

# GOOGLE DORKS INVESTIGATOR CHEAT SHEET



Operators are valuable additions to Google search terms that can assist you in retrieving specific results. When used in combination, they can further refine your search and aid in discovering new leads in your OSINT investigation. Below, you will find some of the most useful and popular operators. This cheat sheet will help elevate your search to the next level and ensure that no traces go unnoticed.

## BASIC GOOGLE DORKS

### BOOLEAN OPERATORS

Search Operator:

[search term] AND [search term]



Example:  
intelligence AND cybersecurity

Purpose:

Use the AND operator to filter results that only include multiple specific search terms. The browser will retrieve pages that contain all the specified terms, allowing for more precise OSINT investigations.

Search Operator:

[search term] OR [search term]



Example:  
intelligence OR cybersecurity

Purpose:

Use the OR operator to broaden your search by looking for results that include either of the specified search terms. This flexibility allows you to cast a wider net when collecting data.

### FILE SEARCH

Search Operator:

filetype:[file extension]



Example:  
filetype:pdf

Purpose:

Use this operator to pinpoint specific file types in search results and locate documents, images, or other content in your desired format. Common file extensions include: pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, ppt, pptx, jpg, jpeg, png, gif, html, and xml.

### WILDCARD SEARCH

Search Operator:

[search term] \* [search term]



Example:  
John \* email address

Purpose:

Inserting the asterisk symbol (\*) allows you to substitute it for unknown characters in a search query, enabling you to find variations of search terms or discover hidden content patterns on websites during open-source intelligence investigations.

### INVESTIGATOR TIP

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#### Finding email address related to a username

If you already have a username, like **BadGuy1**, try searching **BadGuy1\*com** to see if that username is registered as an email address.

### QUOTATION MARKS

Search Operator:

"[search term]"



Example:  
"open source intelligence"

Purpose:

Use quotation marks to search for an exact phrase, preventing results with individual words but not in the desired order. Precision is crucial in investigations, making this operator exceptionally useful.

## SITE SEARCH

Search Operator:  
`site:[website]`

 Example:  
`site:example.com`

Purpose:

Focus your search on a specific website and access information from indexed pages within that domain.

## MINUS SYMBOL

Search Operator:  
`(minus)-`

 Example:  
`-site:Wikipedia.org`

Purpose:

Exclude results that include the specified phrase following the minus symbol. In the example, it excludes results from the site Wikipedia.org.

## INVESTIGATOR TIP

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### Exploring DNS Information and Domain Details

Investigate DNS information and domain specifics using `site:example.com -www`. This advanced search query filters out the primary website, allowing you to focus on exploring the domain's underlying DNS structure and related data.

## URL SEARCHES

Search Operator:  
`inurl:[search term]`

 Example:  
`inurl:pdf`

Purpose:

Targets specific web addresses or URLs. This can help you find web pages or documents with specific terms or file types within their URLs.

## INTEXT SEARCH

Search Operator:  
`intext:"[search term]"`

 Example:  
`intext:"person of interest"`

Purpose:

Narrow down search results to pages containing the specified term within their content.

## TITLE SEARCHES

Search Operator:  
`intitle:[search term]`

 Example:  
`intitle:report`

Purpose:

Narrow your search to specific page titles. This can be useful for finding documents or web pages with particular search terms in their titles.

## INFORMATION SEARCH

Search Operator:  
`info:[website]`

 Example:  
`info:www.example.com`

Purpose:

Retrieve information about a specific website.

## PHONE NUMBER LOOKUP

Search Operator:  
`phonebook:[name]`

 Example:  
`phonebook: John Doe`

Purpose:

Search for phone numbers associated with a person's name. This function is useful for finding contact details, verifying identities, or connecting with individuals.

## CACHE SEARCH

Search Operator:

`cache:[website]`



Example:  
`cache:example.com/blog/open-source-intelligence`

Purpose:

View Google's cached version of a page. This can be useful for finding content that may have been removed or changed.

## LINK SEARCH

Search Operator:

`link:[website]`



Example:  
`link:example.com`

Purpose:

Look for web pages linking to a specific URL or domain, revealing potential connections and getting a quick overview of backlinks.

## COMBINED GOOGLE DORKS

### FILETYPE SEARCH

Search Operator:

`filetype:[file extension]  
site:[website]`



Example:  
`filetype:pdf  
site:example.com`

Purpose:

Target and retrieve documents of a particular file format located on a specific site.

### FILETYPE AND TERM SEARCH

Search Operator:

`filetype:[file extension]  
intext:"[search term]" site:[website]`



Example:  
`filetype:docx intext:"report"  
site:example.com`

Purpose:

Search for documents (in this example, with the .docx extension) containing the specific word, such as "report," within a designated website or domain. It helps narrow down the search to a particular file type and keyword, enhancing precision in your search for relevant content.

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### INVESTIGATOR TIP

#### Uncovering new contact information from online documents

Try searching for a subject's name in various documents in different file types by using this operator: **[subject name] filetype:pdf OR filetype:xlsx OR filetype:docx**

### INTEXT SEARCH

Search Operator:

`intext:[search term]  
site:[website]`



Example:  
`intext:"person of interest  
investigation" site:example.com`

Purpose:

Use this operator to search for web pages containing a given keyword on a specific site, thereby narrowing down the search and focusing on content related to that particular phrase on the specified site.

## SPECIFIC FILE SEARCH

Search Operator:

```
filetype:[file extension]  
intext:"[search term]" site:[website]
```

Example:

 filetype:xls intext:"Harvard  
research results"  
site:example.com

Purpose:

Locate specific files containing a given search term on a chosen site.

## NARROWED SITE SEARCH WITH EXCLUSION

Search Operator:

```
site:[website] -inurl:[search term]
```

Example:

 site:example.com -inurl:blog

Purpose:

Perform a targeted search within the site example.com while excluding URLs containing the term "blog." It provides a more focused search by eliminating specific sections, like blog pages, from the results.

## SITE SEARCH

Search Operator:

```
site:[website] [search term]
```

Example:

 site:social-media-example.com  
"John Doe"

Purpose:

This operator enables searching for a specific term within a designated website or domain. In the provided example, you search for a profile of a specific person on a social media platform.

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## INVESTIGATOR TIP

**Identifying social media profiles associated with an email address**

Search for an email address you've discovered to find associated social media profiles, like [john.doe@email.com](mailto:john.doe@email.com) site:facebook.com.

## FILETYPE AND INTITLE COMBINED

Search Operator:

```
filetype: intitle:
```

Example:

 filetype:pdf intitle:"Harvard  
report"

Purpose:

Refine searches to find specific files with the given search terms in their titles.

## TITLE AND URL SEARCHES

Search Operator:

```
intitle: inurl:
```

Example:

 intitle:report inurl:pdf

Purpose:

These operators target specific page areas and assist in searching for documents with specific content in both the title and the web address. For instance, intitle:report inurl:pdf searches for pages with "report" in the title and "pdf" in the URL.

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## INVESTIGATOR TIP

**Using operators outside of Google**

Dorking techniques are not limited to Google. They can also enhance your ongoing investigation in Maltego. [Find out more in this blog post.](#)