

WWW. Searching the Internet or WWW world wide wait.

Some information.

Browsers are your software applications that a user to interact with text, images, information, videos etc on the internet.

The 3 most common browsers are:

Apple's Safari,

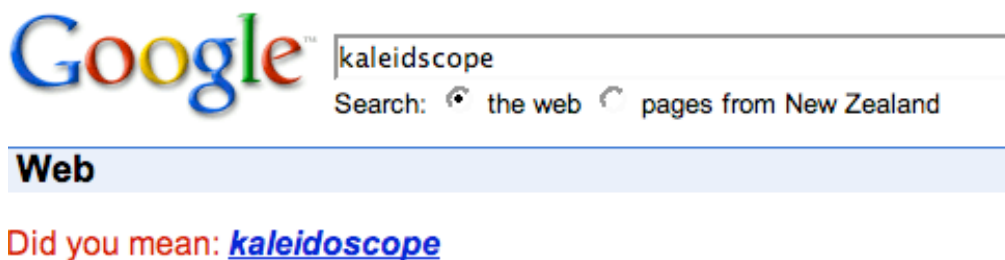
Windows Internet Explorer formerly Microsoft IE now rather dated.

Mozilla's Firefox. Open source software.

It's not the browser you use but the Search engine.

As there is soooooooo much information stored on many computers around the world, and it is growing exponentially by the day, you will have to have a way of sifting through things to get to where you want to start looking. This is done using a search engine. There are many different engines and they search in different ways. eg Yahoo Yahoooligans (good for school), Google, Infoseek, Webcrawler. Some are search engines and some are directories. Directories use the databases of search engines and give you a directory of the best sites from each engines. They return the sites in percentages to give you an idea of how close to 100% each site may be in effectiveness of meeting your search terms/ search words. YOU still need to appraise the site as 87% only means the result is as close to your search terms as it can get and 17% a lot further away.

Most people refer to Google. It is sympathetic with spelling and offers alternatives. Useful for children.



So what did we do BG, before Google???

Basic search strategies

Searching on the net can be like trying to hit the ducks in a side show. It's a moving target. You are dependent on many factors: servers, web constructors, your ability to think outside the square, language terminology, luck. etc etc

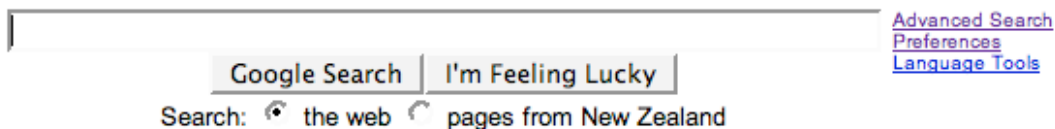
Pages from New Zealand.

This limits your search to only material created in New Zealand eg to people with .nz domain names.

Eg Mark Tredwell www.teachers.work.co.nz

Trevor Bond writes educationally rich material, available from www.ictnz.com

Although Trevor's material is about NZ schooling it is filtered out, using pages from NZ, because it has a .com extension.

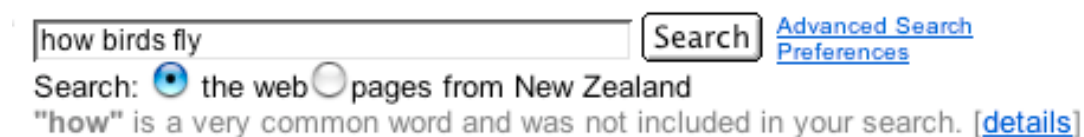


I'm Feeling Lucky will only return you the top site only, no search pages or options. This is done by using databases and the number of sites visited Eg Robbie Deans.

Lets start refining your search.

Google ignores common words eg how birds fly.

