

MultimediaSearch Help

MicroSearch's MultimediaSearch portal integrates documents and videos into one fully searchable database. This Help page explains how to use this powerful, feature-rich portal.

Contents

- [1 Words and Phrases](#)
- [2 Precise vs Simplified Search](#)
- [3 Precise Search Conventions](#)
- [4 Simplified Search conventions](#)
- [5 General Search](#)
- [6 Search Results Hit List](#)
- [7 Hits in Context](#)
- [8 Additional Search Help Topics](#)

Words and Phrases

A word is any combination of letters with or without leading or following spaces. For instance, if the user inputs the word "holiday" (without the quotation marks) and then clicked SEARCH, the search engine will find every document and/or video containing the word "holiday" in the currently active database.

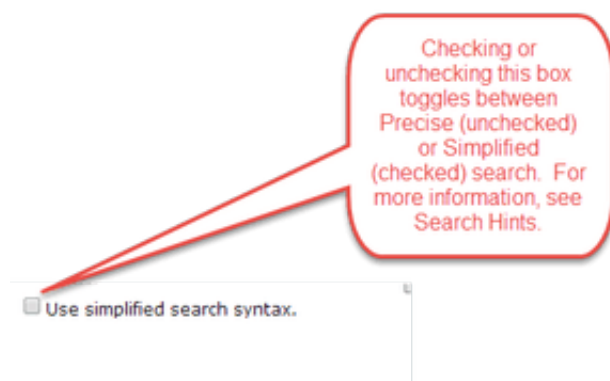
Precise vs Simplified Search

Some Microsearch web portals offer the user two different types of search syntax:

- Precise search, targeting exact phrase searches, features traditional Boolean search syntax
- Simplified search, similar to Google, Bing, Yahoo.

Each convention produces the exact same results for single word searches. That's where the similarity ends. For all other searches, the differences can be significant.

The site user selects the preferred search syntax by checking or unchecking the check box on the Search Page.



Precise Search Conventions

The Precise Search convention for search query begins with phrase searches. A phrase search is a search for more than one word. If you type in the two words **holiday pay**, Precise Search finds any document in the database where the words “**holiday**” and “**pay**” exist side by side, i.e. separated by one space. A phrase search is a precise search: the two or more words have to be precisely in the correct order, and each word has to be separated from other words by precisely one space. (Visit [Search Hints](#) for more information on Precise Search conventions.)

If you want to find documents containing the two words but the words don't have to be precisely one space apart, you would enter **holiday near pay**. The search engine interprets the word **near** as your request to find word #1 within 10 words of word #2. You can alter the distance between search words, measured in number of words, of the word **near**, as explained under Boolean Operators

Simplified Search conventions

Simplified Search conventions' differences begin with phrase searches. If you type in the two words **holiday pay**, Simplified Search finds any document and/or video in the database that contains either of the two words, or both of them. A space between two words is interpreted as the Boolean operator **OR**. (Visit [Search Hints](#) for more information on Simplified Search conventions.)

