About this Guide
Access Ovid through your library’s website. If you need assistance, contact your librarian.

This quick reference guide will demonstrate how to search PsycINFO on the Ovid platform.

Definitions of Selected Fields
Classification Code(s): general areas of psychology that are used to classify each document and can be searched. Classification Codes are available at http://www.apa.org/pubs/databases/training/class-codes.aspx

Keyword: searches the Abstract, Subject Headings, Table of Contents, Tests & Measures, Key Concepts (natural language terms describing the content), and Title fields

Tests & Measures: lists the test(s) used in the methodology of a study

Basic Search
For a Basic Search, enter a word, phrase, or question in the search box in ordinary language. Ovid uses natural language processing to find results.

Selecting Include Related Terms will expand the search with spelling variations, synonyms, and acronyms.

Advanced Search Tips
On the Multi-Field Search screen, use Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) to combine search terms and concepts to narrow or broaden results.

Truncation (* or $): The * or $ replaces any number of characters. For example, therap* (or therap$) finds therapy, therapies, therapist, therapists, therapeutic, therapeutically, etc.

Wildcard (#): The “#” replaces one character. For example, ne#t finds neat, nest, or next, but will not find net.

Title Search
On the Advanced Search screen, select Title to search for the title of an article, book, chapter, or dissertation.

Enter the complete title, or word(s) to be searched in the search box. For example, typing “hypnotherapy” will return results with “hypnotherapy” in the title.

Author Search
On the Advanced Search screen, select Author. Enter the author’s last name, first initial, or first name in the search box. For example, to find works by Carey B. Maslow, type “maslow, c” in the search box.

An alphabetical list of names, with last name first, will display including Maslow, Carey and Maslow, Carey B. Put a check next to the author(s) you want to search and click “Search for Selected Terms.”
Journal Search
Select Advanced Search and then select Journal. Enter the journal title or the word(s) you want.

For example, typing in “behavioral” will yield a list of journal titles beginning with the word “behavioral” or “behavioural.” Put a check box next to the title(s) you want to search and click “Search for Selected Terms.”

Subject Heading
Select Advanced Search, leave the Keyword radio button checked, and check the box next to Map Term to Subject Heading. Enter your search term(s) into the search box to map your term to the most relevant Subject Heading, taken from APA’s Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms®.

From the Mapping display select the most relevant term. Check Auto Explode to include conceptually narrower terms in your search. Check Focus to search only for results where your term has been designated as a major focus of the document.

Helpful Hint: To browse and search the online Thesaurus, select Search Tools and then pick the Thesaurus option from the drop-down menu.

Multi-Field Search
Select Multi-Field Search, enter the word(s) you want to search, and select search fields from the drop-down menus. You can combine words and concepts in different fields using the Boolean operators AND, OR, or NOT, adding as many rows as you need.

How to Limit Your Search
When you are in Basic Search, Advanced Search, or Multi-Field Search mode, click on Limits under the search box or boxes.

You will be able to limit your search in many ways, including:

- **Age Group:** the age of human research subjects.
- **Document Type:** document types, such as bibliography, editorial, review, etc.
- **Methodology:** the methodology used in a research study, such as literature review, meta analysis, etc.
- **Population Group:** the group of subjects (human, animal, female, male, etc).
- **Publication Type:** specific publication types, including peer reviewed journal, encyclopedia, etc.
- **Publication Year:** allows you to set a date range or a particular year.
Record Display
From the Results list, view the Complete Reference to view the title, author(s), author contact information, abstract, publication source, publisher, ISSN, language, key concepts, subject headings, digital object identifier, and much more.

Manage Searches
When you view your results, you can use Filter By and other Results Tools to narrow your search; Print, Email, or Export selected results; and Add to My Projects.

Search History
Your Search History allows you to combine individual searches from a search session. For example, you have searched for “dolphins” in Subject Headings and “animal assisted” in Keyword.

Click on More under Actions to select options to Delete or Save the search and set up an Auto-Alert or an RSS Feed.