

Amazing Features of Google

In addition to providing easy access to billions of web pages, Google has many special features to help you to find exactly what you're looking for.

Search



[Alerts](#)

Get email updates on the topics of your choice



[Blog Search](#)

Find blogs on your favorite topics



[Book Search](#)

Search the full text of books



[Checkout](#)

Complete online purchases more quickly and securely



[Desktop](#)

Search and personalize your computer



[Earth](#)

Explore the world from your computer



[Finance](#)

Business info, news, and interactive charts



[GOOG-411](#)

Find and connect with businesses from your phone, for free



[Google Health](#)^{New!}

Organize your medical records online



[iGoogle](#)

Add news, games and more to the Google homepage



[Images](#)

Search for images on the web



[Maps](#)

View maps and directions



[News](#) - now with [archive search](#)

Search thousands of news stories



[Notebook](#)

Clip and collect information as you surf the web



[Patent Search](#)

Search the full text of US Patents



[Product Search](#)

Search for stuff to buy



[Scholar](#)

Search scholarly papers



[Special Searches](#)

Search within specific topics



[Toolbar](#)

Add a search box to your browser



[Video](#)

Search for videos on Google Video and YouTube



[Web Search](#)

Search over billions of web pages



[Web Search Features](#)

Find movies, music, stocks, books, and more

Explore and innovate



[Code](#)

Download APIs and open source code



[Custom Search](#)^{New!}

Create a customized search experience for your community



[Labs](#)

Explore Google's technology playground

Communicate, show & share



[Blogger](#)

Share your life online with a blog -- it's fast, easy, and free



[Calendar](#)

Organize your schedule and share events with friends



[Docs](#)

Create and share your projects online and access them from anywhere

North Brunswick Library Computer Classes



[Gmail](#)

Fast, searchable email with less spam



[Groups](#)

Create mailing lists and discussion groups



[Orkut](#)

Meet new people and stay in touch with friends



[Picasa](#)

Find, edit and share your photos



[Reader](#)

Get all your blogs and news feeds fast



[SketchUp](#)

Build 3D models quickly and easily



[Talk](#)

IM and call your friends through your computer



[Translate](#)

View web pages in other languages



[YouTube](#)

Watch, upload and share videos

Go mobile



[Maps for mobile](#)

View maps and get directions on your phone



[Mobile](#)

Use Google on your mobile phone



[SMS](#)

Use text messaging for quick info

Make your computer work better



[Pack](#)

A free collection of essential software



[Web Accelerator](#)

Speed up the web

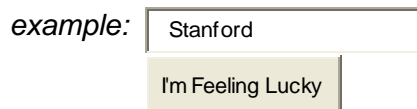
Google Web Search Features

On the main Google page:

I'm Feeling Lucky

The "I'm Feeling Lucky" button takes you directly to the first web page Google returned for your query. You will not see the other search results at all.

For example, to find the homepage for Stanford University, simply enter Stanford into the search field and click on the "I'm Feeling Lucky" button. Google takes you directly to "www.stanford.edu", the official homepage of Stanford University.



Preferences (on the right side of the search window)

You can set various preferences for how you would like your results to show up. You can change the filter, or the number of results per page (up to 100).

Advanced Search (on the right side of the search window)

You can really modify your search by clicking this button. Many of the shortcuts that are useful in Google are fully detailed on this page. The bottom of the page also gives you direct access to many of the topics we will cover below.

Items on your results page:

Once you have performed a search, you will see results. Here are some of the links you will see

Cached Links

Google takes a snapshot of each page examined as it searches the web and caches these as a back-up in case the original page is unavailable. If you click on the "Cached" link, you will see the web page as it looked when it was indexed. The cached content is the content Google uses to judge whether this page is a relevant match for your query.

When the cached page is displayed, it will have a header at the top which serves as a reminder that this is not necessarily the most recent version of the page. Terms that match your query are highlighted on the cached version to make it easier for you to see why your page is relevant.

The "Cached" link will be missing for sites that have not been indexed, as well as for sites whose owners have requested they not cache their content.

[Google](#)

... Advertise with Us - Business Solutions - Services & Tools - Jobs, Press, & Help ©2004 **Google** - Searching 4,285,199,774 web pages.
[www.google.com/](#) - 3k - Mar 26, 2004 - » [Cached](#) « - [Similar pages](#)

Similar Pages

When you click on the "Similar Pages" link for a search result, Google automatically scouts the web for pages that are related to this result.

