

## Search User

The administrator can choose between 2 search systems: See [Search Admin](#)

### 1.1. Boolean search with 'Basic Search' (tiki-searchresults.php)

Added in Tiki 3.0. When Basic Search is enabled, then this is the list of operators to manage a boolean search.

By default, you can use these boolean operators to refine your search results:

- **+** : A leading plus sign indicates that this word must be present in every object returned.
- **-** : A leading minus sign indicates that this word must not be present in any row returned.
- By default (when neither plus nor minus is specified) the word is optional, but the object that contain it will be rated higher.
- **< >** : These two operators are used to change a word's contribution to the relevance value that is assigned to a row.
- **()** : Parentheses are used to group words into subexpressions.
- **~** : A leading tilde acts as a negation operator, causing the word's contribution to the object relevance to be negative. It's useful for marking noise words. An object that contains such a word will be rated lower than others, but will not be excluded altogether, as it would be with the **-** operator.
- **\*** : An asterisk is the truncation operator. Unlike the other operators, it should be appended to the word, not prepended.
- **"** : The phrase, that is enclosed in double quotes **"**, matches only objects that contain this phrase literally, as it was typed.

#### 1.1.1. Default search behavior

By default, all search terms are *optional*. It behaves like an OR logic. Objects that contain the more terms are rated higher in the results and will appear first in their type. For example, **wiki forum** will find:

- objects that include both terms
- objects that include the term **wiki**
- objects that include the term **forum**

### 1.1.2. Requiring terms

Add a plus sign ( + ) before a term to indicate that the term *must* appear in results. Example: **+wiki forum** will find objects containing at least **wiki**. Objects with both terms and many occurrences of the terms will appear first.

### 1.1.3. Excluding terms

Add a minus sign ( - ) before a term to indicate that the term *must not* appear in the results. To reduce a term's value without completely excluding it, [use a tilde](#). Example: **-wiki forum** will find objects that do not contain **wiki** but contain **forum**

### 1.1.4. Grouping terms

Use parenthesis ( ) to group terms into subexpressions. Example: **+wiki +(forum blog)** will find objects that contain **wiki** and **forum** or that contain **wiki** and **blog** in any order.

### 1.1.5. Finding phrases

Use double quotes ( " " ) around a phrase to find terms in the exact order, exactly as typed. Example: "**Alex Bell**" will not find **Bell Alex** or **Alex G. Bell**.

### 1.1.6. Using wildcards

Add an asterisk ( \* ) after a term to find objects that include the root word. For example, **run\*** will find:

- objects that include the term **run**
- objects that include the term **runner**
- objects that include the term **running**

### 1.1.7. Reducing a term's value

Add a tilde ( ~ ) before a term to reduce its value indicate to the ranking of the results. Objects that contain the term will appear lower than other objects (unlike the [minus sign](#) which will completely exclude a term). Example: **+wiki ~forum** will rate an object with only **wiki** higher than an object with **wiki** and **forum**.

### 1.1.8. Changing relevance value

Add a less than ( < ) or greater than ( > ) sign before a term to change the term's contribution to the overall relevance value assigned to a object. Example: **+wiki +(>forum < blog)** will find objects that contain **wiki** and **forum** or **wiki** and **blog** in any order. **wiki forum** will be rated higher.

## 1.2. Boolean Search with 'Advanced Search' (tiki-searchindex.php)

### 1.2.1. Default search behavior

By default, all search terms are *optional*. It behaves like an OR logic. Objects that contain the more terms are rated higher in the results and will appear first. For example, **wiki forum** will find:

- objects that include both tokenized terms
- objects that include the term **wiki**
- objects that include the term **forum** or **forums**

## 1.2.2. Boolean operators

You can use AND or OR or NOT also to do a boolean search. Example: **wiki and forum** will find objects with both terms. Example: **wiki or forum** will find objects with one of the term.

## 1.2.3. Grouping terms

Use parenthesis ( ) to group terms into subexpressions. Example: **wiki and (forum blog)** will find objects that contain **wiki** and **forum** or that contain **wiki** and **blog** in any order.

## 1.2.4. Finding phrases

Use double quotes ( " " ) around a phrase to find terms in the exact order, next to each other. Example: **"Alex Bell"** will not find **Bell Alex** or **Alex G. Bell** but **Alex Bells**.

Related pages

---

- [Search](#)
- [Search Admin](#)
- [Search Details](#)