Search Tips

- Advanced search is recommended for most uses of PsycINFO®. You may also want to click the More Search Options link for easy access to specialized fields.

- Use "quotation marks" to search for exact phrases. Two-word queries without quotation marks (such as emotional intelligence) are searched as an exact phrase by default. Three-word queries without quotation marks (such as American Psychological Association) are searched as though AND separates the terms.

- ProQuest is not case-sensitive.

- To browse available index terms, or descriptors, in PsycINFO®, use the Thesaurus link in the Tools bar above your search area. The Thesaurus provides access to scope notes, broader, narrower and related terms, and other functionality not available using alphabetically structured Browse lists.

Truncation and Wildcard Characters

* The symbol * is used as a right-handed truncation character only; it will find all forms of a word. For example, searching for psycholog* will find psychology, psychologist, psychological, etc.

? The symbol ? is used to replace any single character, either inside the word or the right end of the word. ? cannot be used to begin a word. For example, searching for wom?n will find both woman and women.

Operators

Boolean, proximity and adjacency operators are used to broaden and narrow your search.

AND Find all the words.
Example: parents AND siblings

AND NOT Find articles which have the first word, but not the second word.
Example: parents AND NOT siblings

OR Find any of the words.
Example: students OR children

W/# Find documents where these words are within some number of words apart (either before or after).
Example: personality W/3 test

PRE/# Find documents where the first word appears some number of words before the second word.
Example: personality pre/3 test
# Search Field Syntax

The following fields are available for searching within ProQuest’s implementation of PsycINFO®. You can use these fields as mnemonic entries as described here, or you can look for browse or drop-down menus for the specific search fields within Advanced search.

- Abstract
- Access URL
- Accession Number
- Age Group
- Author
- Author Affiliation
- Chapter’s Book
- Citation and Abstract
- Cited Author
- Cited Reference
- Classification Code
- Conference Information
- Corporate Author
- Date (Alpha)
- Date (Numeric)
- Descriptors
- Document Title
- Document Type
- DOI
- Explode
- Form/Content Type
- Format Available
- Format Covered
- Identifier (Key concepts)
- Index Term
- Intended Audience
- ISBN
- ISSN
- Issue
- Journal Title
- Language
- Location
- Major Index Terms/Major Descriptors
- Number of References
- Population Group
- Publisher
- Reviewed Item
- Series Title
- Standard Number
- Subject Terms
- Table of Contents
- Tests & Measurements
- Update Date
- Volume
- Year

## Abstract

Search article abstracts for your terms.

**Valid Forms:**
- ABS
- AB
- ABSTRACT

**Examples:**
- ABS(patient education)
- AB(epilepsy)

## Access URL

Searches the Access URL index, which lists the location of electronic-only journals on the Web. The field contains the URL to link directly to the content when possible on a journal's website.

It is recommended that you search this field using the truncation character (*).

**Valid Forms:**
- URL

**Examples:**
- URL(http://journals.apa.org/prevention/volume4/pre0040017c.html)
- URL(http://www.apa.org*)

## Accession Number

The Accession Number is a unique number assigned to each record in the database.

**Valid Forms:**
- NO

**Example:**
- NO(2002-12698-006)

## Age Group

Contains a standardized description of specific age groups related to the content of the document. A record may contain multiple age groups. Use quoted phrase to search this field, omitting stop words.

**Valid Forms:**
- AG

**Examples:**
- AG("school age 6-12 yrs")
- AG("aged 65 yrs older")

## Author

Use to find documents written by a particular author.

**Valid Forms:**
- AUTHOR
- AU

**Example:**
- AU(Smith M)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Valid Forms</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Author Affiliation</strong></td>
<td>The author affiliation field contains institutional affiliation, addresses and email addresses for the author. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>AA(&quot;Ohio State University&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter's Book</strong></td>
<td>This field contains information about the book or journal in which a chapter or article is published. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>CB</td>
<td>CB(connections)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Classification Code</strong></td>
<td>The Classification Codes are 4-digit numbers representing broad subject categories in psychology. The first two digits of a code are for the broad category and the last two digits of the code are for sub-categories.</td>
<td>CCD</td>
<td>CCD(2100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CCD(&quot;2100 general psychology&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CCD(33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conference Information</strong></td>
<td>Contains information about the conference at which the content of the document was presented. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>CI(&quot;9th biennial winter workshop on schizophrenia&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CI(&quot;terresopolis brazil&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Corporate Author</strong></td>
<td>Used to search Corporate Author index. This field contains the Corporate names of the institution or group that authored the original document. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>CA(national institute of mental health)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date (Alpha)</strong></td>
<td>The publication date in alphanumeric format (month day year) or (month year). For example December 12, 1999 appears as Dec 12 1999. Do not use a comma. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>DA</td>
<td>DA(Jul 2001)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DA(Nov-Dec 2003)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Citation and Abstract</strong></td>
<td>When you select Citations and abstracts from the drop-down menu, ProQuest searches the following fields: Article Title, Abstract, Identifiers/Keywords, Index Terms, Table of Contents, Journal Title, Author</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cited Author</strong></td>
<td>Used to search for authors of works cited in the Citation/Reference index. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>CTA</td>
<td>CTA(Smith)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cited References</strong></td>
<td>Used to search Citations index. This field contains information on the references cited in the article or publication. Use keyword(s) to search this field.</td>
<td>CT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Date (Numeric)**

The publication date in numeric format (YYYYMMDD). When only month and year are listed for a record, use 01 for the day. For example, December, 1999 appears as 19991201.

