

Detailed example of use and behaviour of a catalog using a datation field

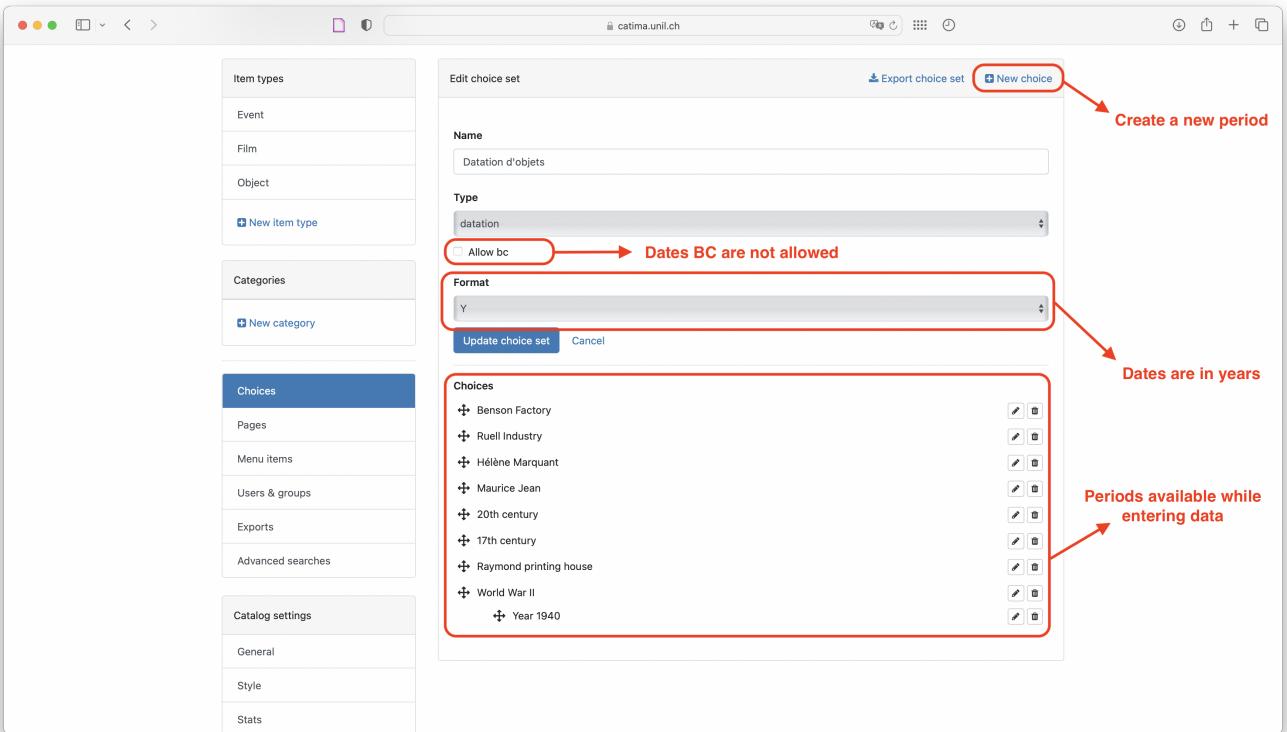
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Use case of the datation field

A team of researchers is conducting an inventory of objects found in a castle. Some objects are difficult to date precisely. However, various temporal clues can be associated with the objects to estimate their approximate creation date. A complex Datation field is created with the options for manual entry and using a choice set.

Configuration of the datation field

The choice set of datation type is created prior to the datation field. It is configured as follows:



The datation field is created and configured as follows:

Data entry options

Single value – optional

Please select the input format(s) to be used

By date/time

Please select the format

Allow dates before Jesus Christ

By choice set

Please select the choice set(s)

Both formats are admitted during data entry

Date formats should preferably be the same in both data entry format

The datation type choice set has been created prior to the datation field

When editors enter the data, they have the following possibilities:

- Enter a **manual** datation with a start date and/or an end date.
- Enter a datation **using a choice set**. This is a list of periods configured by the administrators and super-editors of the Catima catalog.
- Not enter any datation.

