

WorldCat (OCLC)

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Revised by Danna Lamb, Spring 2009

What Is WorldCat?

WorldCat includes items in almost any format from thousands of libraries around the world. Items included date as far back as 1000BC.

Strengths:

- Large database containing millions of records
- Includes records in approximately 400 languages
- Search pages are user friendly

Weaknesses:

- Some searches such as the "title phrase" search, aren't always accurate
- The Advanced and Expert searches are very similar and could be combined into one page

Features:

- Keeps track of previous searches
 - Allows the user to email records
 - Records link the user to libraries in their area
-

Basic Search

The basic search page allows you to search by keyword, author, title, ISBN and year.

Basic Search Example:


I'm looking for new works by David Sedaris.

Step 1: In the "author" field, type "Sedaris, David".


Step 2: In the "year" field, type "2009."




Step 3: Click on the "search" button.


WorldCat Basic Search


- Enter search terms in one or more boxes and click on **Search**.
- **WorldCat Hot Topics:** 



Searching


[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Expert Search](#) [Previous Searches](#) 


   Current database: **WorldCat**



Search in database: **WorldCat**  (Updated: 2009-05-05)
OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide

Keyword 


 Author 

Title 

ISBN (format: NNNNNNNNNN) 

 Year (format: YYYY-YYYY) 

[English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [عربي](#) | [日本語](#) | [한국어](#)

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Advanced Search

The advanced search allows you to search in more detail or add limits to your search. You can search by categories such as publisher, accession number, or series title. You can limit your search by language, format, rank or a particular library. (cont.)

Advanced Search Example:

I know David Sedaris lives in France. Are any of his books available in French?

Step 1: In the “search for” field type “Sedaris, David” and click on the down arrow to select “author”.

Step 2: In the “limit to language” field, click on the down arrow and choose “French”.

Step 3: Click on the “search” button.

WorldCat Advanced Search

- Enter search terms in one or more boxes and click on Search.
- WorldCat Hot Topics: ?

Searching

Basic Search | **Advanced Search** | Expert Search | Previous Searches | Go to page

Subjects | News | Help | Current database: WorldCat

Search in database: WorldCat ⁱ (Updated: 2009-05-01)
 OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide

→ Search for:

→ Limit to: Year (format: YYYY-YYYY)

Language [Show all languages ...](#)

Number of Libraries ?

Limit type to: match any of the following

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Books | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Serial Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Sound Recordings | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Musical Scores |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Files | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Archival Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Maps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Internet Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Continually Updated Resources | <input type="button" value="?"/> |

Subtype limits ?

Limit availability to: match any of the following

Items in my library (TXG, Austin Public Library) ?

Library Code [Find codes ...](#)

Rank by: ?

Expert Search:

The expert search allows you to search using truncation, plurals, wildcards, Boolean and proximity searches.

Expert Search Example:

I'm looking for children's books about peanut butter and jelly.

Step 1: In the "search for" box type "peanut w1 butter w2 jelly". This indicates that you want "peanut" to be within 1 word of "butter" and "jelly" to be within 2 words of "butter".

Step 2: In the "limit type to" field click the box next to "books".

Step 3: In the “subtype limits” field change “any audience” to “juvenile”.

Step 4: Click on the search button.

WorldCat Expert Search

• Enter search terms in one or more boxes and click on Search.

Searching

Basic Search Advanced Search Expert Search Previous Searches Go to page [v]

Index Subjects News Help Current database: WorldCat

Search Clear

Search in database: WorldCat (Updated: 2009-05-01)
OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide

Search for: peanut w1 butter w2 jelly

Indexed in: Keyword (kw)

Limit to: Year (format: YYYY-YYYY)
Language No Limit Show all languages ...
Number of Libraries All

Limit type to: match any of the following

Books Serial Publications Articles
 Visual Materials Sound Recordings Musical Scores
 Computer Files Archival Materials Maps
 Internet Resources Continually Updated Resources

Subtype limits Juvenile Any Content Any Format

Limit availability to: match any of the following
 Items in my library (TXG, Austin Public Library)
Library Code Find codes ...

Rank by: Number of Libraries

Search Clear

INF 382S: Library Instruction and Information Literacy, taught by Dr. Loriene Roy
School of Information, The University of Texas at Austin