General Search

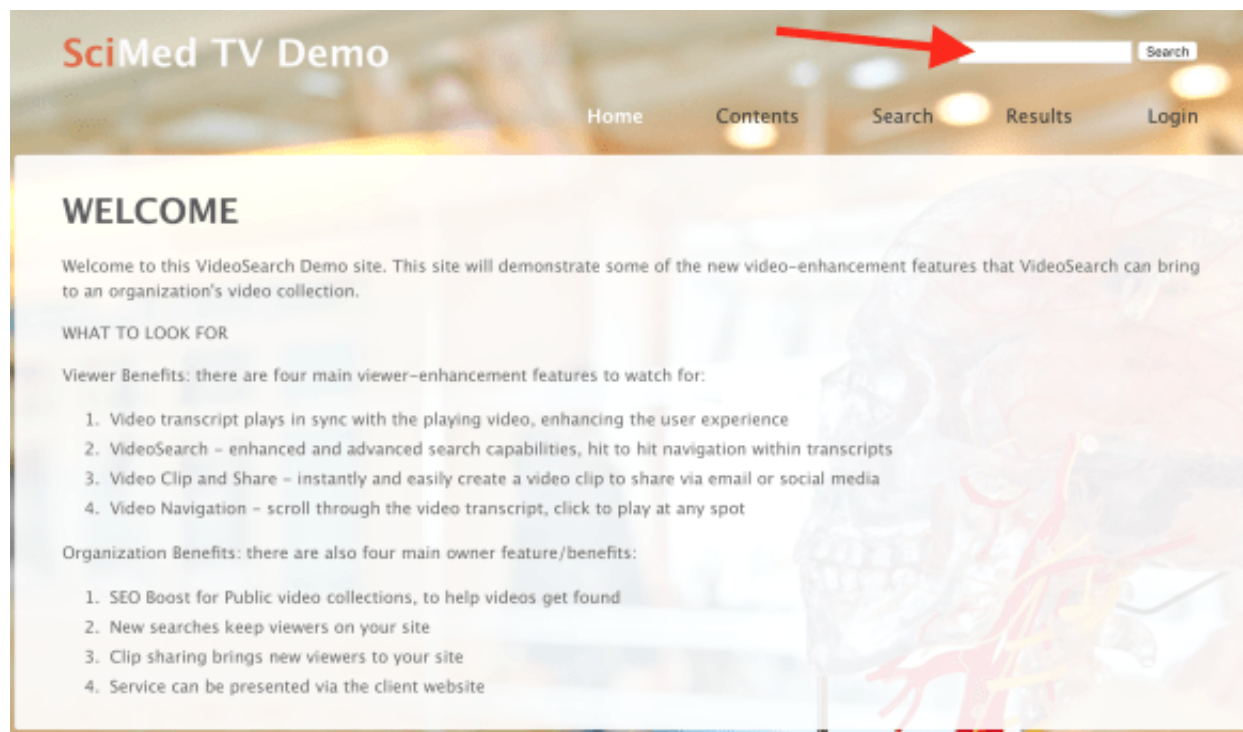
A General Search is performed in the General Search dialogue box . The search term may be a single word, a multiple-word phrase search, or even a complex search, but you know you are at the General Search box when it appears alone, without the filters that appear on the Precise Search

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page. The General Search box will interrogate all indexed text fields in the selected database, including document, title, memo, and keyword field, if they exist in the selected database. Not every site employs a General Search box, but if one exists, it is normally located in the upper right hand corner of the Home page, as it is shown below on the General Search box on the SciMed TV demo site.

