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<th>Boolean Operator</th>
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| **AND**          | Use the Boolean term “AND” to narrow your search. When you use “AND”, all of your website results will contain both terms. | Google already defaults to AND. 
**apples AND bananas** will only result in websites that contain both keywords. This search would be much narrower, since it would disregard any websites that refer to apples but not bananas, or bananas but not apples. |
| **OR (in caps)** | Use the Boolean operator "OR" when you are looking for websites that have any of the terms you specify.  
"OR" will broaden your search and make it easier for a webpage to meet the choices in your search string. | **apples OR bananas** will return any site that has to do with apples or bananas. This is a broad search that will cover websites that have either term, as well as websites that include both terms.  
Keep in mind that the OR must be in all caps in Google. |
| **NOT -**        | Add a dash – before a word or site to exclude all results that include that word. | If you wanted to find out about plants other than flowers, you might try the searching  
**plants –flowers**  
Your search results would include anything and everything that has to do with plants, but not flowers. **Flowers** would not be included in search results.  
Other examples:  
**Jaguar speed –car**  
**Koala –site:Wikipedia.org** |
| **Fields**       | Site:  
.com for commercial  
.edu for educational | Site:.edu |
| Quotations “ ” | Use quotes to search for an exact word or set of words on a web page.  
Quotation marks should be used around a phrase or a concept of two or more words.  
Only use this if you’re looking for an exact word or phrase; otherwise you’ll exclude many helpful results by mistake. | “dark chocolate”  
Typing *dark chocolate* without quotation marks could potentially retrieve all items that mention *dark*, all items that mention *chocolate*, as well as all items about *dark chocolate*. This could lead to results that have nothing to do with your topic, e.g. dark nights in Arabia, or white and milk chocolate |
| Wildcards * | In Google, you would add an asterisk within a search as a placeholder for any unknown or wildcard terms. Use with quotation marks to find variations of that exact phrase or to remember words in the middle of a phrase. | “a * saved is a * earned” |
| Synonym ~ | By placing a ~ (called a tilde) right in front of a word (no space in between), you are instructing Google to search not only for the word following the tilde, but also its synonyms. Without doing this in certain types of searches, you could miss valuable sites. | “*primer*”  
What if you wanted to find sites that offer a primer on alternative energy? You know that the word “primer” is not the only way to say “an introduction to” or “the basics of,” but you don’t want to try to think up all the synonyms and build a massive OR query |
| Grouping with Parenthesis ( ) | The parenthesis is used for grouping. It means that the operator (including the always assumed invisible AND operator) is to perform its operation on the group within the parenthesis. | Let’s say you want to search for pages that are about silver or gold coins. The following search query would look for pages that deal dimes or quarters that come in silver, gold, or platinum.  
(silver OR gold OR platinum) (dimes OR quarters) |