



Google for Genealogy: Search Tricks to Tease Out Information

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Description: We all use Google multiple times a day in a variety of ways. This course will go over tricks for making the time we spend with Google, particularly with Google search, more fruitful.

What a Search Engine Can and Cannot Do

- Important for Reasonably Exhaustive Search
- Backdrop information and resources
- Can't access deep or dark web

Why Use Google?

- Straightforward – ads are clearly marked as such; clean interface
- Page translation, especially in conjunction with their web browser (Chrome)
- Search types can easily be separated for images, news, maps, and by date

Additional Options: Bing, DuckDuckGo, Dogpile, Creative Commons.

Personalized Search Results

- Can skew your search
- Based on device type, location, search history, demographics
- Ideas: use a VPN, sign out, go incognito

Basic google tricks from our blog (<https://legacytree.com/blog>)

- 1) Use quotation marks
- 2) Exclude words for more narrow results
- 3) Use ~ for synonyms – Google often does this on its own now (for better or worse)
- 4) Make site-specific searches
- 5) Search using date ranges

More tricks

- 1) Get quick data
- 2) Use tabs
- 3) Search by date published
- 4) Search by usage rights
- 5) Use asterisks as wildcards
- 6) Search by file type
- 7) Use advanced search
- 8) Get Google alerts