

Searching using Terms and Boolean Connectors

A Terms and Boolean Connectors search allows you to create a query using keywords and connectors that specify the relationship between those words.

1. When you type a query into the global search bar that contains a field restriction, proximity connector, or expander (+, %, !), your search will automatically process as a Terms and Boolean Connectors query.

The default search term when you leave a space between words is an OR, which will expand your search results.

2. Click on Search Tips for a list of connectors and expanders.



3. A list of the Boolean connectors and expanders will also be displayed on the right of the advanced search template.

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Use at least one field to create a Boolean Terms & Connectors query. Find documents that have All of these terms			Connectors and Expanders & AND /s in same sentence					
e.g., construction defect (searched as construction & defect) Any of these terms e.g., physician surgeon (searched as physician OR surgeon)	Term frequency		or OR +s Preceding within sentence /p In same paragraph Phrase					
This exact phrase e.g., medical malpractice (searched as "medical malpractice")	+p Preceding within paragraph % But not 7erm frequency /n Within n terms of							
"Exclude documents" requires at least one additional field. These terms		Root expander Preceding within n terms of Universal character Prefix to turn off plurals and equivalents						



Boolean Connectors

AND (&)	Finds documents containing all terms, in any order, and not necessarily together, e.g., <i>trade & mark & registration</i> .
OR	Or is the default search connector in Westlaw. Or is always processed before others, even if it isn't the first search operator you've entered.
BUT NOT connector (%)	Use BUT NOT (%) connector to exclude terms, e.g., <i>taxation % income</i> finds documents containing <i>taxation</i> but excludes documents containing <i>income</i> .
Root expander (!)	Finds terms with same beginning but different endings, e.g., object! finds object, objects, objected, objection, objecting.
Universal character (*)	Finds words containing different characters, e.g., withdr*w finds withdraw and withdrew.
Turn off plurals and equivalents (#)	Use the hash symbol (#), to find terms exactly as you typed them e.g., #damage to find damage but not damages.
Phrase (" ")	Phrase search terms appear in the exact order, within quotation marks. Plurals are automatically found, e.g., <i>"fiduciary duty"</i> also finds <i>fiduciary duties.</i> If want to search for the exact term and not find plurals, type the hash symbol in front of the word, e.g., <i>"fiduciary #duty.</i>
Grammatical connectors /p +p /s +s	/p finds terms in the same paragraph, e.g., <i>hearsay /p evidence</i> . +p the first term must precede the second term in the same paragraph, e.g., <i>capital +p punishment</i> . /s finds terms in the same sentence, e.g., <i>design /s defect</i> . +s the first term must precede the second term in the same sentence, e.g., <i>capital +s gain</i> .
Numerical connectors /n +n	 /n the search terms must appear within n words of each other, where n is a number from 1 to 255, e.g., <i>drone /15 privacy</i> finds <i>drone</i> within 15 words of <i>privacy</i>, in any order). +n the first search term must precede the second term by n terms, where n is a number from 1 to 255, e.g., capital +5 punishment finds capital within 5 words of punishment, in the order they are written.

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