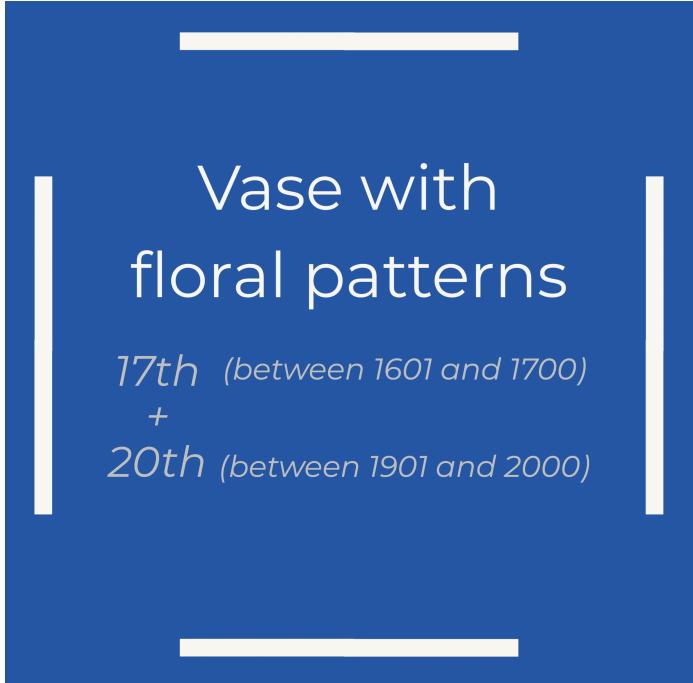
Catalog Data

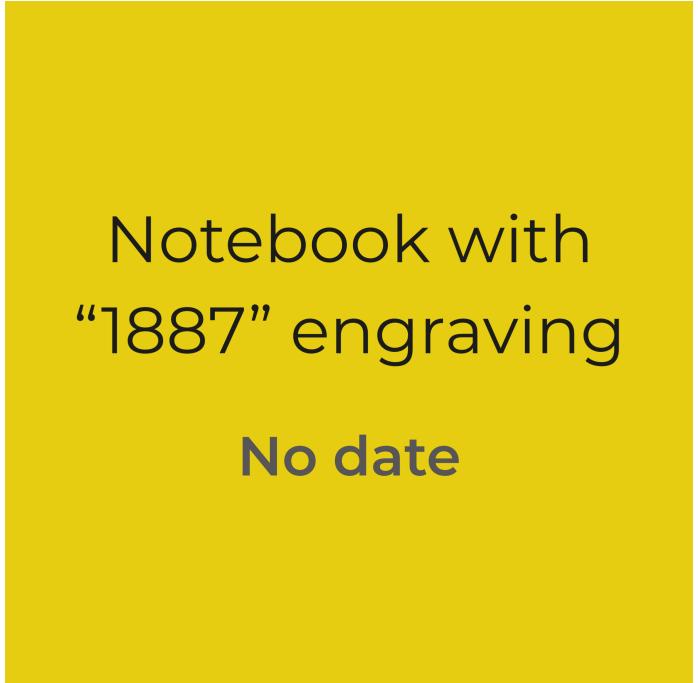
This catalog consists of 13 objects, which are as follows:

