

Google Book Search Tips

A University of Michigan University Library Handout

Searching with Google Book Search

The following section provides some tips for searching and finding items in Google Book Search, located at <http://books.google.com/>. In addition to providing some search strategies, this document will also provide tips for locating important information in Google Book Search that will help you find a physical copy of the item, should full-text not be available through Google Book Search.

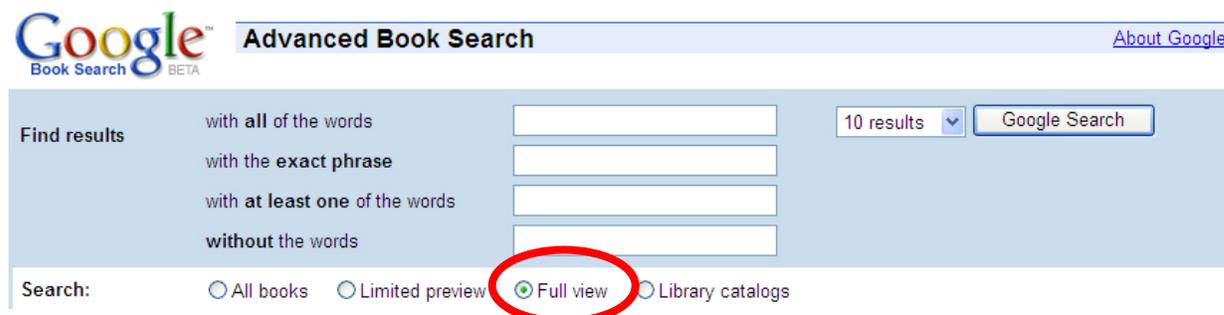
Google Book Search is different from the University of Michigan's MBooks project. MBooks is searchable in our library catalog, Mirlyn (<http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu/>), and contains only books digitized at the University of Michigan. A search in Google Book Search will provide results from all libraries that partner with Google to digitize collections.

For help and information on the University of Michigan's MBooks project, please see <http://www.lib.umich.edu/mdp/>. This FAQ document includes latest announcements, examples of items in MBooks, and more.

Finding and Downloading Full Books

Interested in finding only those titles you can read entirely online? Too far away from a library to get a hold of these books yourself? Google Book Search allows you to download PDF files of entire books if they are out of copyright, or if the publisher has opted to allow it.

1. Limit your search results to **Full view books** by going to the **Advanced Book Search** and selecting that option. Enter your search terms in the boxes above.



The screenshot shows the Google Book Search Advanced Book Search interface. At the top left is the Google logo with 'Book Search BETA' underneath. To the right of the logo is the text 'Advanced Book Search' and a link for 'About Google'. Below this is a search area with a 'Find results' label on the left. There are four search options, each with a corresponding input box: 'with all of the words', 'with the exact phrase', 'with at least one of the words', and 'without the words'. To the right of these boxes is a dropdown menu showing '10 results' and a 'Google Search' button. At the bottom of the search area, there is a 'Search:' label followed by four radio buttons: 'All books', 'Limited preview', 'Full view', and 'Library catalogs'. The 'Full view' radio button is circled in red.

2. In your search results, click on the title of the book you are interested in.
3. Find and click on the **Download** button on the right side of the screen. You can also scroll through the entirety of the book in Google Book Search's PDF display.
4. For more information about a book, click on the **About this book** link on the right side of the screen.

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Locating Physical Items from Search Results

Many item in Google Book Search are not full text. These tips will help you locate the item in a nearby library.

Search Results Screen

The screenshot shows the Google Book Search interface for the book "Texas Big Rich: Exploits, Eccentricities, and Fabulous Fortunes Won and Lost" by Sandy Sheehy. The search term "texas longhorns" is entered in the search box. The page is annotated with red circles and arrows pointing to specific features:

- Original from the University of Michigan:** A red circle highlights the text "Original from the University of Michigan" in the book's metadata. A red arrow points from this text to a callout box that says "This is where the book was originally scanned."
- Borrow this book:** A red circle highlights the "Borrow this book" link and the sub-link "Find this book in a library". A red arrow points from this area to a callout box that says "Click here to locate this item in a nearby library."
- Search in this book:** A red circle highlights the "Search in this book" section, which contains a search box with "texas longhorns date:1990" and a "Search" button. A red arrow points from this search box to a callout box that says "Want to see if something in particular is in this book? Use this search box to search within this book only."

Other visible elements include the book's cover image, the author's name, publication date (1990), genre (Biography / Autobiography), and a list of key terms. The page also shows a snippet of text from page 90, mentioning "Texas" in a highlighted yellow box.

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Locating the physical copy

The screenshot shows the WorldCat search results for the book "Texas big rich : exploits, eccentricities, and fabulous fortunes won and lost" by Sandy Sheehy. The page includes a search bar, book details (language, publisher, ISBN, OCLC, subjects), and a "Libraries" tab. A red circle highlights the "Services from University of Michigan Library" links: "Availability at U-Michigan", "Request via ILL", "Search the Mirlyn catalog at the University of Michigan", "Ask a librarian", and "OCLC FirstSearch". A red arrow points from the "48105" zip code in the "Enter Location Information" field to a callout box that says "Put in your Zip Code to find the nearest library with this title." Another red arrow points from the "Request via ILL" link to a callout box that says "If you're on campus, you'll have many options for obtaining the item. Click 'Search the Mirlyn catalog at the University of Michigan' to check to see if we have it. If we don't, click 'Request via ILL' to get a copy delivered to our library via Interlibrary Loan."

