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How to search for only folders in Windows 7 instead of folders AND files

Ask Question

I've had some issues with the new search function in Windows 7.
The Search in Windows XP was packed with so many more options.
The only option I can access now are *Date Modified* and *Size.*

⭐
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| windows-7 | windows | windows-search |

edited Jul 31 '15 at 1:57

Twisty Impersonator
18.8k   14   68   101

asked Mar 5 '10 at 13:56

sshow
721   1   8   18

Related: [How can I see the available Windows Search Filters?](#) – G-Man
Nov 17 '15 at 2:13

7 Answers

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88

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From the **Windows Search Advanced Query Syntax** page, use
the following search items:

```
To restrict by file type   Use          Example
-----------------------    ---          -------
Folders                    folders      kind:folders
Folder name                foldername   foldername:mydocs
```

edited Oct 7 '12 at 7:23

Tim Sylvester
273   2   6

answered Mar 5 '10 at 14:01

Snark
29.2k   6   76   89

1   Now I see, maybe the Windows 7 search is a bit better suited for search
than the Windows XP version =) –   sshow   Mar 5 '10 at 14:11

@sshow - you should say thanks to snark by up voting the answer. +1 from me – Nicu Zecheru Mar 5 '10 at 14:56 ✎

5   `foldername` is not correct. It searches for files and folders inside of folders of a certain name. – Steven Penny Nov 23 '14 at 21:26

3   `kind:folders` (or `kind:folder`) finds folders, but also collection files like `*.CAB` and `*.ZIP` . To find only true folders, use `type:folder` . – G-Man Nov 17 '15 at 2:10

3   BTW this works only for the **English versions of Windows**, for other languages you need to use the translated key word (whatever it may be), yeah, it sucks. – Ivan Castellanos Oct 21 '16 at 1:18 ✎

In the *Search* box type:

19

```
type:="File Folder" name:[enter the folder name here with no bracket
```

edited Jul 31 '15 at 2:00

Twisty Impersonator
18.8k   14   68   101

answered Jul 30 '15 at 23:04

LookingForTheAnswer
201   2   2

this is the best answer. you can also put , *e.g. name:*middle* – adudley Feb 25 '16 at 10:21 ✎

2   `type:"File Folder"` (without the equals sign) works as well. – Dennis T Aug 5 '18 at 20:18

I understand that you are asking specifically for windows-search

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based answers, but here is an alternate method in case it is helpful.

Open up the windows command prompt and navigate to the directory from which you want to start searching and use the following command:

```
dir *SEARCH_TERM* /ad /s
```

Windows Search just makes me howl with rage for a few minutes before I give up and just do the same search from the command prompt instead.

edited Nov 30 '16 at 12:32

Community ♦
1

answered Mar 5 '10 at 14:30

Richard Lucas
2,656   16   22

2   Very fast and good solution. :) But I prefer to add */b* for single line output.
;) – CSchulz Aug 16 '13 at 15:19 🖊

On a **german** version of Windows 7 you'll need the filter below, because *type:folder* or the like won't work at all:

5

```
typ:=Dateiordner
```

BTW, if you press **Win+F**, the searchbox will offer at least a tiny bit of assistance below the box and clicking on its blue links will trigger

selection widgets.

answered May 6 '14 at 12:22

answered May 6 '11 at 12:22

Jörg

547   6   7

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Tired of Windows 7 search wonders I use FileSeek
http://www.fileseek.ca It has lots of options: date/size filters, regular
expressions, inclusive/exclusive search, etc.

answered Jul 18 '14 at 10:43

Ivan Ferrer Villa

131   4

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0

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In `cmd.exe` CLI, go to the folder you want to search from, then `dir`
`/ad /b /s "search-string"`

Please note that it must be `cmd.exe`, as I found it is an issue when
using `PowerShell` with that command

answered Mar 13 '17 at 6:15

Xin
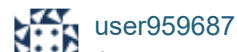
101   3

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If you have a French Windows 7 none of the above phrases works.
You need a plus sign between the key words (+)

type:="Dossier de fichiers" + nom: [tapez le nom de votre dossier,
sans les parenthèses. Tapez un espace après nom:]

Exemple: type:="Dossier de fichiers" + nom: Bozo Abc

answered Nov 1 '18 at 17:34

user959687

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(1) I appreciate the fact that the French version of Microsoft Windows requires certain commands and keywords to be entered in French.   But please write the narrative/descriptive part of your answer in English.   The user isn't actually supposed to *type* "tapez le nom de votre dossier, sans les parenthèses. Tapez un espace après nom", are they?   (2) If you are copying this answer from somewhere, you should say where. – Scott Nov 1 '18 at 17:43