

ALTAVISTA
for World Wide Web Searches
(<http://av.com>)

AltaVista is for people who like to be in control of the search process. For example, **specific parts** of a document and Web page can be searched:

title: Searches only in the part designated as the title of the document.

host: Searches only the host name of the system where the pages reside.

url: Searches in the URL.

domain: Searches the top-level domain name (.com, .edu, .org .gov)

Samples:

title:"Blue Suede Shoes"
host:sunybroome.edu
domain:gov
url:slavery domain:edu

Furthermore, you can:

- Use quotation marks to **search phrases**.
- Uppercase and lowercase are treated the same unless you put capitalized word(s) or phrases(s) in quotations.
- Search in languages other than English.
- Place a (-) before a word you do not want to appear.
- Search with the 'image' box if all you are looking for is a picture. You will get thumbnail pictures to browse through.

Advanced Search

Advanced search allows you to be even more specific. Do not use the minus (-) operator in the advanced search form.

Try building a **Boolean search** with AND, OR, and NOT operators used between your search terms (ex: “heart disease” AND prevent).

Note: You must use upper case for the operators!

Advanced search allows you to designate a range of dates, or a particular format (i.e. .pdf)
You can also search a particular host or URL exclusively.

Beverly Long/ck
9/00, rev. 10/06