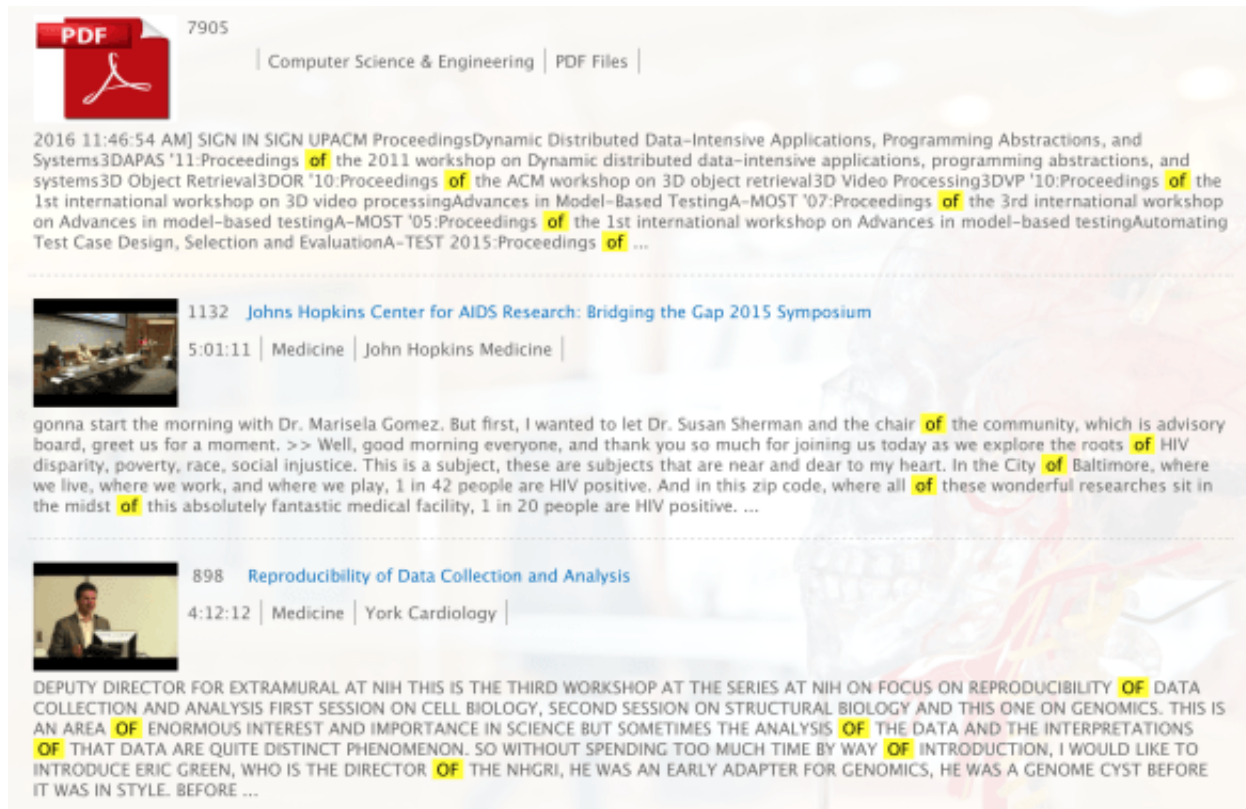


If you were to enter in the General Search box the phrase "of" (without the quotation marks), then press the Search button, you would get a Hit List that looks like this:

Multimedia Search Help Site

A Handy Tutorial for All of MicroSearch's Search Solutions

<http://help.microsearch.net>



The screenshot displays a search results interface. At the top left, there is a red PDF icon with the number '7905' next to it. Below this, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Computer Science & Engineering | PDF Files |'. The main content area shows a list of search results. The first result is a PDF document titled '2016 11:46:54 AM] SIGN IN SIGN UPACM ProceedingsDynamic Distributed Data-Intensive Applications, Programming Abstractions, and Systems3DAPAS '11:Proceedings of the 2011 workshop on Dynamic distributed data-intensive applications, programming abstractions, and systems3D Object Retrieval3DOR '10:Proceedings of the ACM workshop on 3D object retrieval3D Video Processing3DVP '10:Proceedings of the 1st international workshop on 3D video processingAdvances in Model-Based TestingA-MOST '07:Proceedings of the 3rd international workshop on Advances in model-based testingA-MOST '05:Proceedings of the 1st international workshop on Advances in model-based testingAutomating Test Case Design, Selection and EvaluationA-TEST 2015:Proceedings of ...'. Below this is a video result with a thumbnail image of a person at a podium, titled '1132 Johns Hopkins Center for AIDS Research: Bridging the Gap 2015 Symposium', with a duration of '5:01:11' and category 'Medicine | John Hopkins Medicine |'. The video description begins with 'gonna start the morning with Dr. Marisela Gomez. But first, I wanted to let Dr. Susan Sherman and the chair of the community, which is advisory board, greet us for a moment. >> Well, good morning everyone, and thank you so much for joining us today as we explore the roots of HIV disparity, poverty, race, social injustice. This is a subject, these are subjects that are near and dear to my heart. In the City of Baltimore, where we live, where we work, and where we play, 1 in 42 people are HIV positive. And in this zip code, where all of these wonderful researches sit in the midst of this absolutely fantastic medical facility, 1 in 20 people are HIV positive. ...'. Below the video is another video result with a thumbnail image of a person at a podium, titled '898 Reproducibility of Data Collection and Analysis', with a duration of '4:12:12' and category 'Medicine | York Cardiology |'. The video description begins with 'DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EXTRAMURAL AT NIH THIS IS THE THIRD WORKSHOP AT THE SERIES AT NIH ON FOCUS ON REPRODUCIBILITY OF DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS FIRST SESSION ON CELL BIOLOGY, SECOND SESSION ON STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY AND THIS ONE ON GENOMICS. THIS IS AN AREA OF ENORMOUS INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE IN SCIENCE BUT SOMETIMES THE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA AND THE INTERPRETATIONS OF THAT DATA ARE QUITE DISTINCT PHENOMENON. SO WITHOUT SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE ERIC GREEN, WHO IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE NHGRI, HE WAS AN EARLY ADAPTER FOR GENOMICS, HE WAS A GENOME CYST BEFORE IT WAS IN STYLE. BEFORE ...'.

