



300 Best Boolean Strings

One Page Tip Sheet: Google Boolean Syntax

This tip sheet contains the most useful Google search operators and is part of the new e-book “300 Best Boolean Strings” by Irina Shamaeva (January 2016).

Google’s Help provides a [partial list of Google operators](#). See the references at the end of the tip sheet for alternative Google search syntax descriptions.

Boolean Logic (AND, OR, NOT) Operators

There is no AND. Don’t use it in searching. By default, Google will combine search terms: [\[apples oranges\]](#).

OR (must be capitalized) and **|** (vertical bar) are the same: [\[apples OR oranges\]](#), [\[apples | oranges\]](#).

Instead of NOT, use a **minus (-)** immediately before the term or phrase to exclude: [\[apples -oranges\]](#).

Google: Special Characters

"" around a word ("manager") excludes synonyms; around several words searches for a phrase ("solid state")

.. ("Numrange") searches for numbers within an interval: [\[20..110\]](#) (use one number as min or max: [\[20..\]](#))

The **asterisk (*)** stands for one or a few words ("fill in the blanks"); example: [\["fill * * blanks"\]](#)

Most special characters (such as @ and parentheses) are ignored, in most cases

Google Search Operators (written in lower case, then, colon; then, specific arguments, no space in-between)

site: (also called X-Raying) - Look for results from a given domain

[\[site:edu\]](#) search websites that end in EDU

[\[site:nih.gov\]](#) search the National Institute of Health website

[\[site:zoominfo.com/p\]](#) search for profile pages on Zoominfo

intitle: Search for keywords or phrases in the title of a web page ([blue text](#) in Google search results):

[\[intitle:"about us"\]](#) the phrase "About Us" must appear in the page title

[\[intitle:"member directory" bar association\]](#) adding keywords to *intitle:* search

inurl: Search for keywords or phrases in page URL’s (shown as [green text](#) in Google search results):

[\[inurl:careers\]](#) the word “careers” must appear in the URL

[\[inurl:resume quality assurance engineer automated tests in Perl -sample\]](#) adding keywords to *inurl:* search

intext: Search for keywords or phrases in the text of a web page (not in the title or URL).

[\[intext:gmail.com\]](#)

filetype: (can also be written as **ext:**) - search for a specified file type, such as PDF, DOC, TXT, or XLS:

[\[filetype:pdf\]](#) PDF files

[\[filetype:xls\]](#) (older versions), or [\[filetype:xlsx\]](#) (newer versions) Excel files

related: Find sites that are "similar" to the given site.

[\[related:target.com\]](#) (finds company competitors)

[\[related:pipl.com\]](#) (finds similar tools)

Alternative Google Tip Sheets

[Advanced Power Searching Skills Quick Reference](#) (slightly outdated; by Dan Russel of Google)

[Google’s Advanced Search Operators](#) (October 2015, by Dan Russel)

[Selected Google Commands](#) (by Karen Blakeman)