

Cheat Sheet #3 Limit Commands in Google

MIXING LIMIT COMMANDS: You can combine or mix most limit commands with other limit commands and/or search terms. You can use Boolean operators, and phrases to do this. However, you cannot mix anything except site: with commands that apply to all terms that follow the command (e.g., allintitle: allinurl:).

| Limit/Focus Commands | Suggested Uses & Limitations: | Examples: |
|---|--|--|
| intitle: | Requires terms to occur in the<Title> field, part of the HTML <Head> or top section. Finds pages likely to be focused on your terms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● intitle:"sea level" rise california ● intitle:"global warming" intitle:"sea level" california ● intitle:"global warming" site:epa.gov -site:com |
| allintitle: | Requires all terms that follow to be in title field. Equivalent of repeating <i>intitle:</i> before all terms. Words may be in any order unless quotes are used to force phrases. Focuses narrowly on pages about the terms used. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● allintitle: global warming sea level rise ● allintitle: global warming "sea level rise" |
| inurl: | Requires terms to be in URLs. Can be used with or without quotes, and repeated. URL punctuation is ignored. Usually finds pages focused very specifically on terms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● inurl:"joe barker" finds pages with these two in URLs, allowing any punctuation. ● inurl:joe barker finds pages with <i>joe</i> in URLs, and <i>barker</i> somewhere in the document. |
| allinurl: | Requires all terms to occur somewhere in URLs, in any order. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● allinurl: infopeople training finds pages like www.infopeople.org/training/ |
| site: | Must be followed by all or the last part of the top level of a URL, which identifies a "site." Must include org, edu, com, etc. "www" and http:// optional. Requires all results to have this as the top level URL (or site). Use to search within a site or limit to type of site (e.g., org or edu). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● site:infopeople.org finds all pages in Google from this site. ● site:infopeople.org training finds pages in Google from this site with the word "training." ● site:org OR site:edu librarian training finds pages with these terms inside .org or .edu sites in Google. |
| filetype: | Follow by a file extension (pdf, xls, doc, ppt, etc.). Requires terms to be in these types of documents. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● filetype:pdf "native americans" diabetes ● filetype:pdf OR filetype:ppt "boolean searching" |
| daterange:Julian dates (date Google visited & found content changes). | A more precise way to limit by date last crawled than the Adv. Search, which allows only 3 mos, 6 mos, 1 yr. Finds recently updated pages, pages created on a specific date, and un-updated pages. If you don't know Julian dates: www.faganfinder.com/google.html | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● web searching daterange:2452640-2453005 finds pages containing these terms crawled between 6/1/03 and 6/1/04. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Daterange: search seems not to work. Summer 2005</p> </div> |

-- MORE --

| Limit/Focus Commands | Suggested Uses & Limitations: | Examples: |
|--|---|--|
| numrange: .. - | An optional way of specifying that you want pages only containing a certain range of numbers. You can just type 123..456, 123., or ..456 and get the same result. Google also accepts 123-456, 123-, or -456. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • numrange:1920..1930 |
| Sites from foreign country (URL hack) After a Google search, append to resulting URL in Address box: &restrict=countryXX with XX being a capitalized two-letter country code. | Find web pages from servers in a specific country, regardless of TLD. List of country codes at www.iana.org/cctld/cctld-whois.htm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: In Google Search Box, perform the search: recipes OR cooking brazil OR brazilian • Step 2: In Address box, append to the URL created by step 1: &restrict=countryBR |

| Limit Commands for Web Managers and Authors: | Suggested Uses & Limitations: | Examples: |
|--|---|--|
| intext: | Requires search terms to occur in the text or <Body>. They may also occur in the title, url, or other places, and so this search resembles the default search, which looks at text. | Limited application, because in text is default. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • intext:"sheet music" lincoln |
| allintext | Requires all search terms to occur in the text or <Body>. Equivalent of repeating <i>intext:</i> before each term. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allintext: finding information |
| inanchor: | Require terms to be in the anchor text, the descriptive text that is linked to in HTML, found between > and < the anchor or link. The circled text in this example is anchor text: Infopeople Project Text may also occur elsewhere and not in anchor text. Many pages found point to a page with the anchor text and do not contain it. Of value to web authors looking for links to a page via text (as opposed to the link: search, which reads the URLs in links). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inanchor:"infopeople project" finds pages with this as text linked to, in URLs, or in links. Retrieves all kinds of pages with this text in them somehow linked to. |
| allinanchor: | Requires all search terms to occur in the anchor text any order, as explained above. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allinanchor: irs 1040 |