The Similar Pages feature can be used for many purposes. If you like a particular site's content, but wish it had more to say, Similar Pages can find sites with similar content with which you may be unfamiliar. If you are looking for product information, Similar Pages can find competitive information so you can make direct comparisons. If you are interested in researching a particular field, Similar Pages can help you find a large number of resources very quickly, without having to worry about selecting the right keywords.

[Google](#)

... Advertise with Us - Business Solutions - Services & Tools - Jobs, Press, & Help ©2004 **Google** - Searching 4,285,199,774 web pages.
[www.google.com/](#) - 3k - Mar 26, 2004 - [Cached](#) - » [Similar pages](#) «

Spell Checker

Google's spell checking software automatically looks at your query and checks to see if you are using the most common version of a word's spelling. If it calculates that you're likely to generate more relevant search results with an alternative spelling, it will ask "Did you mean: (more common spelling)?" Clicking on the suggested spelling will launch a Google search for that term. Because Google's spell check is based on occurrences of all words on the Internet, it is able to suggest common spellings for proper nouns

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

(names and places) that might not appear in a standard spell check program or dictionary.

Refine Your Search

For searches within certain topics, you'll notice links at the top of the search results page that help you quickly narrow your search.

Refine results for **back pain**:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Treatment | Tests & diagnosis | From medical establishment | For health professionals |
| Symptoms | Risk factors | Alternative medicine | For patients |

These links are labels that have been assigned to certain webpages. Organizations, businesses, and individuals can label websites in the topics they know best. You can subscribe to more of these providers by visiting the [Google Co-op directory](http://www.google.com/coop/subscribedlinks/directory/Latest) at <http://www.google.com/coop/subscribedlinks/directory/Latest>

example: *example:*

The [Google Co-op directory](#) also includes subscribed links, which provide instant information in your search results - things like restaurant reservations, financial info, or even celebrity gossip. Add these services to your Google search by subscribing to the providers of your choice.

[Gapminder.org : Economic growth](#) Subscribed Link

Gapminder animated bubblechart with all countries showing Economic growth, %

tools.google.com/gapminder/index.html#node=shortmode;i=NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG [edit](#) | [remove](#)

Images

You may occasionally see small images at the top of your Google search results. These are images that it thinks are relevant to your search terms.

You can also find relevant images by doing a Google Image Search, or by adding words like 'pics' or 'pictures' to your search terms when you do a regular web search.

example:

News Headlines



When searching on Google you may see links at the top of your results marked "News". These links connect you to reports culled from numerous news services Google continuously monitors. The links appear if the terms you enter are words currently in the news and clicking on them will take you directly to the service supplying them. (See alerts below)

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

example:

Web Page Translation

Google now gives you the ability to access web pages in languages other than your own. Currently, Google offers the following translation pairs: English to and from Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Korean, Japanese, Spanish, and Portuguese; and German to and from French.

If your search results contain a page in one of these languages, and they support your translation pair, you can translate that page into your language with a single click.

For more information about this feature, see:
http://www.google.com/help/faq_translation.html.

[Répertoire Web de Google - World > Français - » \[Translate this page \] «](#)
... Modifié par **Google** - ©2003 **Google** Aide du répertoire
Google - À propos - **Google** in English.
[directory.google.com/Top/World/ - 7k - Mar 26, 2004 - Cached - Similar pages](#)

Product Search/Shopping/Checkout



If you search for products using Google, you may see relevant product search information and links displayed at the top of your search results. These product search results are linked to the sites of merchants who participate in Product Search, Google's product search service. These results are not advertisements, as participation in Product Search is completely free to merchants.

example:

Groups



When you search on Google, sometimes you'll see results from Google Groups at the bottom of your search results page. These are messages that users have posted to a discussion group about a topic related to your search. Clicking on one of these results will bring you to the full text of the message on the Google Groups site.

example:

Nifty features:

Most of these features are not readily apparent. Some of them you need to access directly, some you need to subscribe to, and some are just there without it being very obvious. But most of them are pretty cool.

Book Search [books.google.com]

North Brunswick Library Computer Classes



Whenever books in the Google Book Search index contain content that matches your search terms, you'll see links to those books under Book Results at the top of your search results page. Click on any book title and you'll see the page in that book which contains your search terms, as well as other information about the title. Click one of the links under "Buy this Book" and you'll go straight to a bookstore selling that book online.

