Find information about searching FirstSearch.

- **Available databases**
  
  [No image available](https://help.oclc.org/Discovery_and_Reference/FirstSearch/Search)

  Find information about how to select and display available databases in FirstSearch.

  - Select databases

- **Basic search**

  [No image available](https://help.oclc.org/Discovery_and_Reference/FirstSearch/Search)

  The Basic Search screen allows you to search the main indexes in a database. Use the Basic search if you are new to online searching or if you need quick results using a simple search statement.

- **Advanced search**

  [No image available](https://help.oclc.org/Discovery_and_Reference/FirstSearch/Search)

  The Advanced Search screen lets you construct more complex search statements. Up to three search strings and three indexes can be combined using Boolean operators (AND, OR, and NOT) selected from drop-down menus. More search limits are available at this level.

  - Before starting an advanced search
  - Indexes and examples of an advanced search
  - Perform an advanced search
  - Refine an advanced search

- **Expert search in WorldCat indexes**

  [No image available](https://help.oclc.org/Discovery_and_Reference/FirstSearch/Search)

  The Expert Search screen is designed for experienced searchers who prefer to enter logical search strings.

  - Index labels and examples of an expert search in WorldCat
  - Material types
  - Number of library holdings
  - US-MARC fields and subfields in WorldCat FirstSearch indexes
  - US-MARC fields displayed in a WorldCat detailed record

- **Non-Roman character displays in WorldCat**

  [No image available](https://help.oclc.org/Discovery_and_Reference/FirstSearch/Search)
Learn about the non-Roman character displays in WorldCat FirstSearch.

• Results

No image available

Learn how to view and manage search results in FirstSearch.

○ Find search terms
○ Full text
○ Rank results
○ The Detailed Record screen
○ The Limit Results screen
○ The List of Records screen
○ Use results

• Special search methods

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Find information about special search methods that can be used when searching FirstSearch.

○ Boolean searching and reserved operators
○ Browse
○ Hot topics
○ Limit a search
○ Plurals, truncation, wildcards, and proximity
○ Punctuation, diacritics, and special characters
○ Search for names, numbers, and year ranges
○ Stopwords in WorldCat derived key searching