



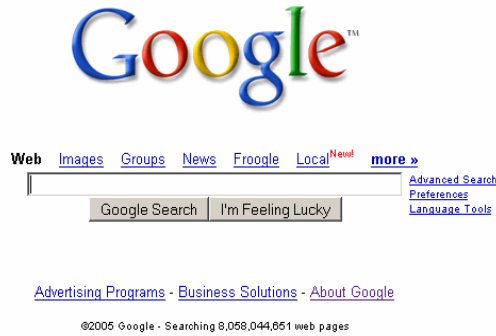
What is Google?

Google is one of the most comprehensive search engines available on the internet. It currently indexes more than 8 billion web pages. In addition to being a search engine, Google offers a plethora of other services including a shopping search engine, weather, news, dictionary, etc.

How does it work?

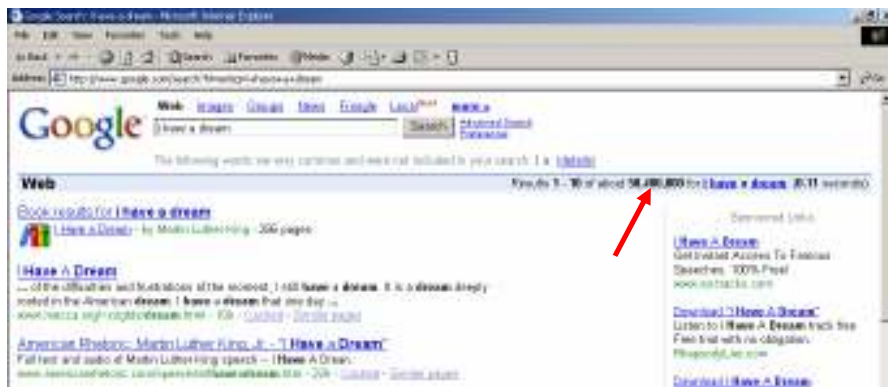
When you arrive at <http://www.google.com> look for a white search box in the middle of the screen.

Let's try a couple of different methods for searching with Google. In the box type-
I have a dream



Don't worry about capitalization as Google will search for both upper and lower case versions of this search. Click **Google Search**.

The next page shows your results for the search out of 8 billion pages.



Google shows the first 10 results out of 58 million potential "hits." Fifty-eight million results is way too large a return to be a well constructed search. Let's refine or narrow the search to hopefully garner a smaller pool of results. (Exact number of results may vary)

How does it work? continued...

Click on the Google logo in the upper left corner to return to the main Google search screen. In the search box, place quotations around the search terms:

"I have a dream"

Click **Search** (or press the **Enter** key).

Note the dramatic decrease in results by simply enclosing the words in quotes. However, 800,000+ results is still too many to look at in a timely manner. The quotes tell Google to find those words as an exact phrase rather than simply looking for a page that has all those words but not necessarily concurrently. Let's narrow the search a little more...

Type the following in the search box

"i have a dream" +"martin luther king"

Your results should be somewhere around 200,000. Any time a Google search produces less than a quarter million results it should be highly effective in helping you find what you are looking for, usually on the first page of results.

The + symbol tells Google to look for pages that contain both the phrase "I have a dream" and the phrase "martin luther king". By default, Google does this anyway but it's a convention that will pay dividends if you use a different search engine. However, Google automatically leaves out common words (a, and, the, etc.) when executing a search, unless they are in quotes as part of a phrase. To include common words, put the plus symbol (+) in front of them.

Also useful is the minus (-) operator. Use it with searches when you want to eliminate certain possible outcomes. For example:

- A search for henry hudson returns 2 million results
- A search for henry hudson -rock -kate returns only 1 million results

The second search finds all of the two million pages with the words henry and hudson on the page and then excludes any of those pages that include the word rock or kate, thus eliminating 1 million pages.

What else can the Google search box do?

Calculator/converter – Try typing a mathematical expression in the search box. Google should return the results of that problem to you as an answer. Examples:

(5+2)*2	result	14
2^20	result	1,048,576
37 centimeters in inches	result	37 centimeters = 14.5669291 inches
160 pounds * 4000 feet in calories	result	207 390.891 calories

For a complete list of calculator functions go to:

<http://www.google.com/help/calculator.html>

Dictionary – Type define then colon then the word you would like. Google will return several definitions from various web sources. Example:

define:postulate **result** 15 definitions

Phone Book – Type the full name or last name of the person you are looking for followed by a comma then the area code.

Example: **doe, 518**



J Doe, (518) 555-5555, 5 Chelsea Place, Clifton Park, NY 12065

Google lists 2 results at the top of the page. Click “Phonebook results for...” to see additional results.

Package tracking – Type a UPS, FedEx or USPS tracking number directly into the search box to track your package.

Search a particular website – Type keyword(s) followed by a colon (:) and then a web address to search for information from a specific website. Example:

tablet pc site:www.microsoft.com

would return results about tablet PCs limited to pages part of Microsoft website

Street Maps – Type an address in the search box and get a map of that location.

Example: 5 chelsea place, clifton park, ny, 12065

Result: [Map of 5 Chelsea Place, Clifton Park, NY 12065](#)



[Google Maps](#) - [Yahoo! Maps](#) - [MapQuest](#)

(Look at the top of the search page for map results.)

Other Google Services

Google News Service - <http://news.google.com> – Continually searches 4,500 news services and brings you the latest news by category. You can also customize the page to show the types of news stories you would like to read.

Image Search Engine – <http://images.google.com> – Need to find a picture on the world wide web? Use this picture-only search engine. Because the content includes adult oriented material, this part of Google is blocked by many filtering services.

Discussion Groups - <http://groups-beta.google.com> – Currently in experimental trials, this service allows users to set up discussion groups (public or private) where messages may be posted and responded to by users of that group. Think of discussion groups as electronic clubs for people with similar interests.

Google Maps - <http://maps.google.com> – Although many electronic map services exist, Google combines a search engine with a map tool to attain unique results. Example: **pizza clifton park new york**



Not only do you get a map labeled with pizza places, you also get their phone numbers.

Froogle – <http://www.froogle.com> – Looking to make an internet purchase and want to compare prices? Use this search engine to quickly get prices from smaller internet businesses. Larger stores do not tend to contribute listings to Froogle.