



## Database Guide: ProQuest Historical Newspapers™

### Search Tips

- Use "quotation marks" to search for exact phrases – "Guban Missile Crisis"
- Two (2) word queries (such as Emancipation Proclamation) are searched as an exact phrase by default.
- Three (3) word queries or longer (such as Little Big Horn or Nobel Peace Prize) are searched as words that need to appear in proximity to each other by default. (Proximity being a 250 word block.)

### Truncation and Wildcard Characters

- \* The symbol \* is used as a right-handed truncation character only; it will find all forms of a word. For example, searching for **orphan\*** will find "orphan", "orphaned", "orphanage", " ", etc.
- ? The symbol ? is used to replace any single character, either inside the word or the right end of the word. ? cannot be used to begin a word. For example, searching for **t?re** will find "tire", "tyre", "tore", etc.

### Operators

Boolean, proximity and adjacency operators are used to broaden and narrow your search. Operators are not case sensitive.

- AND** Finds **all** the words. When searching for keywords in Citation and Document Text **AND** finds documents in which the words occur in the same paragraph (within approximately 1,000 characters) or the words appear in any citation field. Use **W/DOC** in place of **AND** when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text** to retrieve comprehensive results.  
*Example:* Churchill **AND** Iron curtain
- AND NOT** Finds articles which have the first word, but **not** the second word.  
*Example:* Edison **AND NOT** telephone
- OR** Finds **any** of the words.  
*Example:* women's suffrage **OR** women's rights
- W/#** Finds documents where these words are **within** some number of words apart (either before or after). Use when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text**.  
*Example:* San Francisco **W/20** earthquake
- W/PARA** Finds documents where words are **within the same paragraph** (within approximately 1,000 characters). Use when searching for keywords within **Document Text**.  
*Example:* polio vaccine **W/PARA** Salk
- W/DOC** Finds documents where all the words appear **within the document text**. Use **W/DOC** in place of **AND** when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text** to retrieve comprehensive results.  
*Example:* President Kennedy **W/DOC** "bay of pigs"
- NOT W/#** Finds documents where words appear but are **not within** some number of words apart (either before or after). Use when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or



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## Document Text.

*Example:* Duke of Windsor **NOT W/20** abdicat\*

## PRE/#

Finds documents where the **first word appears some number of words before the second word**. Use when searching for keywords within **Citation and Document Text** or **Document Text**.

*Example:* gold **PRE/5** standard

## Search Field Syntax

Abstract	Date (Alpha)	Document Text	Publication Title
Author	Date (Numeric)	Document Title	Section
Citation & Abstract	Dateline	Document Type	Word Count
Citation & Document text	Document ID	Page / Start Page	Year

### Abstract

Search article abstracts for your terms.

*Valid Forms:*

ABS

AB

ABSTRACT

*Examples:*

AB(Steinbeck)

ABS(pony express)

- Author
- Citation
- Abstract
- Article Title
- Source (publication title)

### Citation & Document text

When you select **Citation and document text**, ProQuest searches within the complete text of the article, the citation fields, and the abstract.

### Author

Use to find documents written by a particular author.

*Valid Forms:*

AUTHOR

AU

*Examples:*

AU(Churchill) - any author with the name of Churchill

AU(Edgar Allan Poe)

### Date (Alpha)

The publication date in alphanumeric format (month day year). For example December 12, 1905 appears as Dec 12 1905.

**Do not use a comma.**

*Valid Forms:*

PDA

DA

DATE

*Example:*

DA(Dec 12 1905)

### Citation & Abstract

When you select **Citations and abstract** from the drop-down menu, ProQuest searches the following fields:

### Date (Numeric)

The publication date in numeric format (mm/dd/yyyy). For example September 25, 1968

appears as 09/25/1968.

You can use the less than (<) or greater than (>) signs to indicate dates before and after a date, or between specific dates.

For example, **PDN(>1/1/2002) AND PDN(&lt;1/5/2002)** will find results from publications with numeric dates between January 1, 2002 and January 5, 2002.

*Valid Forms:*

PDN  
DDT  
ND  
PD  
PDN  
XP

*Example:*

PDN(12/12/1902)

## Dateline

Lets you search article Datelines. The dateline occurs frequently in newspapers, just after the article title, giving the date and place of the articles origin.

Use **keyword(s)** to search this field. You can use Boolean, proximity and truncation operators.

*Valid Forms:*

DLN  
XDL

*Examples:*

DLN(london)  
DLN(fairfax pre/1 virginia)

## Document ID

Search the unique database ID for articles and documents in ProQuest.

*Valid Form:*

ID

*Example:*

ID(83453275)

## Document Text

Searches only the full text of articles for your search terms. Article abstracts are not included in this search. AND, OR, and other search operators are treated as such unless enclosed in quotes.

*Valid Forms:*

TEXT  
TX

*Example:*

TEXT(Spanish flu)

## Document Title

Locates the occurrence of search words in the title of the article.

*Valid Forms:*

TITLE  
TI

*Examples:*

TI(NAACP)  
TI(Pony Express)  
TI(-PERILS OF THE SEA")

## Document Type

Use this search field to look for search words or phrases in articles of a certain type.

*Valid Forms:*

AT  
TY  
DT

*Examples:*

DTYPE(obituary)  
TY(editorial cartoon)  
AT(review)

## Page / Start Page

Use to search for specific pages of a publication. Useful for finding front page articles.

*Valid Forms:*

STARTPAGE  
PAG  
PAGE



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*Examples:*  
PAG(A.1) AND PUB(wall street journal) AND  
PDN(1/5/1980)

WC(>750 AND <1000) finds articles between 750  
and 1000 words

## Publication Title

Used to search by a specific publication or  
publication.

*Valid Forms:*

SOURCE  
SO  
SR  
PTI  
PUB

*Examples:*  
SO(Washington Post)  
PUB(New York) — retrieves all newspapers with  
"New York " in the title – New York Times as well  
as New York Daily Times

## Section

Search for articles that appear in a specific section  
of a publication. You must specify the section  
name exactly as it appears in the publication.

*Valid Forms:*

SE  
SEC

*Examples:*  
SE(magazine or book review)  
SEC(sports)

## Word Count

The number of words in the article text. Use this  
search field to locate articles under (<) or over (>)  
a certain length.

*Valid Forms:*

WORDS  
WRD  
WD  
WC

*Examples:*  
WORDS(<1000) finds articles containing 1000  
words or less  
WRD(>500) finds articles containing 500 words or  
more

## Year

Used to search **publication year** index.

*Valid Forms:*

YR  
PY

*Examples:*  
YR(1986)  
YR(1986-1987)  
YR(>1998)  
YR(<1998)

## Stop Words

ProQuest ignores the following frequently used words. To use them as part of a search phrase, enclose them with quotation marks (""). *Example:* "the sound and the fury".

about	after	also	an	and
any	are	as	at	be
because	been	between	both	but
by	can	could	do	each
for	from	had	has	have



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how	if	into	is	it
its	just	like	make	many
more	most	much	no	not
now	of	only	or	other
our	out	said	should	so
some	such	than	that	the
their	them	there	these	they
this	those	through	to	use
was	we	were	what	when
which	while	who	will	with
would				

### Where to find help

#### Search our Support Center:

<http://www.proquest.com/support>

#### To access product help and training documentation:

<http://www.proquest.com/go/training>

<http://www.proquest.co.uk/go/training>

#### By phone

**In North America:** 800-889-3358

**Outside North America:** 0880 220 710 (UK only)  
+44 1223 271 496 (Outside of UK)