The Boolean Operators

Boolean Operators

Boolean operators (also called logical operators) can be used to help **broaden** or **narrow** your search.

There are three Boolean operators:

AND   OR   NOT   NOT

"AND"

The Boolean Operator **AND** helps you to narrow a search.

Using **AND** between two search words specifies that **both** of the words must be found in the resulting articles.
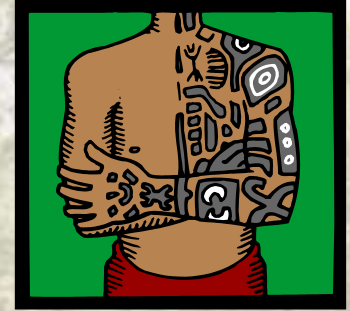
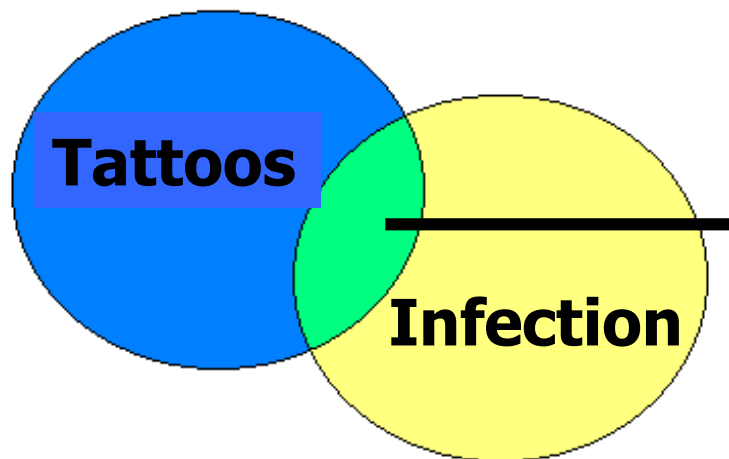**AND** "connects" the words in your search.

"AND"

- Say you are looking for articles related to **tattoos** and **infection:**

Your search would be: TATTOOS **AND** INFECTION

Tattoos

Infection

The Green shaded area would be your results. This area includes all the articles that contain the both the words tattoos AND infection.
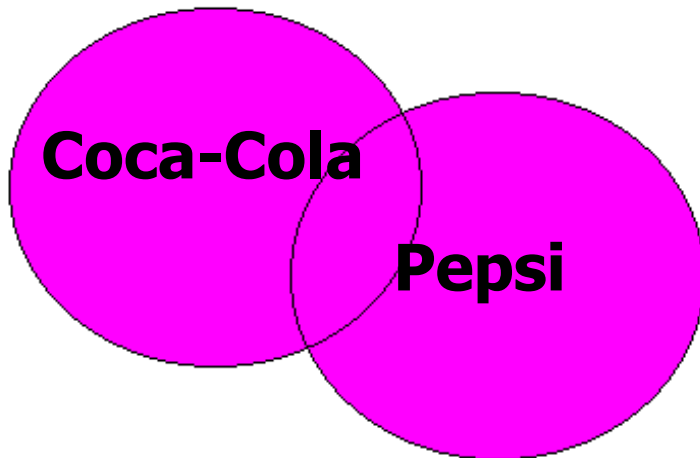
"OR"

- The OR operator **B R O A D E N S** your search.

- Using OR specifies that the results found must contain at least one of your keywords.

- It does not have to contain both of the keywords.

"OR"

If you are looking for information about **Pepsi and/or Coca-Cola.**

Your search would be: PEPSI OR COCA-COLA

The Pink shaded area would be your results, including all of the articles that contain the words Pepsi or Coca-Cola, either separately or together.
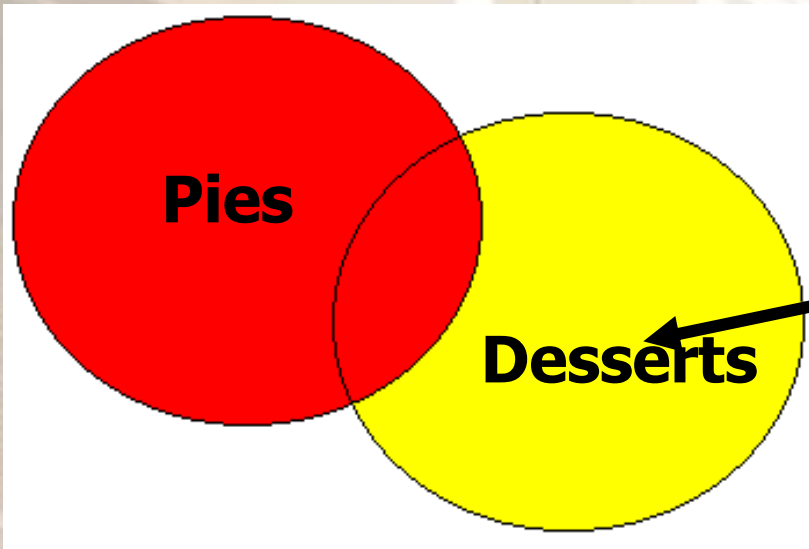
"NOT"

- NOT excludes terms from a search.

- Using NOT between two search words indicates that you are looking for the first word but not the second word.

"NOT"

If you are looking for information on **desserts**, but don't want information about **pies**.

Your search would be: **desserts NOT pies**

Your results would be in the **yellow-shaded** area **only**. You only want information related to desserts, not pies.