

Choose the Best Search for Your Information Need

(From NoodleTools.com)

I need help to define my topic...

I need a **topic**

[Clusty](#) Brainstorm topic ideas using result clusters

[Social Issues](#) Browse hot topics and pro/con links

[Google Directory](#) Search this subject tree enhanced by Google results

I need to understand the **scope** of my topic

[Intute](#) Investigate annotated academic sites

[INFOMINE](#) Browse annotated research and educational sites enhanced by second-tier "robot-selected" results

I need to investigate **alternative or related topics**

[Grokker](#) Explore a web of your topic and subtopics (Yahoo results)

[Clusty](#) Uncover buried sites by choosing a related cluster

[Ask.com](#) Select "Expand Your Search"

I need to **refine and narrow** my topic

[Ask.com](#) Select "Narrow Your Search"

[Clusty](#) Drill down into a cluster of results

[SurfWax](#) Click "Focus" to identify similar, broader, and narrower topics

I need to find quality results...

authoritative and scholarly sites chosen by a **subject expert**

[Librarians' Internet Index](#) Search the selective database or drill down into the well-organized subject tree

[Virtual LRC](#) Select a subject category, then search on term(s) or a phrase

[Google Scholar](#) Find scholarly, peer-reviewed subject-specific results with [advanced search](#)

personal help from experts

[Sources and Experts](#) Browse a journalist's contacts

[Ask a Librarian](#) Get last-resort help (no homework questions)

[AllExperts](#) Self-identified subject experts volunteer to answer questions

sites **ranked or tagged** as valuable or relevant

[Google](#) High PageRank means popular, relevant sites link to the page

[Technorati](#) [Browse](#) or search user-identified subjects ("tags") for blog advice or opinions

[Ask.com](#) High ExpertRank indicates subject-specific popularity

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primary sources

- [American Memory](#) Locate documents, sound recordings, images, maps, and other American primary sources
- [Ready, 'Net, Go!](#) Browse worldwide archival index
- [Library and Archival Exhibitions on the Web](#) Search for online exhibitions selected by Smithsonian librarians

I need to do research in a specific discipline...

government

- [USA.gov Search](#) or browse official U.S. information and services
- [Govt. Publications & Maps: Foreign Gov.](#) Browse worldwide government sites
- [Directgov](#) Search or browse official UK information and services

science, engineering and technology

- [Scirus](#) Science-specific Web portals, reports, peer-reviewed articles, patents, preprints and journals
- [Natl. Science Digital Lib.](#) Science, technology, engineering and math
- [Intute Science, engineering and technology](#) hub

health and life sciences

- [Intute Health and life sciences](#) hub
- [Fealth](#) Health-specific search engine and [directory](#)

law

- [FindLaw](#) Search U.S. cases, codes, news and commentary
- [LOUIS](#) Search Congressional documents, Federal Register, GAO reports, bills and resolutions
- [Intute Social sciences: Law](#) hub

arts and humanities

- [Intute Arts and humanities](#) hub
- [Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#) Browse peer-reviewed, continually-updated entries on contemporary philosophy

The timeliness of information that I need is...

today

- [Google News](#) Top news stories auto-generated every 15 minutes
 - [NewsNow](#) Worldwide news auto-generated every 5 minutes
 - [10x10](#) Explore machine-compiled single image composed hourly of 100 words and pictures that "matter most" on a global scale
-