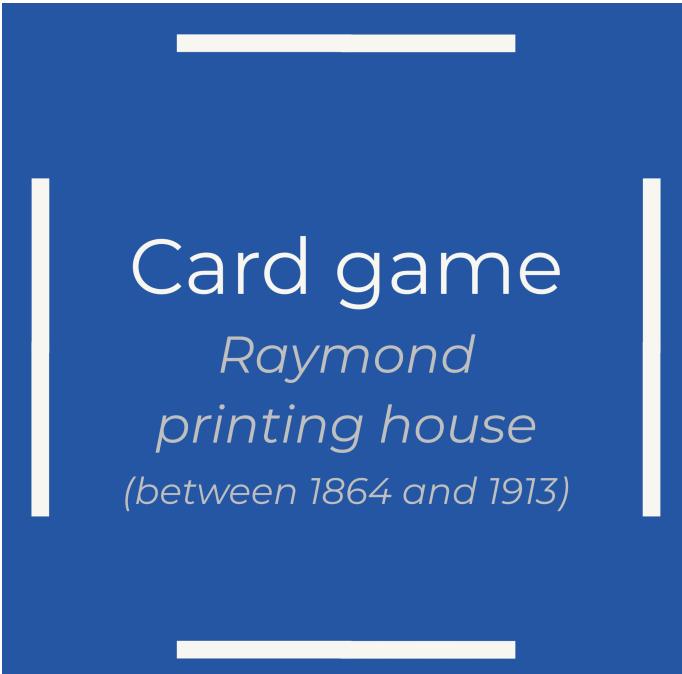
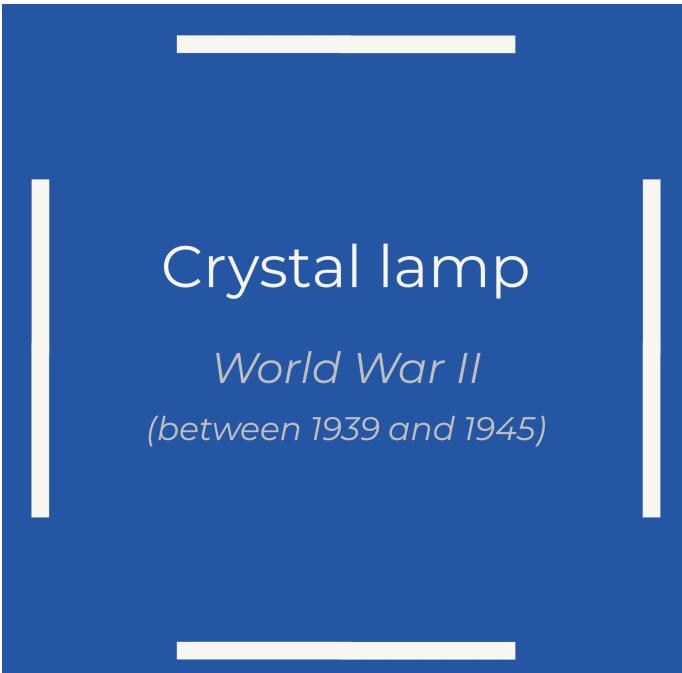
Object Title	datation information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
A Book	The printing date "1922" is found on the first page.	Manual between 1922 and 1922	 <p>Book with red cover</p> <p>1922</p>
A Tablecloth	It is estimated to be from the early 19th century.	Manual between 1815 and 1850	 <p>Embroided table cloth</p> <p>between 1815 and 1850</p>

Object Title	datation Information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
A Tea Set	The factory name is indicated on the cups. It has been in operation since 1902.	Using choice set Benson Factory: before 1902	 <p>Tea set <i>Benson Factory</i> (after 1902)</p>
A Painting	It doesn't have a signature. Two searchers disagree: one claims it's from a painter, the other from one of his students.	Using choice set with two choices Maurice Jean: between 1897 and 1913 + Hélène Marquant: between 1904 and 1929	 <p>Painting of a pond Maurice Jean (between 1897 and 1915) + Hélène Marquant (between 1904 and 1929)</p>

Object Title	datation Information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
A Table	Based on the construction style, it's estimated to date before the Industrial Revolution.	Manual Before 1750	 <p>Wood table before 1750</p>
A Carpet	The name of a manufacturer that ceased its activity in 1782 is found on it. The start date of its activity is unknown.	Using choice set Ruell Industry: before 1782	 <p>Wool carpet <i>Ruell Industry</i> <i>(before 1782)</i></p>

Object Title	datation Information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
A Vase	<p>It has floral patterns typical of the 17th century, but its state of preservation suggests it could be a 20th-century copy.</p>	<p>Using choice set with two choices 17th century: between 1601 and 1700 + 20th century: between 1901 and 2000</p>	 <p>Vase with floral patterns</p> <p>17th (<i>between 1601 and 1700</i>) + 20th (<i>between 1901 and 2000</i>)</p>
A Plate	<p>It doesn't have any indications that could help with datation.</p>	<p>None</p>	 <p>Ceramic dinner plate</p> <p>No date</p>

