

# Searching the World Wide Web

*Make finding stuff a lot easier!*

- Learn to read Internet addresses (URLs)
- Think about what organization would have the type of information you need
- Use web directories or subject guides
- If you do not find what you want, try different search terms, check spelling
- Try your search on more than one search engine
- Learn how to evaluate Internet resources (currency, authority, ease of navigation, lack of bias)

## Web directories

*When you're looking for mainstream information in an easy-to-browse format*

Skokie's "Research a Subject" Directory (<http://research.skokielibrary.info>)  
Directory of online information resources created by librarians at Skokie Public Library.

Librarians' Internet Index ([www.lii.org](http://www.lii.org))  
Librarian-selected and evaluated sites. Locates many "invisible web" databases.

Yahoo! Directory (<http://dir.yahoo.com>)  
One of the oldest and best known subject directories

Open Directory Project (<http://dmoz.org>) The "largest human-edited directory of the Web"

Illinois CLICKS! (<http://illinoisclicks.org>)  
Statewide information website created by Illinois librarians

Infomine (<http://infomine.ucr.edu>) Scholarly Internet resource collections

## Search engines

*When you have a very specific or complex search*

Ask.com ([www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com))  
A smaller search engine with some unique search features.  
Seeks the most authoritative sites on a subject.

Google ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com))  
Notable for its large collection of web pages and "on-target" results

Yahoo! Search (<http://search.yahoo.com>)  
Features a very large database of Web pages. A good alternative to Google.

## Meta Search Engines

*When you're looking for as much information as possible about a unique subject*

Clusty (<http://clusty.com>) Clusters your search results into topical categories

Dogpile (<http://dogpile.com>) Searches Google, Yahoo! Search, Live Search, Ask.com

Ixquick (<http://ixquick.com>) Offers "exclude results" and "result honing" features

## The Invisible Web

*When you're looking for the contents of specialized databases*

GPO Access ([www.gpoaccess.gov](http://www.gpoaccess.gov)) Access to over 1500 Federal Government databases

OAIster ([www.oaister.org](http://www.oaister.org))

Catalog of digital academic resources including texts, audio files, images, and movies

Skokie Public Library Databases (<http://databases.skokielineibrary.info>)

In-Library use required for some databases

For Skokie cardholders access to many Library databases from HOME!

## Learn More about Web Searching

The Library's Links to Internet Tutorials and Guides

([www.skokielineibrary.info/s\\_info/in\\_internet/index.asp#tutorials](http://www.skokielineibrary.info/s_info/in_internet/index.asp#tutorials))

Evaluating Web Pages: Techniques to Apply & Questions to Ask

([www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html))

How Stuff Works: "Internet Channel"

(<http://computer.howstuffworks.com/internet-channel.htm>)

Bare Bones 101: A Basic Tutorial on Searching the Web

([www.sc.edu/beaufort/library/pages/bones/bones.shtml](http://www.sc.edu/beaufort/library/pages/bones/bones.shtml))

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