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recent	Yahoo News	One month archive with editor-created "roundups" in Full Coverage
	World News Network	Click a category (below news item) to gather related news or images, select Mon-Sun to track story's development
	Google News	Click on "related" (below news item) to see story's development
historical	American Memory	Search America's primary source documents and images, browse by topic, time period, medium or place
	Librarians' Internet Index	Drill down into the history section or search fewer, broader terms (e.g., "terrorists" not "Righteous Path")
	Digital History	High-quality historical resources, primary sources, multimedia, subject guides
ancient	Ancient History Sourcebook	Search online ancient-history texts, images, audio, or browse by region, period (e.g., Persia, Late Antiquity)
	Librarians' Internet Index	Drill down into ancient history section or search fewer, broader terms (e.g., "Greece" not "Spartan women")
I need facts...		
a person	Biography.com	Search 25,000+ biographies by name, keyword and profession
	Who2	Search for famous people with "four good links" to more information
	Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online	Search biographies from Canada's history (16th-20th century)
a place	CIA World Factbook	Select country for basic profile and transnational issues
	Country Studies	Cross-search or view a country (last update 1998) - historical, social, economic, political and national security data
	Statel Knowledge	Basic U.S. state facts, links to state government site and encyclopedia (IPL KidSpace)
a company	NYPL: Searching for Company Information	Find company information based on your need
general reference answers	Ask.com	Find a fact, biography, statistic or conversion, or reference answer
	Columbia Encyclopedia	Find basic information
	Yahoo	Learn shortcut words to get quick answers

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news background (facts, people, and documents)

[Intute Behind the Headlines](#)

Editor-compiled background for headline news

I need opinions and perspectives...

I want **opinions** on current issues

[Yahoo News](#)

Browse columnists and cartoonists, or search [Opinion](#)

[HeadlineSpot Opinion/Editorials](#)

Browse opinion/editorial in U.S. and some international newspapers

[PollingReport](#)

Browse results of U.S. public opinion surveys

I need news from **other countries'** perspectives

[World Press Review](#)

Get nonpartisan summaries of views outside U.S.

[Newspaperindex](#)

Browse selected world newspapers

[ABYZ News Links](#)

Browse international broadcast and Internet news, newspapers, magazines, and press agencies

I want multiple perspectives on **hot social and political topics**

[Social Issues](#)

Links to pro/con on current social issues

[Public Agenda](#)

Analysis of public attitudes on social issues with overview, pro/con, organization links

[UN News Centre: News Focus](#)

Browse for UN-related issues by region, country or topic

I want to **compare news treatment**

[Newseum](#)

Compare news reporting on U.S. front pages

[PressDisplay](#)

Compare news reporting from 55 countries

I need a specific type of media...

maps

[Google Maps](#)

Search and view satellite and street-level maps (repeat in [Yahoo Maps](#))

[MapMachine](#)

Search, browse and print country, physical and political maps

[American FactFinder Maps](#)

See trends/patterns when you superimpose chosen geographical features and census data on U.S. maps

photographs and visual images

[Google Image Search](#)

Use [advanced search](#) to limit by size, coloration, file type

[Yahoo Image Search](#)

Use [advanced search](#) to limit by size and coloration

[Flickr](#)

Search users' photos by their subjects ("tags"), then choose a subtopic ("tag cluster")

fine art

[Artcyclopedia](#)

Search (e.g., artist, medium, movement, subject) or browse for digitized art and online exhibits, see [actual size](#)

[ADAM](#)

[Search](#) (refine by subject, depicted person, place or organization), or browse (subject

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headings, historical period, resource type, geographical area) digital museums and art libraries

- videos
- [Yahoo Video Search](#) Search by keyword or phrase, use [advanced search](#) to limit by file format, size, duration and domain
 - [Truveo](#) Video-only search engine, [advanced search](#) limits by title, description, actor, director, genre, duration, quality
 - [Internet Archive: Moving Image Archive](#) Search public domain films, newsreels, ads, documentaries, television series and other "cultural artifacts"
-

- radio
- [PublicRadioFan](#) Find public radio programs and podcasts worldwide
 - [Podcast.net](#) Search or browse podcasts
-

- music
- [AltaVista Audio Search](#) Search for MP3s and other types of music files, limiting results by file type and song duration.
 - [Google](#) To find song lyrics, search (in quotes) title or performer (plus) "song lyrics," to find information about the song's history search title (in quotes) and "origin"
-

- sounds
- [FindSounds](#) Get sound effects and music samples: select a keyword or search a term limited by file format, quality and size
-