*Valid Form:*

PDN

*Example:*

PDN(19991201)

**Descriptors**

Approved index terms which appear in the thesaurus. They are assigned to consistently describe the concepts included in the content of an article or document. Record may contain descriptors in major or minor index term fields.

*Valid Forms:*

DE

*Example:*

DE(behavior)

DE(“racial and ethnic differences”)

**Document Title**

The title of an article, such as "Personality and mental elements." This search field locates the occurrence of search words in the title of the article.

*Valid Forms:*

TITLE

TI

*Examples:*

TITLE(personality)

TI(personality AND mental)

TI("personality and mental elements")

**Document Type**

Use this search field to look for search words or phrases in articles of a certain type.

*Valid Forms:*

STYPE

*Examples:*

STYPE(journal article)

AT(qualitative study)

**DOI**

DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is a unique ID used to identify electronic documents, similar to the ISSN/ISBN numbers used to identify printed documents.

*Valid Forms:*

DOI

*Examples:*

DOI(10.1001/archpsyc.62.4.435)

**Explode**

This field is used to search for the main term and its narrower terms. If a main term has no narrower terms, then the search is made only for the main term.

*Valid Forms:*

EXP

*Examples:*

EXP(Managed Care)

**Form/Content Type**

Use this search field to look for search words or phrases in articles of a certain type.

*Valid Forms:*

AT

TY

DT

*Examples:*

TY(book textbook)

AT(qualitative study)

**Format Available**

Specifies the format types available for the source document.

*Valid Forms:*

FA

*Examples:*

FA(print)

FA(electronic)

**Format Covered**

Specifies the format type for the source document covered in the PsycINFO® database

*Valid Forms:*

FC

*Examples:*

FC(print)

FC(electronic)
Identifier (Key concepts)

Summary of the record, listing the major concepts it contains but not using terms from the PsycINFO thesaurus.

Valid Forms:
- IF

Examples:
- IF(confidentiality concerns)

Index Terms

Approved descriptors which appear in the thesaurus. They are assigned to consistently describe the concepts included in the content of an article or document. Record may contain descriptors in major or minor index term fields.

Valid Forms:
- DE

Example:
- DE(behavior)
- DE("racial and ethnic differences")

Intended Audience / Target Audience

This field contains a description of the intended audience of the document. Use keyword(s) or quoted phrase to search this field.

Valid Forms:
- TA
- IA

Examples:
- TA(general public)
- IA("psychology professional research")

ISBN

This search field looks for the ten-digit International Standard Book Number (ISBN), where available.

Valid Forms:
- ISBN
- SNUM

Examples:
- ISBN(1-59147-095-1)
- SNUM(1591470951)

ISSN

This search field looks for the eight-digit International Standard Serials Number (ISSN), where available.

Valid Forms:
- ISSN
- SNUM

Examples:
- ISSN(1045-3172)
- SNUM(1045-3172)

Issue

Used to search Issue Number. Use keyword(s) to search this field.

Valid Forms:
- ISSUE
- IS

Examples:
- IS(10)

Journal Title

Used to search by a specific publication or publications.

Valid Forms:
- SO
- JR

Examples:
- JR("British Journal of Health Psychology")
- SO(Psychology) — retrieves all periodicals with "psychology" in their titles

Language

Used to search Language index. This field contains the language in which the document was published originally. You can select languages from Language field specific index.

Valid Forms:
- LA
- LN

Examples:
- LA(french)
- LN(french or english)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Location</strong></th>
<th>Place name associated with the record, where the study took place or the place about which the record is concerned. Use <em>keyword(s)</em> to search this field.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>LOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>LOC(Australia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Major Index Terms / Major Descriptors</strong></th>
<th>PsychINFO thesaurus terms describing major concepts of the record. Use <em>keyword(s)</em> or quoted phrase to search this field.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>MJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>MJ(&quot;Neuroleptic Drugs&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MJ(serotonin)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Number of References</strong></th>
<th>Used to search Number of References present in the document. To search for a range of numbers, enter the numbers separated by a hyphen.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>NR(40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NR(10-50)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Population Group</strong></th>
<th>This field contains terms describing the subject population of the document. Use quoted phrase to search this field.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>PG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>PG(“human”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PG(“male”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PG(“outpatient”)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Publisher</strong></th>
<th>Name of the publisher and place of publication. Use <em>keyword(s)</em> to search this field.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>PB(New York)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PB(&quot;Ronald Press&quot;)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Reviewed Item</strong></th>
<th>Identifies books reviewed in the PsychINFO® record. Use <em>keyword(s)</em> or quoted phrase to search this field.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>RVI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>RVI(Mortimore)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RVI(dyslexia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Series Title</strong></th>
<th>Used to search Series Title index. This field lists Series titles for books, pamphlets, and journals. Use <em>keyword(s)</em> to search this field.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>ST(alienation)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Standard Number</strong></th>
<th>Used to search ISSN and ISBN index. Use the hyphen when searching for ISSN. Search for ISBN without hyphens.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>SNUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>SNUM(1591470951)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SNUM(1045-3172)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Subject Terms</strong></th>
<th>Searches major and minor subject headings, identifiers and key concepts associated with the record.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valid Forms:</strong></td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples:</strong></td>
<td>SU(bipolar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SU(neurasthenia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table of Contents
The table-of-contents associated with books. Use keywords likely to be associated with section or chapter titles to search this field.