It leaves out the word how as this slows the search down. Google will tell you if it does this



Google reads all letters no matter how they are typed as lower case eg Jocelyn MacKay will read as jocelyn mackay

Therefore when wanting something around New Zealand, just type + zealand

Adding in multiple words into the search helps refine the number of options

data projectors
data projectors classroom use
data projectors classroom use education

Boolean logic helps define a search.

Not all search engines treat Boolean logic in the same way

Full Boolean logic. Relationships

The use of "and" "or" "not"

Putting **and** in a search asks the search engine to find both words in the site, and both words appear in the descriptor
eg **bread yeast** or **bread + yeast**

By using " " around words, then both words appear in the descriptor, side by side and you will get that exact term, even if it includes common words. This cuts down on the number of hits to the site.

Putting in NOT or AND NOT excludes. Google uses "-"

This feature returns sites but excludes others eg cats -lions. Any reference to lions has been excluded

Remember: A space before the minus sign cats -lions

This is a really great feature to exclude the same word with 2 meanings
eg tea, bass, plate

NEAR (~)

Specifies that the terms/ words must be near, usually within 10 words from each other in the descriptor

Note this

The focus of web 2.0 is to hold your information out in the ether for any time, anywhere access, Google have included this feature. You need a Gmail account. People with blogs have one.

Sign into your Gmail account.

Now when you do a search you will notice the words **Note this** at the end of the url

I." {- President John F. **Kennedy** -} ...
[es/000035.html](#) - 377k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#) - [Note this](#)

By clicking on these words your sites are book marked.
Explore the options of organising and deleting etc of this feature.

Similar pages (stemming searches)

Returns sites that are similar to the one you have highlighted.

Cache

This feature allows you to see how many times the words you are searching for a found in the article / site you have found / opened.

Click on the word cache, and then scroll through to see how many times your word /words are used. This will give you an indication of the usefulness of the site.

Very cunning developers that want to draw you to their site, may use one of your key words in their text somewhere to get you to their site.

Transfer this knowledge.....Another way of doing the same thing to PDF's or other documents you down load is to go to Edit and scroll down to Find. Type in your word, and find. Sometimes you may need to use Find again for more finds of the same word in that document, depending on your browser, document etc.

Firefox find is right down on the bottom left of the screen.

Advanced searches



Using the options one at a time.

Find results	with all of the words	<input type="text"/>	10 results <input type="button" value="Google Search"/>
	with the exact phrase	<input type="text"/>	
	with at least one of the words	<input type="text"/>	
	without the words	<input type="text"/>	

You can use advanced searches to refine your search even further.
A good example is flight. Include and exclude planes, aviators etc

Synonym Searches.

This does increase your search area as the computer then adds in all the words with similar meanings.

Put ~ directly in front of all your words

Numeric searches

Specifies everything between a period, shown with 2 fullstops

Eg Kennedy speeches 1961..1962

Dataprojectors \$1000..\$1500

Sound files

Try words like .mp3 audio, sound files, .avi .wav

Movie files

Try .mov video files MPEG4

Date, Domain and File Format are useful components to use.

Language	Return pages written in	<input type="text" value="any language"/>
File Format	<input type="text" value="Only"/> return results of the file format	<input type="text" value="any format"/>
Date	Return web pages updated in the	<input type="text" value="anytime"/>
Occurrences	Return results where my terms occur	<input type="text" value="anywhere in the page"/>
Domain	<input type="text" value="Only"/> return results from the site or domain	<input type="text" value=""/> e.g. google.com, .org More info

Checking validity of sites.

Look for logo, email, contact details when uploaded

Google the author

Check the url

<http://www.english.unitechnology.ac.nz>

Type of organistaion

Can also be:

govt - governement

ac - academic
school

edu - education

org - organisation

com - company

Country of origin
Also.

au - Australia

uk - Britian

can - Canada

sg - Pingapore

uae

blank - USA

Other tricks and tips

Trimming back the url

Tab browing

Linking windows

Google images

Favourites / folders and tool bars

Making advanced search your home page in preferences.