



Search engines are tools available on the Internet and World Wide Web to assist users in locating web sites. Below is an index of several search engines, any of which you should try to use in your events search. Remember, the job of a search engine is to locate as many possible “hits” as possible. The more precise you can make your search, the greater chance you have of successfully locating usable information. Some additional searching tips are given below:

- If you are trying to locate an entire phrase, enclose it in “quotation marks”. That will ensure that the search engine searches for the entire phrase, exactly as you have entered it rather than by the words individually.
- If you are searching for a combination of topics, type them with a + between the topics (no spaces).
- Use capitalization if necessary.
- Begin with a specific topic. It is much easier to widen the search gradually than to be overwhelmed with a massive number of sites.

Google

www.google.com

Google is one of the most widely used search engines in the world. A search can be entered as plain text, or with the assistance of quotation marks, +, -, and capitalization cues. The return listing provides sites in order of popularity. Google has an extensive listing of web sites, and when used in conjunction with ranking, it has great success in locating usable sites. Google also features an “I’m Feeling Lucky” icon which will take you directly to the closest matching website.

Ask Jeeves

www.askjeeves.com

Ask Jeeves is a highly user-friendly search engine. Rather than inserting a combination of search words, the topic is simply entered in question form. Ask Jeeves cross-references your question with past questions that have been asked and identifies potential web sites. When a user has become frustrated with unending searches, Ask Jeeves may be able to narrow down the topic area more successfully than other search engines.

Dogpile

www.dogpile.com

Dogpile is a mega search engine. Rather than having a web page index of its own, Dogpile collects web “hits” from an assortment of popular search engines. The top 10 hits from each search engine are provided in a listing, though a link is provided to each search engine so the user can jump to a specific engine if its “hits” appear to be promising. A search can be entered as plain text, or narrowed through the use of quotation marks, +, -, and, or, and capitalization cues. Dogpile is a great initial search location, since it returns such a complete listing of the top sites from multiple sources. If you are having difficulty in finding information on your topic, Dogpile may be able to help.

Academic Info

<http://www.academicinfo.net/index.html>

This search engine specifically targets academic and educational information. Users can perform a search of materials, or browse through a collection index. Academic subjects can also be targeted for searching. Academic Info also provides a reference center and higher education resources.