**Valid Forms:**
- TC

**Examples:**
- TC("crisis management")

### Tests & Measures
Identifies published tests, measures, and research instruments mentioned in the article.

**Valid Forms:**
- RI

**Examples:**
- RI(mmapi)
- RI(inventory)

### Update Date
This represents the date the record was added to the PsycINFO® database. The Update field is formatted as: YYYYMMDD (Y=Year, M=Month, D=Day).

To search for a range of dates, enter the dates separated by hyphens. This field is not available as a browsable index.

**Valid Forms:**
- UD

**Examples:**
- UD(20010126)
- UD(20010126-20010304)

### Stop Words
ProQuest ignores the following frequently used words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>about</th>
<th>do</th>
<th>more</th>
<th>than</th>
<th>when</th>
<th>been</th>
<th>it</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>can</td>
<td>make</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>were</td>
<td>as</td>
<td>be</td>
<td>other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>just</td>
<td>should</td>
<td>was</td>
<td>were</td>
<td>as</td>
<td>how</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out</td>
<td>to</td>
<td>any</td>
<td>has</td>
<td>now</td>
<td>into</td>
<td>with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>those</td>
<td>from</td>
<td>most</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>their</td>
<td>only</td>
<td>but</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after</td>
<td>that</td>
<td>what</td>
<td>which</td>
<td>between</td>
<td>who</td>
<td>its</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>could</td>
<td>we</td>
<td>at</td>
<td>because</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>or</td>
<td>our</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>like</td>
<td>what</td>
<td>if</td>
<td>if</td>
<td>these</td>
<td>will</td>
<td>this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>said</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>them</td>
<td>will</td>
<td>would</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>them</td>
<td>will</td>
<td>both</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>also</td>
<td>had</td>
<td>not</td>
<td>will</td>
<td>both</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for</td>
<td>much</td>
<td>the</td>
<td>while</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Volume
Used to search **Volume**. Use keyword(s) to search this field.

**Valid Forms:**
- VOLUME
- VO
- VOL

**Examples:**
- VOL(10)

### Year
Used to search **Publication Year** index.

**Valid Forms:**
- YR

**Examples:**
- YR(1986)
- YR(1986-1987)
- YR(>1998)
- YR(<1998)
Example Searches

The examples below illustrate the kinds of searches you can build in Basic or Advanced search using operators and fields.

- **prediction AND achievement AND high school**
  Finds records that contain the word *prediction*, the term *achievement*, and the phrase *high school*.

- **predict***
  Finds records containing the words *predict, prediction, predicting*, and *predicted*. * is the truncation symbol to find multiple forms of a word.

- **Academic achievement AND NOT high school**
  Finds records that contain the phrase *academic achievement* but not the phrase *high school*.

- **"seasonal affect disorder"**
  Finds articles that contain the phrase *Seasonal Affect Disorder*. Always enclose phrases longer than two words in quotation marks.

- **caregiver w/7 Alzheimer’s**
  Finds records that contain the term *caregiver* within 7 words of the term *Alzheimer’s*.

- **Alzheimer’s AND (caregiver or (spouse or child))**
  Finds records that mention *Alzheimer’s* and either *caregiver* or else either *spouse* or *child* (a reference to more than one of these terms is also permitted). Use parentheses to define precedence when using multiple operators in a search statement.

- **AU(Wallace w/4 Mendelson)**
  Finds records for the author Wallace B. Mendelson. Author names in PsycINFO® are not standardized, so the name may appear with a middle name or initial. In Advanced search, the *Browse Authors* link can be used to locate name variants.

- **SO(Journal of Clinical Psychiatry) AND TI(Insomnia) AND PDN(20030601-20050131)**
  Finds records published between June 1, 2003, and Jan 31, 2005, from the publication *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry* with *Insomnia* mentioned in the article title.

- **TY(empirical study) and DE(bipolar disorder)**
  Finds records referencing empirical studies of bipolar disorder.

- **MJ(stereotyped attitudes) AND AG(“young adulthood 18 29 yrs”)**
  Finds records with stereotyped attitudes indicated as a major descriptor with young adulthood identified as age group.

- **EXP(“consumer attitudes) AND food**
  Finds records indexed with the index term *Consumer Attitudes*, or any of its narrower terms, and referencing the term *food* anywhere in the citation or abstract.

- **CCD(39) AND DE(“costs and cost analysis”)**
  Finds records in the classification area of Consumer Psychology with Costs and cost analysis as an index term.