Object Title	datation Information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
An Empty Notebook	The year "1887" is engraved on the back of the notebook, but it's unclear when this was done.	None	
A Kinetoscope	It's a Edison brand Kinetoscope, it was created after 1895.	Manual after 1895	

Object Title	datation Information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
A card game	It's known to have been manufactured by Raymond Printing house, which operated from 1864 to 1913.	Using choice set Raymond Printing house between 1864 and 1913	 <p>Card game <i>Raymond printing house</i> (between 1864 and 1913)</p>
A Lamp	It's estimated to date from World War II.	Using choice set World War II: between 1939 and 1945	 <p>Crystal lamp <i>World War II</i> (between 1939 and 1945)</p>

Object Title	datation Information	Chosen datation	Thumbnail
A Letter	<p>It's undated, but based on its content, it's believed to be from the year 1940.</p>	<p>Using choice set Child of <i>World War II</i>: Year 1940: between 1940 and 1940</p>	

Examples of Searches

To facilitate this example, photos of the objects have been replaced with colored and coded thumbnails according to the assigned datation type:

- Yellow with no border: **no datation**
- Red with corner borders: **manual datation**
- Blue with borders without corners: **choice set datation**

Simple Search

A simple search in the search bar does not allow searching for periods as it only searches within the text.

We search for all objects dated between 1939 and 1945

Search
Advanced

Nothing found for “between 1939 and 1945”

[Save search](#)

A simple search does not calculate periods.

We search for objects dated in 1887

1887

Search

Advanced

1 result for "1887"

[Save search](#)

Notebook with
"1887" engraving

No date

[Black leather notebook](#)

The notebook comes up despite its lack of datation because the date 1887 appears in one of its text fields.

We search for objects dated in 1815

1815

Search

Advanced

1 result for "1815"

[Save search](#)



Embroidered table
cloth

between 1815
and 1850

[Embroidered tablecloth](#)

Simple search takes the datation field into account but only allows pure text searches without any processing.

Advanced Search

Advanced search on the datation field allows several possibilities. Here is a non-exhaustive list of examples.

We search for objects exactly dated in 1922

Datation

and

1922



and

Choose...



exact date

Exclude

Result

1 advanced search result



[Book with red cover](#)

The book is the only object that is exactly dated in 1922.

We search for all objects dated after 1922

Datation

and	1922	x	+	after
and	Choose...			
Exclude				

Results

7 advanced search results

<p>Tea set Benson Factory (after 1902)</p>	<p>Book with red cover 1922</p>	<p>Crystal lamp World War II (between 1939 and 1945)</p>	<p>Edison Kinetoscope after 1895</p>
<p>Benson tea set</p>	<p>Book with red cover</p>	<p>Crystal lamp</p>	<p>Edison Kinetoscope</p>
<p>Painting of a pond Maurice Jean (between 1897 and 1915) Hélène Marquant (between 1904 and 1929)</p>	<p>Soldier's letter Year 1940 (1940)</p>	<p>Vase with floral patterns 17th (between 1601 and 1700) 20th (between 1901 and 2000)</p>	
<p>Painting of a pond</p>	<p>Soldier's letter</p>	<p>Vase with floral patterns</p>	

All objects have at least one date that is between 1922 and the present day. The book appears because the year 1922 is included.

We search for all objects dated before 1800

Datation

and	1800	x	+	before
and	Choose...			
Exclude				

Results

3 advanced search results

[Save search](#)

Vase with floral patterns
17th (between 1601 and 1700)
+
20th (between 1901 and 2000)

Wood table
before 1750

Wool carpet
Ruell Industry
(before 1782)

The vase appears because it has two choices, 17th century and 20th century. The 17th century choice includes dates before 1800.

Booleans: AND, OR, EXCLUDE

Booleans allow searches to be broadened or refined in more or less complex ways. In the datation field, multiple search criteria can be combined. This set of criteria can then be combined with criteria from other fields using the first operator in the field.

Datation

The first boolean always refers to the other fields

and

or

and

1940

1960

Choose...