Different portals have different Home pages but the screen will have a single search box. (If there are multiple search boxes, you are in the Advanced Search screen.) You would open the document or video by clicking on the title. Note on the Hit list the indicator on the left that tells you how many Hits occurred in the document or video, and the date of the document or video.

Search Results Hit List

Once the user has entered the search terms and pressed Search, MultimediaSearch creates a list of all documents and/or videos that meet the search expression. This is called the Hit List. Below is an image of a Hit List, with comments about the Hit List elements.

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<http://help.microsearch.net>

The screenshot shows a search results page with the following elements:

- Query (899 results) journal**
- Hits** table with columns: Title, Duration, Category, YouTube Channel
- Hit 1:** A PDF icon with a red circle '4' pointing to it. The title is "2016 11:46:04 AM SIGN IN SIGN UP ACM Proceedings Dynamic Distributed Data-Intensive Applications, Programming Abstractions, and Systems3DAPAS'16: Proceedings of the 2011 workshop on Dynamic distributed data-intensive applications, programming abstractions, and systems3D Object Retrieval3DOR '10: Proceedings of the ACM workshop on 3D object retrieval3D Video Processing '10: Proceedings of the 1st international workshop on 3D video processing Advances in Model-Based Testing A-MOST '07: Proceedings of the 1st international workshop on Advances in model-based testing A-MOST '05: Proceedings of the 1st international workshop on Advances in model-based testing Automating Test Case Design Selection and Evaluation A-TEST 2015: Proceedings of ...". A red circle '2' points to the title, and a red circle '3' points to a link icon in the top right.
- Hit 2:** A video thumbnail with a red circle '1' pointing to the number "1132" in the title "Johns Hopkins Center for AIDS Research: Bridging the Gap 2015 Symposium". The duration is "5:01:11" and the category is "Medicine | John Hopkins Medicine".
- Hit 3:** A video thumbnail with a red circle '1' pointing to the number "898" in the title "Reproducibility of Data Collection and Analysis". The duration is "4:12:12" and the category is "Medicine | York Cardiology".

1. Element #1 is the number of Hits in the document or video
2. Element #2 is the title of the document or video
3. Element #3 is a link that converts and exports the Hit List to an Excel spreadsheet
4. Element #4 is a thumbnail indicating whether the item is a document or video

At the bottom of each page in the Hit List (if there are more than 1 page of Hits) is the Hit List Page Navigator, allowing the users to jump from page to page within the Hit List, or back to the First Page, or all the way to the Last Page. It looks like this:



In this case, there are 36 pages of hits. The search term that got this many pages of hits, as shown by the highlights, is the word **the**.

Hits in Context

Multimedia Search Help Site

A Handy Tutorial for All of MicroSearch's Search Solutions

<http://help.microsearch.net>

Context is defined as the words around Hits in the Hit List. Context is very useful because by examining the context, users can more easily decide which documents or videos to open. Some users prefer a great deal of context while other users prefer minimal amounts of context.

Users of Private MultimediaSearch sites, and those who register for Public MultimediaSearch sites, can change the number of words surrounding each Hit, from none to 100 words. This one of the several Preferences that can be changed under the Preferences Tab, to be discussed later in the "What's Under the Tabs" page.

Additional Search Help Topics

- accessing a [Public Web Portal](#)
- registering for access to a [Private Web Portal?](#)
- using [Precise Search](#) capability
- using [Saved Search](#) capability
- setting [User Preferences](#)
- writing a [Complex Search](#) query
- using a [Use Nested Parentheses](#) in a search query
- using [Refine a search query](#)
- [entering a Boolean operator](#) in my search query
- [converting a Boolean operator to a regular word](#) in a phrase search
- [conducting a Wildcard Search](#)

Have an interesting search expression you have created to search one of the document databases you can access? [Send it along to let us marvel at your creativity.](#)