Keyword Searching Wildcards and Operators

Wildcards

Any of the wildcard symbols may only appear after at least two characters. Search expressions may include the following wildcards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wildcard</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>Matches any single character in the specified position in the word. For example, &quot;anders?n&quot; will match both &quot;anderson&quot; and &quot;andersen&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>Matches up to five non-space characters, starting at the specified position in the word. For example, &quot;inter*&quot; will match &quot;internal&quot; and &quot;internet&quot;, but will not match &quot;international&quot;. The '<em>' wildcard may also be embedded in a search string. For example, &quot;colo</em>r&quot; would match both &quot;color&quot; and &quot;colour&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**</td>
<td>Matches any number of non-space characters, starting at the specified position in the word. For example, &quot;inter**&quot; will match all words that begin with &quot;inter&quot; (e.g., &quot;internal&quot;, &quot;internet&quot;, &quot;international&quot;, etc.). It will expand to a maximum of 50 characters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operators

If you want to search an operator as a word, not as an operator, surround it with quotation marks. For example: "near" east and religion

The default operator is adjacency.

**and** *(Synonym '&')* **and** retrieves records that contain all of the specified words or phrases in indexed fields. Note that the two words need not appear in the same field.

**or** *(Synonym '|')* **or** retrieves records that contain at least one of the specified words or phrases in an indexed field.

**and not** *(Synonym '!')* **and not** operator is used to modify the results produced by the other Boolean operators (it cannot be used by itself). For example, "mercury and not planet" would retrieve records that contain the word "mercury", but do not contain the word "planet".
Operators continued

**before**       **after**

The **before** and **after** operators are used to retrieve records that contain the specified words or phrases in a particular order in the record. Any number of words can appear between the specified words or phrases. For example, "chester before arthur" or "arthur after chester" would retrieve records containing the word "chester" followed at any distance by the word "arthur" (e.g., "Chester Arthur", "Chester Alan Arthur", etc.), but not records containing those same words in the opposite order (e.g., "Arthur Chester" would not be retrieved).

**near**  (Synonym '～')  **near** retrieve srecords that contain the specified words or phrases within ten words of each other in the same indexed field. If the words occur further apart in the same field or they appear in separate fields in a given record, then that record would not be retrieved.

**within**  (No synonym)  The **within** operator is similar to the **near** operator, but allows the user to specify the maximum number of words that may appear between the specified words. For example, "fractal within 3 geometry" will only retrieve records that contain both "fractal" and "geometry" within three words of one another in the same field. Note that "fractal within 10 geometry" is equivalent to "fractal near geometry".

**Field Tags**

Using the advanced keyword search form you can limit your search to particular parts of the record. But you can also do this in a basic keyword search if you know the field tags.

```
a      author      a:London

t      title      t:George Washington

d      subject    d:Sublime
       d:17th century

w      notes      w:Enuf
       w:Moon River

   t:Alice's Adventures and w:(ill or illus or illustrat*)
```

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