

WorldCat

A guide by Laura Young
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What is WorldCat?

WorldCat includes items in almost any format from thousands of libraries around the world. Items included date as far back as 1000BC.

Strengths:

- Large database containing millions of records
- Includes records in approximately 400 languages
- Search pages are user friendly

Weaknesses:

- Some searches such as the “title phrase” search, aren’t always accurate
- The Advanced and Expert searches are very similar and could be combined into one page

Features:

- Keeps track of previous searches
- Allows the user to email records
- Records link the user to libraries in their area

Basic Search:

The basic search page allows you to search by keyword, author, title, ISBN and year.

WorldCat Basic Search

- Enter search terms in one or more boxes and click on Search.
- WorldCat Hot Topics: Select a topic to search: [dropdown]

Home | Databases | Searching | Results | Staff View | My Account | Options |

Basic Search | Advanced Search | Expert Search | Previous Searches | Go to page [dropdown]

Intro | News | Help | Current database: WorldCat

Search in database: WorldCat (Updated: 2004-10-17)
OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide

Keyword [input] ?

Author Sedaris, David ?

Title [input] ?

ISBN [input] (format: NNNNNNNNN) ?

Year 2004 (format: YYYY-YYYY) ?

Search | Clear

Basic Search:

Example:

I'm looking for new works by David Sedaris.

Step 1:

In the “author” field type “Sedaris, David”.

Step 2:

In the “year” field, type “2004”.

Step 3:

Click on the “search” button.

Advanced Search:

The advanced search allows you to search in more detail or add limits to your search. You can search by categories such as publisher, accession number, or series title. You can limit your search by language, format, rank or a particular library. (cont.)

WorldCat Advanced Search

- Enter search terms in one or more boxes and click on Search.
- WorldCat Hot Topics: Select a topic to search:

Home Databases Searching Results Staff View My Account Options

Basic Search Advanced Search Expert Search Previous Searches Go to page

Current database: WorldCat

Search Clear

Search in database: WorldCat (Updated: 2004-10-17)
OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide

Search for: Sedaris, David Author

and Keyword

and Keyword

Year (format: YYYY-YYYY)

Limit to: Language French [Show all languages...](#)

Number of Libraries All

Limit type to: match any of the following

<input type="checkbox"/> Books	<input type="checkbox"/> Serial Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Articles
<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Sound Recordings	<input type="checkbox"/> Musical Scores
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Files	<input type="checkbox"/> Archival Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Maps
<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Resources		

Subtype limits: Any Audience Any Content Any Format

Limit availability to: match any of the following

Items in my library (IXA, UNIV OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN)

Library Code [Find codes...](#)

Rank by: Number of Libraries

Search Clear

Advanced Search:

Example:

I know David Sedaris lives in France. Are any of his books available in French?

Step 1:

In the “search for” field type “Sedaris, David” and click on the down arrow to select “author”.

Step 2:

In the “limit to language” field, click on the down arrow and choose “French”.

Step 3:

Click on the “search” button.

Expert Search:

The expert search allows you to search using truncation, plurals, wildcards, Boolean and proximity searches.

WorldCat Expert Search

- Enter search terms in one or more boxes and click on Search.

Home Databases Searching Results Staff View My Account Op

Basic Search Advanced Search Expert Search Previous Searches Go to page

Current database: WorldCat

Search Clear

Search in database: WorldCat (Updated: 2004-10-17)
OCLC catalog of books and other materials in libraries worldwide

Search for: peanut w1 butter w2 jelly

Indexed in: Keyword (kwr)

Year (format: YYYY-YYYY)

Limit to: Language All [Show all languages...](#)

Number of Libraries All

Limit type to: match any of the following

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Books	<input type="checkbox"/> Serial Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Articles
<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Sound Recordings	<input type="checkbox"/> Musical Scores
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Files	<input type="checkbox"/> Archival Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Maps
<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Resources		

Subtype limits: Juvenile Any Content Any Format

Limit availability to: match any of the following

Items in my library (IXA, UNIV OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN)

Library Code [Find codes...](#)

Rank by: Number of Libraries

Search Clear

Expert Search:

Example:

I’m looking for children’s books about peanut butter and jelly.

Step 1:

In the “search for” box type “peanut w1 butter w2 jelly”. This indicates that you want “peanut” to be within 1 word of “butter” and “jelly” to be within 2 words of “butter”.

Step 2:

In the “limit type to” field click the box next to “books”.

Step 3:

In the “subtype limits” field change “any audience” to “juvenile”.

Step 4:

Click on the search button.

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