UVic Senior’s Program:
How to Use Google

Created by Robert Lee for UVic

Senior’s Program website: https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/computerscience/community/index.php
Navigate to Google website

Select keywords to search with

Search results rank in order of relevance (more relevant results are placed near top)
Tips to select keywords:

1. Use words that are likely to appear on page: *pastry recipes*
2. Avoid using long questions: *window cleaning* instead of *how do you clean a window?*
3. Add more keywords to narrow down your search: if *tangerine* is too vague, try *tangerine bank* or *tangerine fruit*
4. Try to be short and concise: *best selling books* instead of *best books that were the most popular recently*
5. Choose words carefully; rephrase if necessary: *backache* instead of *my back hurts*
6. Don’t worry about little things:
   a. Spelling – Google will guess what you meant and use that to search:
      
      Showing results for *macbook screen*
      Search instead for *makbook sren*

   b. Capitalization – Google ignores capitals:
      Searching using *New York Times* is the same as using *new york times*

7. Use Google to find quick answers: Google will show you the answer in the search results
   a. Weather: search for *weather* to see weather for your city:

   b. Dictionary: use *define* in front of any word to look it up
c. Calculations: type in a math equation like $2 + 5 \times 7 / 11$.

\[
2 + (5 \times 7 / 11) = 5.18181818182
\]

d. Conversions: use symbols (km) or names (kilometer) for currency, units, etc.

\[
\text{Mass} = 55 \text{ kg} = 121.254 \text{ lb}
\]

e. Sports: search for a team name to see a schedule, scores, etc.

Vancouver Canucks
48-29-5, 2nd in Pacific Division
Scores & Schedule
- Wed, Oct 7 @ Flames 7:00 PM
- Sat, Oct 10 vs Flames 7:00 PM
- Mon, Oct 12 @ Ducks 7:00 PM

Full schedule and scores

f. Quick facts: Search for celebrity, location, song, or movie to find information.

Interstellar
2014 film

⭐⭐⭐⭐ 8.7/10 • IMDb
⭐⭐⭐⭐ ⭐ 72% • Rotten Tomatoes
⭐⭐⭐⭐ ⭐ 74% • Metacritic

In Earth’s future, a global crop blight and second Dust Bowl are slowly rendering the planet uninhabitable. Professor Brand (Michael Caine), a brilliant NASA physicist, is working on plans to save mankind by transporting Earth’s population to a new home via a wormhole. But first, Brand must send for… More

Release date: November 7, 2014 (Canada)
Director: Christopher Nolan
Running time: 2h 49m
Initial DVD release: March 30, 2015 (United Kingdom)
Awards: Academy Award for Best Visual Effects, more
Search for different materials (images, news articles, maps, and more)

A variety of different results to search for

Popular websites are listed first

If the relevant result is a location, it finds it on a map

Quick facts