Also, if you have performed a regular Google search with the terms, a link at the top for Books, will take you to the bookstore information.

example:

Calculator



To use Google's built-in calculator function, simply enter your calculation into the search box and hit the Enter key. The calculator can solve math problems involving basic arithmetic, more complicated math, units of measure and conversions. Try one of the sample expressions below, or refer to the complete instructions for help at <http://www.google.com/help/calculator.html>.

- [5+2*2](#)
- [2^20](#)
- [sqrt\(-4\)](#)
- [half a cup in teaspoons](#)
- [160 pounds * 4000 feet in Calories](#)

example:

+ addition - subtraction * multiplication / division
^ exponentiation (raise to a power of) % of X % of Y computes X percent of Y 20% of 150 % **modulo** (finds the remainder after division)

Currency Conversion

To use the built-in currency converter, simply enter the conversion you'd like done into the Google search box and hit "Enter"

- [3.5 USD in GBP](#)
- [currency of Brazil in Malaysian money](#)
- [5 British pounds in South Korean money](#)
- [2.2 USD per gallon in INR per litre](#)

example:

Definitions

To see a definition for a word or phrase, simply type the word "define," then a space, and then the word(s) you want defined. If Google has seen a definition for the word or phrase on the Web, it will retrieve that information and display it at the top of your search results.

example:

You can also get a list of definitions by including the special operator "define:" with no space between it and the term you want defined. For example, the search [[define:World Wide Web](#)] will show you a list of definitions for "World Wide Web" gathered from various online sources.

Also, definitions are provided for all of your regular Google search terms, if they are available. At the top of your search results is a blue field. If you click on the underlined definition, it will take you to a dictionary page with definitions for your word

Results 1 - 10 of about 16,200,000 for migraine [[definition](#)]. (0.09 seconds)

File Types

Google has expanded the number of non-HTML file types searched to 12 file formats. In addition to PDF documents, Google now searches Microsoft Office, PostScript, Corel WordPerfect, Lotus 1-2-3, and others. The new file types will simply appear in Google search results whenever they are relevant to the user query.

Google also offers you the ability to "View as HTML", allowing users to examine the contents of these file formats even if the corresponding application is not installed. The "View as HTML" option also allows users to avoid viruses which are sometimes carried in certain file formats.

The Advanced Search link mentioned above has a drop down menu where you can select which file type(s) you'd like to search for.

For more information about this feature, check http://www.google.com/help/faq_filetypes.html

» [\[PDF\]](#) « [The Anatomy of a Search Engine](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - » [View as HTML](#) «

... Second, **Google** keeps track of some visual presentation details such as font ...
phone

numbers, product numbers), type or format (text, HTML, **PDF**, images, sounds ...

www-db.stanford.edu/pub/papers/google.pdf - [Similar pages](#)

If you prefer to see a particular set of results with a specific file type (for example, PDF links), simply type **filetype:[extension]** (for example, **filetype:pdf**) within the search box along with your search term(s).

example:

Local Search



Google enables you to search the entire web for just those stores and businesses in a specific neighborhood. Include a city or zip code in your search and Google displays relevant results from that region on a map with links to reviews, directions, and more information at the top of your search results.

North Brunswick Library Computer Classes

example:

You can also directly access the Google maps and directions page <http://maps.google.com/>, where you can set your default address for directions as well as see all the features available with Google Local/Google Maps.

Movies



To find reviews and showtimes for movies playing near you, type "movies", "showtimes" or the name of a current film into the Google search box. If you've already saved your location by using Google Local, the top search result will display showtimes for nearby theaters for the movie you've chosen.

example:

To find theatres and showtimes near you for a currently playing movie, simply search for the movie's name.

example:

Can't remember a movie title, or just looking for something new to see? You can use the "movie:" operator to search for films related to a specific actor, director or plot detail.

example:

Want to read about the movies you find? Your search results for any film will include an average rating out of 5 stars and several snippets from online reviews, along with links to the reviews themselves. Click the "reviews" link near any title for a complete list of online reviews of this film.

Music Search

Find information about artists, songs, albums and places to buy the music you are looking for. If you enter the name of an artist popular in the U.S. into the search box, they will display user reviews, song titles, stores to purchase the music and other useful information related to that artist at the top of your search results.

example:



Pixies

Albums: Doolittle, Surfer Rosa, **Pixies**, and more...

Songs: Debaser, Wave of Mutilation, Silver, and more...

[More music results for pixies](#)

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

Click on the link to see more music information about that artist such as related albums, songs, and more.

