

## Internet Search Engines

In a nutshell, just as location is the key to realty Google is the key to searching. If you cannot find something directly from Google you should be taken to a site, which will point you to other search methods that will. If you are doing a specialized search you may discover specialized search sites.

The wonderful thing about Google is that Google itself will help you learn how to search more successfully.

I thought it would be fun to start by googling Internet search engines so I did...

Results **1 - 10** of about **9,720,000 English** pages for [internet search engines](#)

Results **1 - 10** of about **9,610,000 English** pages for [Internet Search Engines](#).

**Then I** googled “internet search engines”...

Results **1 - 10** of about **1,710,000 English** pages for "[internet search engines](#)"

**And then I** googled “Internet Search Engines”

Results **1 - 10** of about **1,030,000 English** pages for "[Internet Search Engines](#)".

Note how capitalizing the first letter of each word reduced the number of hits. That is because...

It is always safe to key all lower case (no capitals), because lower case will always retrieve upper case.

Among the early hits I got was...

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/SearchEngines.html>

which has a very complete discussion of this subject.

To quote from this site, by the University of California at Berkley...

“Google has one of the largest databases of Web pages, including many other types of web documents ([blog](#) posts, [wiki](#) pages, [group](#) discussion threads and document formats (e.g., [PDFs](#), Word or Excel documents, PowerPoints). Despite the presence of all these formats, Google's [popularity](#) ranking often makes pages worth looking at rise near the top of search results. Our [web searching workshop](#) reflects our recognition that Google currently is the winning web search engine and so people need to learn to use it really well.

Google alone is not always sufficient, however. Less than half the searchable Web is fully searchable in Google. [Overlap studies](#) show that more than 80% of the pages in a major search engine's database exist only in that database. Getting a "second opinion" is therefore often worth your time. For this purpose, we recommend [Ask.com](#) or [Yahoo! Search](#). We [no longer recommend using any meta-search engines](#).”

So rather than repeat information available at this and similar sites I urge the reader to visit these sites by using the above URL and / or repeating the search given at the start of these comments.

Ah, but the trick is helping Google find the information you desire, the answer to this problem is how one words the question. Start out with a lot of words. If you get too

many hits try using quotes to limit the number of hits. Here is a site with tips on using Google: <http://www.google.com/help/basics.html> (found by searching using Google)