- speeches
- [American Rhetoric](#) [Search site](#) or browse categories of full-text, audio and video of American public speeches, lectures, debates, interviews, events
 - [History and Politics Out Loud](#) Search or browse full-text public-domain audio with transcripts of 20th century political and historical events, personalities, and protest songs
 - [American Memory](#) Find [sound recordings](#) of American primary source speeches
-

- quotations
- [Bartleby.com Quotations](#) Search classic passages, phrases and proverbs (1901 edn.)
 - [Quotations Page](#) Search word, phrase, author within or across quotation collections
 - [Quoteland](#) Search by keyword or browse topics, authors
-

- statistical data
- [Statistical Information \(NoodleTools\)](#) Links to statistical databases and advice on locating and understanding data
-

- dictionary or thesaurus (for definitions, etymology, pronunciation, synonyms)
- [Yahoo Reference](#) Definitions, etymology, synonyms (English and Spanish) and audio-pronunciation

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[Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus](#) Definitions, etymology, synonyms and audio-pronunciation

[WordCentral](#) Definitions with pictures (student dictionary)

encyclopedia

[Columbia Encyclopedia](#) Factual information (updated 6/05)

[Wikipedia](#) Volunteer-created and collaboratively edited: valuable for current topics (e.g., people in the news), technology (e.g., podcasting) -- information quality uneven

almanac data

[Country at a Glance \(U.N.\)](#) Basic country profile, use [InfoNation](#) to compare data from 6 countries

[Information Please Almanac](#) Statistical and factual data -- beware popup minefield

books and other printed works

[WorldCat](#) Search for books and reviews, options to refine results, check your local library's holdings

[Google Scholar](#) Search (free and fee) scholarly works, locate related information using "cited by" links, use [advanced search](#) to limit (author, date, phrase, in title, subject area)

[A9](#) Search for books by keyword, then "Search Inside!" to see keyword-in-context

I have special search requirements...

run my search **periodically** and be notified of new results

[GoogleAlert](#) Run Google search of 3 interests and get e-mail or RSS notification of new results

[Google Alerts](#) Run periodic Google searches and get e-mail (no RSS) notification of new results

specify a **country** where my search results are located

[Google](#) Limit by domain ([advanced search](#)) or by country ([Language Tools](#))

use a search engine **outside the U.S.**

[Search Engine Colossus](#) Browse search engines and directories from countries and territories

find sites organized by the **Dewey Decimal System** or **Library of Congress Classification**

[Virtual LRC](#) Select Dewey Decimal number before searching

[INFOMINE](#) Drill down into [Library of Congress Classification directory](#)

[BUBL LINK](#) Select "DeweyClass" from dropdown menu in Advanced Search

locate resources by **file type**

[Google](#) [Limit search](#) by file type (.pdf, .ps, .doc, .xls, .ppt, .rtf)

[Yahoo](#) [Limit search](#) by file type (.html, .pdf, .doc, .xls, .ppt, .xml, .txt)

I am...

Choose the Best Search for Your Information Need

- a kid
- [KidsClick!](#) Find kid-friendly sites with educational content (grades K-7) selected by librarians
 - [Yahoo Kids](#) Select from kid-safe sites (grades 2- 7) organized by topic
 - [Ask for Kids](#) Search by keyword, then select the best-match question for answers and links
-

- pretty new to the Internet
- [Google](#) Largest general purpose search engine
 - [Yahoo](#) Large, general purpose search engine
 - [Librarians' Internet Index](#) Easy-to-navigate, well-annotated directory of librarian-selected Web sites
-

- an Internet wizard
- [Exalead](#) Configure highly-specific searches including proximity ("folk tales NEAR sun"), but smaller index than Google or Yahoo
 - [INFOMINE](#) [Configure a narrow search](#) of a large, comprehensive academic virtual library (Web sites, databases, electronic journals, electronic books, bulletin boards, directories of researchers)
 - [JUX2](#) Compare results to Identify the strengths of Google, Yahoo and MSN for your search