Phone Book



Google has added the convenience of US street address and phone number lookup to the information they provide through our search box. You'll see publicly listed phone numbers and addresses at the top of results pages for searches that contain specific kinds of keywords.

To find listings for a **US residence**, type any of the following combinations into the Google search box:

- first name (or first initial), last name, city (state is optional)
- first name (or first initial), last name, state
- first name (or first initial), last name, area code
- first name (or first initial), last name, zip code
- phone number, including area code
- last name, city, state
- last name, zip code

To have your residential phone and address information removed from the Google PhoneBook, go to <http://www.google.com/help/pbremoval.html>

Q&A

Want to know the population of Japan? What currency is used in Algeria? The birthplace of Bono? Hit us with a fact-based question or query (like "population of Japan") by typing it into the Google search box. They'll search the web and display the answer at the top of your search results page. They also link to our source for this information so that you can learn even more.

example:

Search By Number

Parcel tracking IDs, patents and other specialized numbers can be entered into Google's search box for quick access to information about them. For example, typing a FedEx tracking number will return the latest information on your package. Other special search by number types include :

- **UPS tracking numbers** example search: "1Z9999W99999999999"
- **FedEx tracking numbers** example search: "999999999999"

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

- **USPS tracking numbers** example search: "9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 99"
- **Vehicle ID (VIN) numbers** example search: "AAAAA999A9AA99999"
- **UPC codes** example search: "073333531084"
- **Telephone area codes** example search: "650"
- **Patent numbers** example search: "patent 5123123"
Remember to put the word "patent" before your patent number.

example:

Site Search

The word "site" followed by a colon enables you to restrict your search to a specific site. To do this, use the **site:sampledomain.com** syntax in the Google search box. For example, to find admission information on Stanford's site, enter:

example:

Stock and Fund Quotes

To use Google to get stock and mutual fund quotes, just enter the symbol into the search box.

example:

[CSCO](#) (CISCO SYSTEMS, INC.)

[Google Finance](#) [Yahoo Finance](#) [MSN Money](#) [MarketWatch](#) [CNN Money](#) [Reuters](#)



23.24 +0.01 (0.04%) 26 Sep at 12:51PM ET

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Open: 23.13 | Volume: 29,660,688 |
| High: 23.33 | Avg Vol: 57,710,000 |
| Low: 23.00 | Mkt Cap: 141.07B |

Nasdaq data delayed by 15 minutes - [Disclaimer](#)

Click on the chart or Google Finance link to see more relevant information from Google Finance. Alternatively, you can go directly to other financial information providers for more information by clicking on the links provided. These financial information providers are selected and ordered based on popularity determined by independent third party audience measurement firms. In addition, they consider important quality factors such as download speed, user interface and functionality.

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

Street Maps [maps.google.com]



To use Google to find street maps, enter a U.S. street address, including zip code or city/ state (e.g. 165 University Ave Palo Alto CA), in the Google search box. Often, the street address and city name will be enough.

example:

When Google recognizes your query as a map request, they'll show you your address on a Google map and enable you to obtain directions and store your default location.

Also available are satellite photos of the areas that you search for, as well as street views and traffic (for select areas) notes and combination views

Travel Information

To see delays and weather conditions at a particular airport, type the airport's three letter code followed by the word "airport." For example, San Francisco International Airport updates can be found by searching for "sfo airport."

example:



To check the status of a U.S. flight, type the name of the airline followed by the flight number. For example, to see the status for United Airlines flight 134 search for "United 134."

example:

Weather

To see weather conditions and a four-day forecast for a particular U.S. or worldwide location, type "weather," followed by the location. Usually a city name will be enough, but you may also want to include a state or zip code or the country for worldwide cities. For example, to see Palo Alto weather, you could search for "weather palo alto, ca" or "weather palo alto 94301".

Weather for Palo Alto, CA [Add to my Google homepage](#) 

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| 59°F Mostly Cloudy Wind: W at 12 mph Humidity: 48% | Tue  61°F 41°F | Wed  62°F 40°F | Thu  60°F 44°F | Fri  60°F 43°F |
|---|--|--|---|--|

If you like to see the weather of this location on your personalized Google homepage, you can do this by clicking on the button 'Add to my Google homepage' in the upper right corner.

North Brunswick Library Computer Classes

example:

All weather conditions and forecasts are provided by Weather Underground, Inc.

Who Links To You?