Note: These tools depend on the accuracy of the record. If the University of Michigan Library does not appear in the list of owning libraries, and clicking on **Search the Mirlyn catalog** gets no results, it is still worthwhile to go to Mirlyn (<http://mirlyn.lib.umich.edu/>) and search for this item by its title.

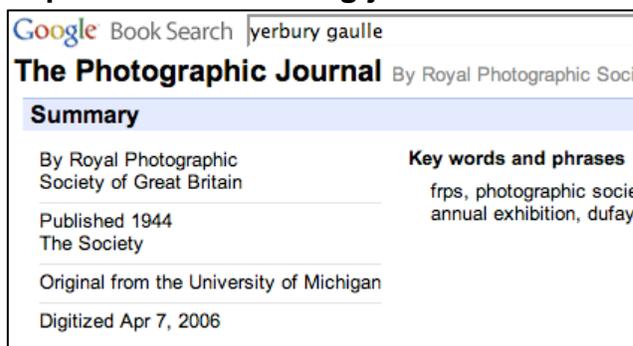
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Locating Journal Issues and Articles

Perhaps the most challenging task in Google Book Search is identifying which volume and issue of a journal title you are looking at. Google Book Search does not provide enough information in order to determine this. However, there are some strategies you can employ to find out which volume and issue you are interested in.

The problem with finding journal volume and issue numbers



The screenshot shows a Google Book Search result for "The Photographic Journal" by the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain. The search terms "yerbury gaulle" are visible in the search bar. The result includes a summary section with the following information: "By Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain", "Published 1944", "Original from the University of Michigan", and "Digitized Apr 7, 2006". A "Key words and phrases" section lists "frps, photographic society, annual exhibition, dufay".

In the screen shot on the left, our search terms are “yerbury” and “gaulle”. This result *looks* like it is from the 1944 volume of “The Photographic Journal” published by the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain.

However, 1944 is actually the year that the last volume of this journal was published. Sometimes the year Google provides for

journals is the year publication began, and sometimes it is the year publication ended. It may not be the year of the particular journal issue you have found in Google.

Without the correct year or volume number, it is impossible to locate the print version of the snippets found in Google Book Search without skimming hundreds, if not thousands, of print issues.

Finding the correct volume and issue number

There is no, single “right” way to find the needed year or volume number. There are some general tips, though, to try to tease this information out of Google Book Search. All of these tips should be used in the **Search in this book** search box:

- Search for the title of the journal. Sometimes this will show you a snippet that includes a running header that will contain a year or a volume number.
- Search for the words “volume” and “issue”.
- Search for the word “subscriptions”. Many times, journals will have a subscription information section that will include the pricing for the current year (and it will tell you which year is the ‘current’ year).
- After trying these three options, you may have a feel for the time period, but perhaps not an exact year. If you have been seeing dates hovering around the 1950’s, try searching for years, like “1956”, and “1957”. Chances are, if you have results for “1956”, but no results for “1957”, the issue you are looking at is probably from 1956 or 1955.

Once you’ve got the volume and issue number, you’ll likely still need to know the page numbers of the full article you’re looking for. Contact a library that has this title and ask if you can get the page numbers of the article you’re interested in, then use your local library’s interlibrary loan department if an issue isn’t near to where you are.

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An example of successfully identifying the issue

In the example shown above, a search on “yerbury” and “gaulle” produced a result that indicated the year of publication was 1944. However, using the **Search in this book** search, trying the tips produced a hint at which volume these terms actually appeared in.

In the **Search in the book** search box, the title of the journal in quotes and the word “subscriptions” produced a paragraph that would indicate that this is actually the 1942 volume, not the 1944 volume.

Search in this book

"photographic journal" sub Search

28 pages matching "photographic journal" subscriptions in this book Page 25

COUNCIL MEETING ed the recommendations of the Journal Committee designed to effect economies in the consumption of paper used in printing the *Journal*. These were briefly reported to the Members in the notice published in the December issue of the *Journal*

A MEETING of the Council of The Royal Photographic 2 Lt. Lubomir St. Swiecicki, 77a. Balhousie Street, Perth. (Mem-

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JANUARY, 1942] THE PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNAL 27

Crazy Camera with the Army On one afternoon, for instance, in

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SUBSCRIPTIONS Members are reminded that the Annual Subscription for 1942 became due on January 1st. The subscription for Fellows, Associates and Members is £2 2s. 6d. (The subscription

Saturday, January 17th, 2.30 p.m. "Some Problems of Documentary Reproduction." By Percy W. Harris, F.R.P.S. Leicester and Leicester Photographic Society. A Waterloo Hall, Waterloo St., ter. Tuesday, January 6th

Saturday, January 24th, 2.30 p.m. "Portraiture." By Ronald

[Where's the rest of this book?](#)