vs. Fee Resources

Free (Google Scholar):

- Does not offer sorting capabilities for a researcher to isolate patents from articles
- Results are ranked by relevancy according to proprietary algorithm; emphasizes pages that are cited more often which creates a bias toward older literature
- Collections being searched are incomplete
- Documents are supplied by undisclosed sources
- Does not disclose when and how often new content is added
- Documents found may not be the most recent version; any previous or subsequent history of document may not be clear



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Free vs. Fee Resources

Fee (WEXIS):

- Field restrictors, proximity searching, truncation, ability to sort and filter results
- 24-hour customer service
- Westlaw KeyCite and LexisNexis Shepard's
- Authoritative content
- Annotations



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Legal Research Environment for the New/Summer Associate

- Billable hour
- Cost-recovery is important to firm's business operations
- Balance cost of resources vs. time spent



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When is it okay to use free resources?

- Know what you are looking for
- Getting acquainted with new area of law
- Want to find a good starting place
- Are using an authoritative Web site

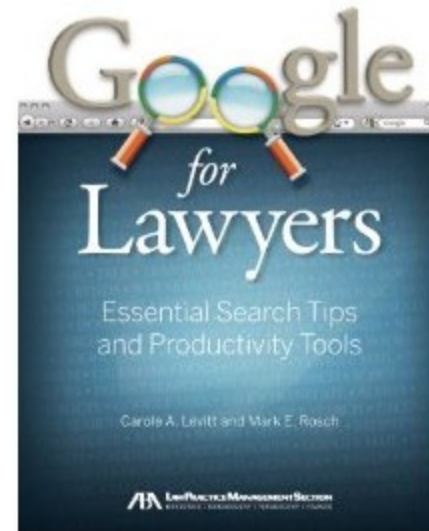


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