MasterFILE Premier

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About the Database

MasterFILE Premier

MasterFILE Premier contains full text for nearly 1,700 periodicals covering general reference, business, health, education, general science, multicultural issues and much more. This database also contains full text for nearly 500 reference books and over 164,400 primary source documents, as well as an Image Collection of over 502,000 photos, maps & flags. *MasterFILE Premier* offers PDF backfiles (as far back as 1975) for key publications including *American Libraries, Foreign Affairs, History Today, Judaism, Library Journal, National Review, Saturday Evening Post*, etc

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Searching Tips

There are a number of helpful tips and hints you can use to improve your search results. For example, you can use Boolean operators to link search terms together; and/or limit the search to a specific title.

Boolean Operators

Sometimes a search can be overly general (results equal too many hits) or overly specific (results equal too few hits). To fine tune your search, you can use AND, OR, and NOT operators to link your search words together. These operators will help you narrow or broaden your search to better express the terms you are looking for and to retrieve the exact information you need quickly.

USING THE "AND" OPERATOR: If you have a search term that is too general, you can append several terms together using "AND". By stringing key terms together, you can further define your search and reduce the number of results.

Note: Unless you define a specific search field, the result list will contain references where all your search terms are located in either the citation, full display or full text.

• For example, type **sleep AND walking** to find results that refer to both sleep and walking.

USING THE "OR" OPERATOR: In order to broaden a search, you can link terms together by using the "OR" operator. By using "OR" to link your terms together you can find documents on many topics. Linked by this operator, your words are searched simultaneously and independently of each other.

• As an example, search **sleep AND walking OR waking** to find results that reference the terms "sleep" and "walking", or the term "waking".

USING THE "NOT" OPERATOR: In order to narrow a search, you can link words together by using the "NOT" operator. This operator will help you to filter out specific topics you do not wish included as part of your search.

- Type: **sleep OR walking NOT waking** to find results that contain the terms "sleep" or "walking" but not the term "waking".
- To further define your results, type: **sleep AND walking AND waking** to constrict the search to include all terms linked by the "AND" operator.

Grouping Terms Together Using Parentheses

Parentheses also may be used to control a search query. Without parentheses, a search is executed from left to right. Words that you enclose in parentheses are searched first. Why is this important? Parentheses allow you to control and define the way the search will be executed. The left phrase in parentheses is searched first; then based upon those results the second phrase in parentheses is searched.

Generalized Search:
dog or cat and show or parade

Focused Search:
(dog or cat) and (show or parade)

In the first example, the search will retrieve everything on dog or cat shows AS WELL AS everything on parades whether or not the articles refer to dogs or cats.

In the second example, we have used the parentheses to control our query to only find articles about shows or parades that reference dogs or cats.

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Searchable Fields

The default fields for unqualified searches consist of the following: all authors, all subjects, all keywords, all title info (including source title) and all abstracts.

The following list will help you locate detailed information referenced in this database as a field.

Searchable tag	Description	Example
AB	Abstract or Author Supplied Abstract [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search of the abstract summaries.	AB tax
AN	Accession Number [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for an article's identification (accession) number.	AN 1105290
AR	Author Phrase [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for an article's author, in the format of last name, first name, and middle initial if available.	AR Madeleine K. Albright
AS	Author-Supplied Abstract [Word Indexed] Performs a search for the value "Y" indicating that the document contains an author supplied abstract.	AS Y
AU	Author [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search for an article's author, in the format of last name, first name, and middle initial if available.	AU Jefferson
CS	Cover Story [Word Indexed] Performs an exact search for the value "Y" indicating that the article is a cover story.	CS Y
	Country ID [Phrase Indexed]	

CY	Performs an exact search for a country's ISO identification code, indicating an article's country of publication.	CY MX
DE	Heading or Keywor [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for subject headings and author-supplied keywords describing an article.	DE "BUCKLING (Mechanics)"
DT	Date of Publication [Date Indexed] Performs an exact search for articles published on a specific date, in the format of CCYYMMDD.	DT 20020301
FM	Images Available [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for an article's type of full text. The searchable values are "T," "C," or "P." "T" indicates HTML full text; "C" indicates images embedded in the full text; and "P" indicates a PDF document.	FM P
FT	Full Text Available [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for the value "Y" indicating that a record has full text available.	FT Y
IL	Illustrations [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search for articles containing illustrations. Values to be searched include "Y" indicating the article contains illustrations, and types of illustrations such as graphs, charts, diagrams, etc.	IL Y
IP	Issue [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for a publication's issue number.	IP 3
IS	ISSN (No Dashes) [Phrase Indexed]	IS 00018899

	Performs an exact search for a publication's International Standard Serial Number.	
JN	Journal Name [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for the journal title in which an article was published.	JN Teacher Librarian
MH	Subjects [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search of a document's geographic subject terms, keywords in an article, and generic subject headings.	MH Polynomials
PG	Number of Pages [Number Indexed] Performs an exact numeric search for an article's page length.	PG 19
PT	Publication Type [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for the publication type of the article.	PT Periodical
PZ	Document Type [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for the document type of the article.	PZ Article
SO	Journal Name [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search for the journal title in which an article was published.	SO Time
SP	Start Page [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for an article's start page.	SP 61
	Subject Terms [Word Indexed]	

SU	Performs a keyword search for geographic subject terms, keywords in articles, and generic subject terms describing a document's contents.	SU Wall Street
TX	All Text [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search of all the database's searchable fields. Using the TX field code will cause the search to look for the keyword in the full text as well as the citation record.	TX orthomolecular medicine
TI	Title [Word Indexed] Performs a keyword search for the title of an article, or a descriptive phrase if the article is dated before Nov 87.	TI price
UI	Unique Identifier [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for an article's identification (accession) number.	UI 1105290
VI	Volume [Phrase Indexed] Performs an exact search for a publication's volume number.	VI 2

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Definition of Fields

The following table explains the contents of each field in a MasterFILE Premier record's detailed display.

Field name	Description
Title	Title of the article, and indicator as to whether or not the article is a cover story.
Alternate Title	Non-English title of the article.
Language	Language in which the article was published.
Authors	Author of the document, in either inverted or univerted form.

Source	The source in which the article was published, its volume number, the number of pages in the article, and a description and number of illustrations found in this article.
Document Type	Indicates a record's article type, such as article, book, abstract, company report, industry overview, and more. All Document Types are displayed in the listbutton limiter on the Advanced Search screen.
Subject Terms	General subject headings and geographic terms describing the article's content.
Geographic Terms	The specific article's geographic subject headings describing the record's content
Abstract	A brief summary taken from the article itself.
Country of Publication	The country in which an article was originally published.
Committee Name	The government department or committee referenced in the document.
Region/Area	The region or area referenced in the document.
Guest	Guests referenced in the article
Full Text Word Count	The word count of the article.
ISBN	International Standard Book Number
ISSN	International Standard Serial Number.
DOI	Digital Object Identifier: an identification system for intellectual property and digital media found on the internet.
Accession Number	Unique number to identify the record.

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Where to Send Your Comments

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