

Search Manual for Web of Science

The link to the database is on our home page under *Databases A-Z*. Click on Databases A-Z then search for Web of Science (which is one of the databases within Web of Knowledge).

You can choose to search one or all of the databases that are available within Web of Knowledge. To see the databases that is available click on the arrow to the right of “Web of Science Core Collection” near the top of the page. Accessible are for ex. Web of Science, BIOSIS and Zoological Record. If you click on one of the databases you will select that one to search in. If you instead click on “All databases” you will search them all at the same time.

If you want to search in Web of Science you can avoid unnecessary references, from the databases Social Sciences Citation Index and Arts & Humanities Citation Index and Conference Proceedings Citation Indexes by clicking on the ticked boxes to remove the ticks. You find the databases if you scroll down the page and click on “More settings”

Select the time span you want to search.

The database has an automatic function called “**Lemmatization**”. It will automatically get you all the spelling variations of a word (such as US and UK spelling differences) in topic and title search terms (for example, behavior and behaviour). To disable this feature, enter quotation marks around terms (for example, "colour"). Using wildcards will also turn of the function.

TOPIC- to search words in the title, keywords or the abstract.

AUTHOR – author search

PUBLICATION NAME- search for article/s in a specific journal.

OBS! All the fields can be searched at the same time.

You can choose to change all the fields to TOPIC and combine your search terms with AND (default) or OR.

You can also use only one TOPIC field, search one term or more and combine them with AND/OR, see examples below.

Search tools:

OBS! The “Lemmatization” function will automatically give you most variants of a word.

* Truncation/stemming. To search for variants of a word. ex. plant* gives plant, plants, planting, etc.

* Wildcard. To replace several letters in a word. ex. behavi*r gives behaviour and behavior

\$ To replace a single letter in a word. ex. wom\$n gives woman and women

Search operators are used to combine words and define the relationship between them.

AND To combine words and restrict the search.
Ex. **Gorbachev AND Yeltsin** to get articles that contain both names.

OR Broadens the search and gives articles that contain either words or both.
Ex. **Gorbachev OR Yeltsin**. Can be used to search for synonyms.

" " If you enter words and phrases **with** quotation marks. ex. "**Monoclonal Antibodies**", you will get articles containing the words in the order you entered them.

Monoclonal Antibodies (without quotation marks) is equivalent to the search **Monoclonal AND Antibodies**.

NOT To restrict the search and exclude the articles that contain the word you don't want to appear
Ex. **Gorbachev NOT Yeltsin** to search for articles that contain Gorbachev but not Yeltsin.

() If you combine different search operators, use parentheses to avoid making the search ambiguous.

Ex. You want to search for articles that are about either dogs with rabies or cats with rabies.

- **rabies and (dogs or cats)**, you will get articles about dogs with rabies or cats with rabies, as was intended.
- If you instead enter your search as follow, **rabies and dogs or cats**, you will get articles that is about dogs with rabies and articles about cats, but not necessarily with rabies.

NEAR **Dogs NEAR/5 cats** finds records containing the words dogs and cats within five words of each other.

HYPHEN, PERIOD or COMMA

Words separated by either punctuation mark will be interpreted as an exact phrase. Ex. **waste-water** will find articles containing **waste-water** or **waste water**. **It will not** match water waste, waste in drinking water, or water extracted from waste.

You can afterwards refine your results with the help of for example subject categories, document type, year, language ...

Ex. document types

Article = a complete description of current original research findings

Review = do not cover original research, but sums up the current research about a subject, has a long reference list

You can also afterwards combine the searches you done, click on Search History

TIPS: If you don't get any or very few hits, use a wider/broader term.

To many hits, add more words, limit the search to the title (often more relevant articles) or limit the time period.

If you are looking for a plant or an animal, test to search with the Latin name form.

OBS! When you search in other databases than Web of Knowledge:

**Remember, American English has spelling differences from British English.
ex. sulfur instead of sulphur**

The plural forms of words. ex. mouse and mice

Use wildcards as often as possible, gives you more hits.