

Google’s advanced search operators enable security professionals to conduct reconnaissance and to locate otherwise hard to find information.

- "exact match" – surrounding phrases in quotation marks returns *exact* matches.
- cat AND collar – returns results that match *both* keywords
- cat OR dog -- returns results that match *either* keyword
- (ipad OR iphone) AND apple – grouping terms in brackets defines the order of operations
- 900..912 – returns a range between the two numbers
- after: 2010 – returns results after the specified year
- before: 2020 – returns results before the specified year
- apple -fruit – excludes specified term from search results
- site:reddit.com – returns results from specified domain
- inurl:bananas -- returns urls that contain the keyword
- allinurl: banana fruit -- returns urls that contain *all* the keywords.
- inanchor:breaking – returns sites that link specified terms
- allinanchor: top vulnerabilities – returns sites that link *all* terms
- intext:username – returns sites that contain term in body text
- allintext: username password – returns sites that contain *all* terms in body text
- intitle:ip camera – returns sites with titles that match terms
- allintitle: ip camera dvr -- returns sites with titles that match *all* terms
- cache:example.com – returns a cached version of a site
- define confidentiality – returns a definition of term
- filetype:log – filters results by file type
- record AROUND(7) world – matches sites where first term is within specified distance from second term

Google’s Programmable Search Engine permits users to create their own custom search engine. This is especially useful when making topic-specific searches.

Set up is very easy. Go to <https://programmablesearchengine.google.com/controlpanel/create>, provide a Title to the search engine, and specify at least one site to get started.

≡ Programmable Search Engine

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Help and support

Send feedback

Get started by providing some basic information about your engine. You'll be able to customize the engine's configs (Languages, regions, etc.) further after it is created.  
[Learn more](#)

Name your search engine

Search engine name

Threat Intelligence

What to search?

Search specific sites or pages

You can add any of the following:  
Individual pages: www.example.com/page.html  
Entire site: www.mysite.com/\*  
Parts of site: www.example.com/docs/\* or www.example.com/docs/  
Entire domain: \*.example.com

Enter a site or pages

dhs.gov/ais

Add

Search the entire web

In the example below I created a search engine consisting of a curated list of 190 websites that provide authoritative medical information. Wildcards (\*) can be used to include subdomains.

Medical

← Back to all engines

Overview

Basic

Search Features

Look and Feel

Members

Ads

AdSense

Search Features

Look and Feel

Statistics and Logs

Sites to search

URL contains

Clear filter

Apply filter

<input type="checkbox"/> Site	Last updated time
<input type="checkbox"/> *.ucsfhealth.org/*	Apr 22, 2022, 7:31 PM
<input type="checkbox"/> *.youngwomenshealth.org/*	Apr 22, 2022, 7:31 PM
<input type="checkbox"/> *.wfneurology.org/*	Apr 22, 2022, 7:31 PM
<input type="checkbox"/> *.uroweb.org/*	Apr 22, 2022, 7:31 PM
<input type="checkbox"/> *.toxicology.org/*	Apr 22, 2022, 7:31 PM

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The query enhancement pane allows users to modify search parameters. A useful option is the ability to define synonyms for user-defined terms.

### Query Enhancement

Expand your user's search queries by using synonyms, which are variants of a search term. [Learn more](#)

Synonyms 

Delete

Add

You currently don't have synonyms.

Keywords ⓘ

Add keywords

Query addition ⓘ

Add query addition

Web Search extra query terms ⓘ

Add extra query terms

The Advanced Settings pane allows users to configure the number of results per page; results sorting; and search language.

### Advanced Settings

Manage the advanced settings of this search engine. [Learn more](#)

Results sorting

▼

Web Search settings

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Web Search restricts

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Web Search restrictions to be applied on Web Search search results. [Learn more](#)

Language restrict ⓘ

All languages ▼

Results per page ⓘ

20 ▼

Site search restriction ⓘ

Add site

Filter similar results ⓘ

The Refinements option is particularly useful to organize results by site categories defined by the user:

### Refinements

Let users filter results according to categories you provide. [Learn more](#)

Max top refinements ⓘ

All ▼

Delete

Add

<input type="checkbox"/>	Refinement	Type	Weight
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Organizations</a>	Search within sites	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Governments</a>	Search within sites	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Academia</a>	Search within sites	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Articles</a>	Search within sites	

**Google.com/alerts** is another very useful service which delivers real-time updates to user-specified search queries. Alerts can be filtered by source, including: News, Web, Books, and Discussions. Alerts can be sent via email or to an RSS feed.

Alerts

Monitor the web for interesting new content

cve windows serious

How often

As-it-happens ▼

Sources

Automatic ▼

Language

English ▼

Region

Any Region ▼

How many

Only the best results ▼

Deliver to

RSS feed ▼

Create Alert

Hide options ▲

Sources

Language

Region

How many

Deliver to

Update alert

Hide options

Automatic

News

Blogs

Web

Video

Books

Discussions

Finance