

# Literature Searching Cheat Sheet

## University of Sussex Library

Search



**INCREASES  
RESULTS**



**REDUCES  
RESULTS**

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### *Boolean 'OR'*



Using **OR** (must be in capital letters) in between your search words finds resources with **at least one** those words. **For example:** teen OR youth OR adolescent.

### *Double Parentheses*



Placing a phrase in double quote marks finds the exact matching phrase or set of words. **For example:** "social psychology" finds resources where the words "social" and "psychology" appear next to one another.

### *Truncation/ Stem Searching*



The asterisk is a wildcard symbol that broadens a search by finding words that start with the same letters. **For example:** behav\* finds: behaves, behaving, behavior, behaviour.

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