**Google Search tips**

If you decide to use a search engine such as Google, there are number of things you can do to improve the type of results you get.

**Tip 1**
Search engines ignore common words like “the”, “an”, “a”, “for”, “in” etc. – you don’t need to include them when searching. All you need to include are the keywords or concepts that some up your topic.

**Tip 2**
Be specific and use multiple search terms. For example if you are looking for information on the relationship between alcohol abuse and domestic violence in Australia, you would do better with the search **alcohol effect domestic violence Australia**, than with the search **domestic violence**.

**Tip 3**
If you are searching for a particular phrase put it in inverted commas e.g. “domestic violence”. This can really reduce the number of results you have to look through.

![Google Search Tips](image)

e.g. Google search for **domestic violence in Australia** = 7,990,000
Google search for **“domestic violence in Australia”** = 46,600 results

**Tip 4**
Try out different keywords - remember there is often more than one way to describe something.

**Tip 5**
Narrow your results to pages from Australia by clicking on **Search tools** and then, **The web** and **Pages from Australia**

![Google Search Results](image)
**Tip 6**
Use Google Advanced search. The features on the Google Advanced search page can help you refine and target your searches.

To access Google Advanced search click on the Options icon, and then on Advanced search.

With Advanced Search you can search for pages:

- that contain ALL the search terms you type in
- that contain the exact word or phrase you type in
- that contain at least one of the words you type in
- that do NOT contain any of the words you type in
- written in a certain language
- created in a certain file format
- that have been updated within a certain period of time
- that contain numbers within a certain range
- within a certain domain, or website

For more information on Google searching, please contact your local TAFE Library.