

 <b>Search Tips</b>	<p><b>Use link tabs:</b> helps define the kind of search you need to do, <i>i.e., videos, images, etc.</i></p> 	<p><b>Use *asterisk wildcard:</b> works as a placeholder that may be automatically filled by the search engine later.</p>
<p><b>Use "quotation marks":</b> tells Google to search for the whole phrase in that exact order.</p>	<p><b>Use hyphen - to exclude words:</b> hyphen will tell Google to ignore content unrelated to the word you are searching for.</p>	<p><b>Use 'related: (website title)'</b> to find sites that are related to one another.</p>

**Domain Suffixes**

**Domain** is the first part of a website name, for example: CNN.com

**Suffix** is the ending of a website name, for example: CNN.com

- .com:** Commercial site, used for promoting products or viewpoints
- .edu:** Educational, used by schools. Watch out for student pages
- .gov:** Government pages
- .org:** Traditionally non profit; usually credible source, sometimes influenced by sponsors
- .mil:** United States military sites
- .net:** Beware of these websites as many are not reliable

## 1. Use the tabs

The first tip is to use the tabs in Google search. On the top of every search are a number of tabs. Usually you'll see *Web*, *Image*, *News*, and *More*. Using these tabs, you can [help define what kind of search you need to do](#).

if you need images, use the *Image* tab. If you are looking for a recent news article, use the *News* tab.

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## 2. Use quotes

When searching for something specific, try using quotes to minimize the guesswork for Google search. When you put your search parameters in quotes, [it tells the search engine to search for the whole phrase](#).

For instance, if you search for *Puppy Dog Sweaters*, the engine will search for content that contains those three words in any order.

However, if you search "*Puppy Dog Sweaters*", it will search for that phrase

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exactly as you typed it. This can help locate specific information that may be buried under other content if not sorted out correctly.

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### 3. Use a hyphen to exclude words

Sometimes you may find yourself searching for a word with an ambiguous meaning. An example is *Mustang*. When you Google search for *Mustang*, you may get results for both the car made by Ford or the horse. If you want to cut one out, [use the hyphen to tell the engine to ignore content with one of the other](#). See the example below.

- Mustang -cars

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### 4. Use the asterisk wildcard

The asterisk wildcard is one of the most useful ones on the list. Here's how it works.

When you use an asterisk in a search term on Google search, [it will leave a](#)

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[placeholder](#) that may be automatically filled by the search engine later. This is a brilliant way to find song lyrics if you don't know all the words. Let's look at the syntax:

- "Come \* right now \* me"

To you or me, that may look like nonsense. However, Google search will search for that phrase knowing that the asterisks can be any word.

More often than not, you'll find they are lyrics to The Beatles song "Come Together" and that's what the search will tell you.

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## 5. Find sites that are similar to other sites

This is a unique one that could be used by practically everyone if they knew it existed.

Let's say you have a favorite website. It can be anything. However, that website is getting a little bit boring and you want to [find other websites like it](#). You would use [this trick](#). Below is the syntax:

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- related:[amazon.com](#)

If you search that above, you won't find a link to Amazon. Instead, you'll find links to online stores like Amazon. Sites like Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, and others that sell physical items online. It's a powerful Google search tool that can help you find new sites to browse.

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