

## Yahoo! Search Tips

**Choose specific words.** Use specific words to describe exactly what you're looking for. More general words give a larger number of results. For example:

- Try *19th century chairs* instead of *old furniture*
- Use *digital camera reviews* instead of *electronics*
- Make sure to watch for words with more than one meaning. If you're looking for information on modeling, make sure you specify *fashion modeling* or *clay modeling* or *mathematical modeling*

**Know when to require or exclude words.** You can indicate words that must be in each search result or words that cannot be in each search result. Very common words such as *it* and *how* are an exception. These appear in so many places, they usually won't impact your search results.

- To require words, type + in front of each word that must be in the search results. So if you want to see pages about health issues around blackberries and you mean the BlackBerry hand-held device, search for *blackberry health +device*
- To exclude words, type - in front of each word that cannot be in the search results. So if you want to see pages about health issues around blackberries with no mention of the hand-held device, search for *blackberries health -device*

**Know how to search for exact phrases.** To search for an exact phrase, put quotation marks around two or more words. Searching for *"to be or not to be"* returns only results containing the exact phrase inside the quotation marks.

**Know how to perform multiple searches simultaneously.** If you're equally interested in two or more alternatives, use **OR** in capital letters. So, if you are interested in seeing results for both kayaking and biking in New Zealand, search for *new zealand kayaking OR biking*.

**Focus the types of results to return.** Click the links over the **Search** box to limit your search specifically to images, video, news, answers, or other search type.



**Search Assist suggestions.** If other people using Yahoo! Search have performed searches similar to yours, search suggestions will appear under the **Search** box. Click a suggestion to use it for your search.

## Why Some Links Return Error Messages

You might receive an error message for several reasons, including:

- The site you're visiting might be busy or temporarily down. This can happen a lot, especially with overloaded or extremely popular sites. Try again later. Overload problems are usually fixed with time.
- The site might be denying access, intentionally or unintentionally. You might consider trying to contact the webmaster directly via email.
- The site might no longer exist. If you do follow a link to a site that no longer exists, the information in the search database will be corrected by our normal content refresh processes.