Some words, when followed by a colon, have special meanings to Google. One such word for Google is the **link:** operator. The query **link:siteURL** shows you pages that point to that URL. For example, **link:www.google.com** will show you pages that point to Google's home page. You cannot combine a link: search with a regular keyword search.

example:

Customization of Google:

The screenshot shows the Google Accounts sign-in interface. At the top left is the Google logo with 'Accounts' written below it. To the right of the logo is a search bar containing the text 'Google Accounts'. Below the search bar, there is a heading 'Sign in to personalize your Google experience.' followed by a paragraph explaining the benefits of signing in. Below this paragraph is a link to 'create one for free'. To the left of the sign-in form, there are four links with icons: 'Gmail' (envelope icon), 'Web History' (magnifying glass icon), 'iGoogle' (house icon), and 'Google Checkout' (shopping cart icon). To the right of the main text is a sign-in form with fields for 'Email:' and 'Password:', a 'Remember me on this computer.' checkbox, and a 'Sign in' button. Below the form is a link for 'I cannot access my account'. At the bottom right, there is a box with the text 'Don't have a Google Account? Create an account now'.

If you have an account with google (ie. a Gmail account), you can just sign in. If you don't, then click on Create an account now at the bottom right of the page.

Just type in your email address (Gmail or not), a password and then type the word verification. Then click Accept.

Your account is now active and you can personalize your Google page.

You can change the color scheme of your Google page by clicking on Select Theme at the top right; but really the interesting part is if you click on Add stuff.

When you click it, a menu of "gadgets" appears on your screen. There are gadgets for all kinds of things, and if you are interested in one, you can add it to your page. Then, whenever you go to google.com, when you log in, it will show you your personalized

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

iGoogle page. Gadgets include News Stories, quotes of the day, religious items, humor, weather, gas prices...many many things.

Google Docs

Once you have an account you can also sign up for Google Docs. This is a free service that allows you to create or upload Word and Excel documents to a Google server. This allows you to access these documents from any computer once you sign in. You can also invite anyone to look at these documents: coworkers, or friends, or whomever else you may want to assist in your document...they can also make changes to your document (originals are preserved), and others can see the suggested revisions.

Customized searches.

Once you are logged in, you can access all of these features with the click of a button.

Google Notes

Next to every search result that Google generates, there is a link called Note This. Whenever you click on this, it will save this link and its information in your Google "Notebook" a personalized list of topics of interest to you. You can also set up a Google Alert here as well. See below:

Google Alerts: [www.google.com/alerts]

If you are especially interested in a topic, you can sign up for news alerts from Google. Google will search the news for items about whatever topic you may like. Whenever news about that subject is discovered, you will receive an alert in your email.

You can type in your search terms, and which kind of alerts you would like, plus how often. The alerts will come to your email.

Here's more information: <http://www.google.com/support/alerts/bin>

Web History

You can view a Web History: a complete look at all of the searches that you have performed, including statistics of your most frequent searches.

Beyond searching

Google base [base.google.com]

This is a resource where people upload information and make it searchable for everyone else. What on earth would you do this for? Well, you can find recipes on here, or, you can post things that are for sale (a very popular use: cars, jobs, services) you can also list local events. You don't have to upload anything to use the site. The results are coordinated to your personalized location as well.

Google Calendar: [google.com/calendar]

This is an online scheduler that lets you create your ap

North Brunswick Library
Computer Classes

pointments, and it allows others to view, RSVP and comment on them. You can send your personal calendars to people and let them see only the events you want.

Google Desktop [desktop.google.com]

Adds a google search bar to your desktop so you can quickly search files on your computer. While the search programs included with Windows are fine, this is a little more user friendly.

Google Finance. [finance.google.com]

Allows you to coordinate information about your financial portfolio and use Google's access to the web to keep updated on your stocks.

Google Page Creator: [pages.google.com/]

This allows you to create your own web pages hosted by Google. The address would be something like <http://youraccount.googlepages.com>. This is web design made very easy. It is mostly a matter of typing and adding pictures much like a word document.

Picasa [picasa.google.com]

Picasa is a free software download from Google that helps you:

- Locate and organize all the photos on your computer.
- Edit and add effects to your photos with a few simple clicks.
- Share your photos with others through email, prints, and on the web: it's fast, easy and free.

GOOG-411

1

Dial 1-800-GOOG-411 from any phone



2

State the location and business type



3

Connect to the business for free



4

Done!



GOOG-411 is Google's new 411 service. With GOOG-411, you can find local business information completely free, directly from your phone. You can access 1-800-GOOG-411 from any phone, anywhere, at anytime.