

IN THIS ISSUE:

~ Search Engines

COMING NEXT MONTH:

~ Wireless Networking

READY NET GO ... NEWS

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<http://www.readynetgo.net>

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Tip of the Month

Cool Search Features

Like movies? Want to read multiple reviews before plunking down \$9?

1) In the Google search bar, type:

Movie: {insert movie name here}

All of the results will be reviews associated with that movie title. You'll also get similar sounding title movie reviews in case you didn't get the exact title right.

2) Type in something general if you're not sure of the exact title. Example: **movie: Africa** will return results having to do with Africa whether the word is in the title or just a part of the synopsis.

3) Type in **movie: {zip code}** and you'll get a listing of all the movies playing near you.

If you're looking for something more visual, try **Soople** – www.soople.com

Similar to Google, Soople offers

- text searching including images, definitions, numbers, news, movie reviews and scholarly text;
- calculator feature;
- translation service where you can enter paragraphs of text and get any language translation you want;
- phone book and reverse look-up features; and more.

Need Answers Fast??

One of the best things about the Internet is that it brings communities, businesses and people together. Before the Internet, people shopped primarily in their local communities and did research at their local library or nearby University. With the Internet, those boundaries are increasing allowing people access to a mind-boggling amount of information, products and resources from all corners of the world.

Having "access" to the Internet isn't enough though. Due to its size, there has to be a way for people to search websites efficiently. Could you imagine if you had to remember each company's web address? Thankfully, **search engines** were created which allows information to be organized and categorized so that we can choose the information that closely matches our needs.

Of the search engines currently in use, **Google** is the most popular, is extremely easy to use, and returns results quickly. For this reason, we'll concentrate on discussing the features of Google in this newsletter.

Searching with Google

Although the Internet has opened up endless possibilities, many people are confused or unsure about how to search for what they are looking. If you've ever opened up Google, you've seen the statistics: over 8 billion web pages are searched with each phrase entered. From the list that is returned, is there a way to find exactly what you're looking for quickly without browsing through meaningless results?

WWW (Websites Worth Watching)

1. davesgarden.com – Get ready for spring with this extensive database of plants, botany terms, forums, and more.
2. www.bts.gov – Bureau of Transportation Statistics – Flying this summer? Check out various airline statistics

For starters, Google finds webpages based on keywords. If a website has the word you typed in the search box on one of its pages, it will appear in the results. For this reason, the more specific you are in your search terms, the more fine-tuned the results will be. **Second**, wrapping phrases in quotes or using the + sign will provide more exact results. Typing in mountain hilltop will give you different results from "mountain hilltop" or mountain + hilltop. In the latter two phrases, the results must include both words in the order written whereas the former can have one or both words anywhere on the page. **Finally**, if you are having difficulty locating exactly what you need, try the Advanced Search area where you can put in specific dates if applicable and use multiple words and phrases.

Google is constantly expanding and offers new features to help people find what they need. They recognize that different information is stored in different formats and places around the world and they're trying to figure out the best ways for people to access this information quickly and efficiently.

Google's Special Search Features

In addition to searching the web, Google has other options for refining your queries. On Google's home page above the search box you'll see the following terms. Here's a brief explanation of what each feature offers:

- Web** – Searches over 8 billion web pages and shows the most relevant results first.
- Images** – Type in a word or phrase; images associated with that word or phrase will appear. You can save these pictures to your hard drive or removable disk for use in other applications.
- Groups** – If you want to know someone's opinion on a particular topic, type in the search phrase and click the **Groups** link. Ex: if you have a problem with a printer, type in the printer model in the search box. You'll see results listing others' experiences with the same printer. Also called **Usenet** or **News Groups**, these sections can be a valuable reference if you need fast answers to a problem. Read the section About Google Groups for specific information.
- News** – Type in a search phrase and click the **News** link to get results from over 4,500 news sources. This search feature provides results within the past 30 days.
- Froogle** – Online shopping portal similar to pricegrabber.com. Type in a product and you'll get listings of retail establishments that sell the item. Not inclusive but a good place to comparison shop nonetheless.
- Local** – Need to find a business that sells copy machines nearby? Click on the **Local** link, type in your search term and then type in your location. Nearby destinations will appear. ~ Similar to the Yellow pages online. Included in the results are clickable website addresses so you can get further information directly from the establishment.
- More >>** – Click the **More** link and you get even more choices in refining your search. Click on each link or icon for an explanation. Interesting ones to try: **Catalogs** allows you to browse through mail order catalog listings; **Scholar** allows you to search scholarly literature such as journal articles, theses and abstracts.

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Note: If you recently downloaded Mozilla's Firefox browser, there is a new version available - 1.0.1
Go to <http://www.mozilla.org> to download – includes security and stability updates.