Exclude

The other booleans refer to the other datation criteria

before

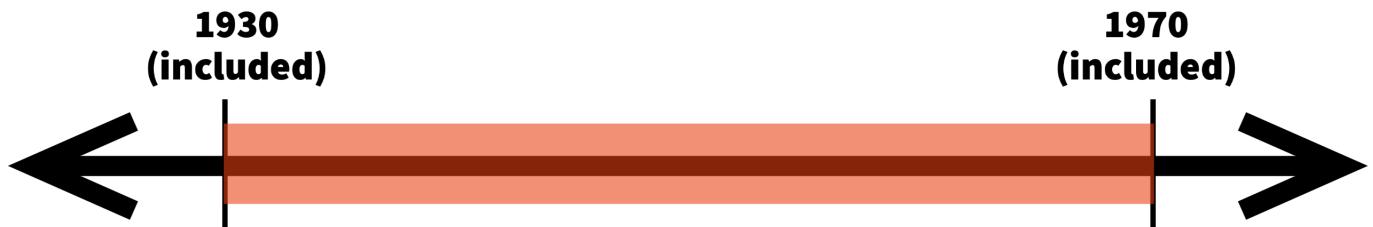
after

+

A screenshot of the advanced search interface. The 'Datation' section is highlighted with a red box. Inside, there are three dropdown menus labeled 'and', 'or', and 'and'. Below them are date range inputs for '1940' and '1960', each with a calendar icon, a delete button, and a plus sign. To the right of these are dropdown menus for 'before' and 'after', separated by a plus sign. A red arrow points from the text 'The first boolean always refers to the other fields' to the 'and' dropdown. Another red arrow points from the text 'The other booleans refer to the other datation criteria' to the 'or' dropdown. A 'Choose...' button is also visible.

