Find information about searching FirstSearch.

• **Available databases**
  
  No image available

  Find information about how to select and display available databases in FirstSearch.
  
  ◦ Select databases

• **Basic search**
  
  No image available

  The Basic Search screen allows you to search the main indexes in a database. Use the Basic search if you are new to online searching or if you need quick results using a simple search statement.
  
  ◦ Perform a basic search

• **Advanced search**
  
  No image available

  The Advanced Search screen lets you construct more complex search statements. Up to three search strings and three indexes can be combined using Boolean operators ( AND, OR, and NOT ) selected from drop-down menus. More search limits are available at this level.
  
  ◦ Before starting an advanced search
  ◦ Indexes and examples of an advanced search
  ◦ Perform an advanced search
  ◦ Refine an advanced search

• **Expert search in WorldCat indexes**
  
  No image available

  The Expert Search screen is designed for experienced searchers who prefer to enter logical search strings.
  
  ◦ Index labels and examples of an expert search in WorldCat
  ◦ Material types
  ◦ Number of library holdings
  ◦ US-MARC fields and subfields in WorldCat FirstSearch indexes
  ◦ US-MARC fields displayed in a WorldCat detailed record
• Results

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Learn how to view and manage search results in FirstSearch.

◦ Find search terms
◦ Full text
◦ Non-Roman character displays in WorldCat
◦ Rank results
◦ The Detailed Record screen
◦ The Limit Results screen
◦ The List of Records screen
◦ Use results

• Special search methods

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Find information about special search methods that can be used when searching FirstSearch.

◦ Boolean searching and reserved operators
◦ Browse
◦ Hot topics
◦ Limit a search
◦ Plurals, truncation, wildcards, and proximity
◦ Punctuation, diacritics, and special characters
◦ Search for names, numbers, and year ranges
◦ Stopwords in WorldCat derived key searching