SEARCH SMARTER

Find reliable and relevant information more quickly by searching smarter.
Learn the most important search operators and commands to search more effectively
with Google, databases and Library Catalogues.

Assignment Go to Google and perform the searches in the table below.
You may work together, one of you searches normally and the other uses the operator. Compare
your search results and write down what effect you think an operator has.
When do you think a specific operator would be of use in one of your searches?

NORMAL	OPERATOR	EFFECT?
Rotterdam Marketing	"Rotterdam marketing"	....
Inception	Inception -film –movie	....
Research	**Filetype:pdf** research	....
Go to trendwatching.com, look for eco trends	**Site:**trendwatching.com eco	....

NORMAL	OPERATOR	EFFECT?
Epidemic 1900 2016	Epidemic 1900…2016	…………………………………… …………………………………… ……………………………………
	info:rotterdamincijfers.nl

Look at the extra information* Google can give you about a site. *Related doesn't always give results, try out **related:**nu.nl to see the effect. | …………………………………… …………………………………… …………………………………… |
| Do a Google image search; filter on **Usage Rights**. (Less results…but no copyright infringement) Do a Google image search; filter on colour **transparent** | | |

Search Smarter in databases

Boolean operators

AND, OR, NOT are Boolean operators that are widely used in databases and library catalogues. The name comes from mathematician George Boole. Type these operators yourself or make searching easier by using the option *Advanced Search*.

Boolean operators	EFFECT
artists **AND** depression	**Both words MUST be used.**
depression **OR** anxiety	**ONE of the words must be used. This can be handy with synonyms or different spelling.**
depression **NOT** "great depression"	**Exclude a word to narrow down your results.**

Wildcards

Wildcard	EFFECT
Wom**?**n	**Replace 1 letter with a joker.** Result: you search for both wom**e**n and wom**a**n.
Operat*	**Everything beginning with…** Result: operating, operate, operations, operation, operator, etc

In many databases and catalogues you can replace one or more words of your search term with a wildcard or joker. These characters can differ per database. Want to know more? Check out the help file of a database.