We search for objects dated after 1930 AND before 1970

after 1930
AND
before
1970



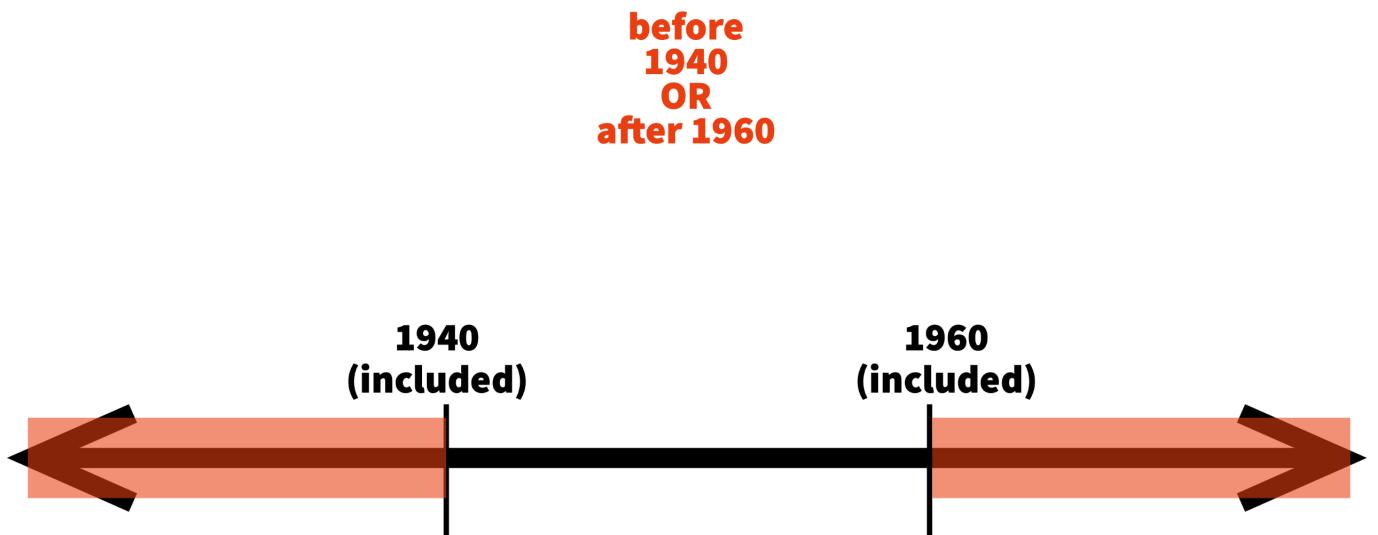
Results

5 advanced search results Save search

<p>Benson tea set</p> <p>Tea set Benson Factory (after 1902)</p>	<p>Crystal lamp</p> <p>Crystal lamp World War II (between 1939 and 1945)</p>	<p>Edison Kinetoscope</p> <p>Edison Kinetoscope after 1895</p>	<p>Soldier's letter</p> <p>Soldier's letter Year 1940 (1940)</p>
<p>Vase with floral patterns</p> <p>Vase with floral patterns 17th (between 1601 and 1700) + 20th (between 1901 and 2000)</p>			

- The Kinetoscope includes all dates after 1895.
- The lamp contains dates before 1930 and after 1970.
- The letter is dated 1940, which falls between 1930 and 1970.
- The tea set includes all dates after 1902.
- The vase is dated with the 20th century choice, which includes dates between 1901 and 2000.

We search for objects dated before 1940 OR after 1960



Results

11 advanced search results

[Save search](#)



Benson tea set



Book with red cover



Card game



Crystal lamp



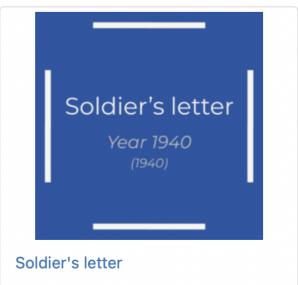
Edison Kinetoscope



Embroidered tablecloth



Painting of a pond



Soldier's letter



Vase with floral patterns



Wood table

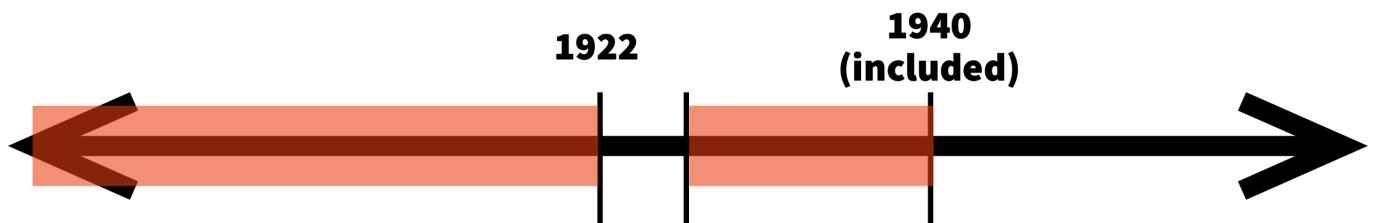


Wool carpet

- The card game, the lamp, the book, the tablecloth, the tea set, the painting, the table, and the rug all include dates before 1940.
- The letter dated 1940 appears because the years 1940 and 1960 are included in the search.
- The kinetoscope and the vase include dates after 1960 and before 1940.

We search for objects dated before 1940 EXCLUDING those dated in the year 1922

before 1940
EXCLUDE
1922



Results

- The letter dated 1940 appears because the year 1940 is included in the search.
- All cards have at least one date before 1940.
- The book does not appear because entries exactly dated 1922 are excluded from the search.

Search by Choice Sets

We search for all objects dated before 1782 using the choice set *Ruell Industry*

Datation

and exact date

and Ruell Industry (before 1782)

Exclude

Results

2 advanced search results

Wood table
before 1750

Wood table

Wool carpet
Ruell Industry
(before 1782)

Wool carpet

Difference with Manual Search We want to do the same search manually: We search for all objects dated before 1782.

The screenshot shows a search interface with the following configuration:

- Datation:** A dropdown menu with "and" selected, followed by a date range from "1782" to "Choose...".
- Exclude:** An empty dropdown menu.
- Search Results:** A dropdown menu with "before" selected.

Results

3 advanced search results Save search



Why does the manual search show one more entry than the choice set search? A choice set search returns entries that carry the selected choice and manually dated entries that have at least one date falling within the period. It does not include other choice-dated entries that fall within the period. Manual searches apply to all entries.

