












The Most Common Google Search Commands and Tools

	USE:	PURPOSE:	EXAMPLE:
<u>BASIC COMMANDS</u>			
+	plus sign (+)	force words to be included in a search	Maxwell +wills
-	minus sign (-)	excludes words from a search	Maxwell -Absolom
" "	quotation marks (" ")	around words to search for exact match	"Thomas Jefferson"
OR	OR (caps on) or the pipe symbol ()	to find any one of a number of words (operands are case sensitive)	Kennington burial OR cemetery Kennington burial cemetery
+-"OR	combinations of above	to get combination results	beach -sandy +albert +nathaniel
~	tilde (~)	searches for synonyms of a word	Searching for maxwell ~genealogy will find pages with any synonym for "genealogy" and "maxwell"
..	double dot (..)	use to search a range of numbers	Type: 1888..1895 will find any dates within the range
*	asterisk (*)	means every word (this is called a wildcard search)	Type: doughnuts with * Returns doughnuts with sprinkles, etc.
*	asterisk (*) combined with a domain extension	to find pages in a certain domain	genealogy *.edu Returns all educational websites with the term genealogy in it.
<u>WORD USE</u>			
	list of words	tries to find pages that use all your search terms The order of words will give you different results.	provo utah died matheson
	Stop words: I, the, of, it etc	Google ignores common 'stop' words when searching	cream of tartar will search for a page with both "cream" and "tartar" on the same page
	case sensitive spelling	Google ignores case	salt lake city and Salt Lake City are treated the same
<u>SPECIALTY TOOLS</u>			
	define:	will return a quick definition	define vulcan (returns the definition for vulcan which is a blacksmith occupation)
	quick calculator	use the +, -, *, /, = symbols and parentheses to perform simple functions	1930-22= Returns the number 1908. 1930 census minus 22 years old gives you born in 1908.
	unit conversion	convert meters to feet, etc. (Also will do a currency conversion.)	14 meters in feet Returns: 14 meters = 45.9317585 feet
	find current people	use google to find current addresses or phone numbers	bruce buzbee, ut finds anyone in a phone book and lists phone and address
	time	to find the time for any city in the world	time sydney gives you the current time in Sydney Australia, or, time central gives you the current time in the central time zone
	phone listing	to find who/what a phone number belongs	phonebook: 000-123-4567 or just type the phone number with hyphens
	maps	to find a map of a location	Type a location name atlanta georgia
	weather	to see the weather for many US and world wide cities	type: weather Moab, UT

	USE:	PURPOSE:	EXAMPLE:
	news archive	to find info on a person or place including a timeline	news.google.com/archivesearch Type a search term-click on chart
	google translate	to translate a word, sentence, paragraph or document to or from a foreign language	translate.google.com
	google alerts	to be notified by email when a page is found with the info you want	www.google.com/alerts
	google news timeline	use to search for news for a specific time frame, media, magazine, etc.	newstimeline.googlelabs.com
<u>CUSTOMIZED SEARCHES</u>			
	google advanced search	provides more detailed searching	http://www.google.com/advanced_search?hl=en
	google image search	searches for images fitting your search	You can search for a word(s) to find images. Then you can narrow the list by size, type, and color. Google images
	google advanced image search	provides more detailed searching in images	http://images.google.com/advanced_image_search?hl=en
	vertical search	search specific categories	several predefined categories such as: blogsearch.google.com , books.google.com , images.google.com , news.google.com
	site:	use the site specific operator to search only within a certain website	thomas maxwell site: rootsweb.com will return only web pages that are from rootsweb that contain "thomas maxwell"
	filetype: (file types)	use to search for specific file types like pdf files, word files excel spreadsheets	tennessee cemeteries filetype: pdf returns pdf files that contain cemeteries in Tennessee
	backlinks (link:)	use the link operator to find pages that link to a specific URL	link: granitegenealogy.blogspot.com
	cached pages	click on the "cached" link at the end of a search result to see the page as it was displayed on the day the google last searched the page	Any search result displays "cached" and the term "similar". "Similar" refers to other web pages that are similar to or reference the one you are viewing.
	Google books	use to find, view and search book content. Click on "full view" on left column.	books.google.com Enter search term
	Google Realtime	Lets you search social updates, news articles and blog posts up-to-the-minute	google "google realtime" and enter a search term.
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