Precision on choices with specific dates When conducting a search with a choice bearing a specific date (e.g., "Year 1940"), the search will only return entries that carry that choice and manually dated entries with the exact same date. The search will not include manually dated entries with multiple dates even if they include the searched-for date.

Exclude Option

We only search for entries that are dated using a specific choice

The exclude option allows the exclusion of one or the other of the input formats in the search.

Example

We search for entries dated between 1900 and 1939.

The screenshot shows a search interface with the following configuration:

- Datation:** Three dropdown menus with "and" selected, followed by date ranges "1900" to "1939" and "Choose...".
- Exclude:** An empty dropdown menu.
- Search Results:** Two dropdown menus: "after" and "before".

Results

7 advanced search results

[Save search](#)



Benson tea set



Book with red cover



Card game



Crystal lamp



Edison Kinetoscope



Painting of a pond



Vase with floral patterns

Next, we want to exclude entries that are dated using choices (the blue thumbnails) using the "Exclude" option at the bottom of the search options.

Result

2 advanced search results

[Save search](#)



Book with red cover



Edison Kinetoscope

All entries that were dated using choices have been excluded from the search.

"Parent" and "Child" Periods

When creating a datation choice, it is possible to assign a parent to it from the list of existing choices.

Parent

World War II

Short name

fr Année 1940

en Year 1940

Long name (optional)

fr

en

Start date (optional)

1940 ▾

End date (optional)

1940 ▾

[Update choice](#) [Cancel](#)

In our inventory, the object **Crystal Lamp** is dated using the choice *World War II*, and the object **Soldier's Letter** is dated using the choice *Year 1940*, which is the child of *World War II*.

Impact on searches

We search for objects dated during World War II without including the children

Datation

and World War II (be... X ▾ + exact date

and World War II (be... X ▾ + Include childrens ? +

Exclude

The "Include children?" box appears. Not selecting anything is equal to choosing no.

Results

2 advanced search results [Save search](#)



- The *Kinetoscope* appears because it's a manual date that fits the search criteria.
 - The *Crystal Lamp* appears because it's a choice set date that fits the searched choice set.
 - The *Soldier's Letter* does not appear because children of parent choices are by default excluded from searches.
 - Objects dated using a choice set other than the one being searched are not included in the search.

We search for objects dated during World War II, including child choices of this period

Datation

and	▼	▼	✖	✖	+	exact date	▼		
and	▼	World War II (be...	✖	▼	Yes	▼	+	exact date	▼
Exclude					▼	▼	▼		

Results include the soldier's letter

3 advanced search results

Save search



We manually search for all objects dated between 1939 and 1945

Datation	and	1939	after
	and	1945	before
	and	Choose...	+ Exclude

Results

5 advanced search results

[Save search](#)

The screenshot shows five search results cards arranged in two rows. Each card displays a title, a brief description, and a date range. The first four cards have blue backgrounds, while the fifth one has a red background.

- Benson tea set**
Tea set
Benson Factory (after 1902)
- Crystal lamp**
Crystal lamp
World War II (between 1939 and 1945)
- Edison Kinetoscope**
Edison Kinetoscope
after 1895
- Soldier's letter**
Soldier's letter
Year 1940 (1940)
- Vase with floral patterns**
Vase with floral patterns
17th (between 1601 and 1700) + 20th (between 1901 and 2000)

The manual search is always more inclusive than a choice-based search because it considers all objects, whether dated using a choice set or manually. Here, all objects dated within a period that includes at least one date within the searched period appear.

Cross-Referencing Search Fields

Advanced search allows to cross-reference search fields.

We search for objects dated after 1930 AND belonging to the category **Decoration items**

Advanced search

Default search by item type ▾

Advanced search for the item type "Object"

Inventory number	and	1930	x	+ 1930	has exact number
Title	and	Choose...	all words		
Datation	and	Choose...	after		
Category	and	Decoration items	+ Decoration items		
Description	and	Choose...	all words		

Search **Start over**

Results

2 advanced search results

 Save search



Crystal lamp

Vase with floral patterns