

# Using search commands and connectors at Lexis Advance®

Lexis Advance® lets you use advanced search commands.

If you're comfortable using search commands and connectors—**!** **and** **\*** to truncate words and **W/n**, **OR**, **AND**, **&**, etc., to connect search words and phrases—you can use these special commands to develop Lexis Advance searches. Here's what you need to know:

## Lexis Advance® automatically interprets search commands

Just enter your words and commands in the Lexis Advance red search box, e.g., ENTER: *drone and commercial W/10 deliver!*. **Commands are not case-sensitive**, i.e., enter AND, And or and.

## Broaden W/n connectors

While a Lexis Advance search ignores certain “noise words” added to your search, it **counts all words** in results documents **for the purpose of determining proximity**. So broaden your W/n connector. In other words, consider W/10 instead of W/5. For W/p and W/s, consider W/75 or W/25 respectively.

## Search Lexis® Web separately

Only the AND and & connectors work. The other commands do not operate in Web documents.

## Let the red search box help you!

Click the filters pull-down menu in the red search box and select **Advanced Search**. Choose search connectors and decide whether to include or exclude search words. Make your selections and add them to your search.

## When more than one connector is used ...

Lexis Advance acts on the connectors in this order:

- OR
- Proximity connectors (W/n, /p, near/n, etc.): from left to right
- AND (You can use & instead of AND, except in legal phrases.)
- AND NOT

For example, you ENTER: *bankrupt! /25 discharg! AND student OR college OR education! /5 loan*.

First, Lexis Advance creates a unit of *student OR college OR education!*. Next *bankrupt! /25 discharg!* is joined, and Lexis Advance ties *loan* to the unit of *student OR college OR education!*. Finally AND (or &) operates last, joined the created two units. Thus: *(bankrupt! /25 discharg!) AND ((student OR college OR education!) /5 loan)*.

## Common legal phrases

The Lexis Advance service automatically recognizes many common legal phrases, e.g., *limited liability partnership*, *summary judgment*, and *search and seizure*. However, if you want to be sure any phrase you're searching is recognized, enclose it in quotation marks, i.e., ENTER: *"right to work"*.

Here's an overview of Lexis Advance commands and connectors and how they work:

Command/ Connector	Overview
!	<p><b>Child!</b> finds <b>child, children, childless, childish, etc.</b></p> <p>Used after word endings only. The word requires a minimum of three characters for the wildcard to be applied. Find the word root plus an unlimited number of additional characters.</p> <p>Note: Lexis Advance automatically finds common plural words, i.e., ending in s, es and ies.</p>
*	<p><b>When used as a suffix: Bank* is the same as Bank! The ! and * are equivalents. They will both replace 0 or more characters.</b></p> <p>Search results for <i>d*g</i> include <i>dog, Demming</i> and <i>digging</i>. <i>Do*g</i> will find <i>dog, doing</i> and <i>doug</i>.</p>
OR	<p><b>physician OR doctor</b></p> <p>Lexis Advance finds documents with either word or both words.</p>
AND (or &)	<p><b>bank*** AND deregulat!</b> <b>bank*** &amp; deregulat!</b></p> <p>Lexis Advance finds documents with BOTH words only. Words can be ANYWHERE in the same document, not necessarily close in context. When entering legal phrases that contain AND, e.g., "cease and desist order," use "and" because Lexis Advance is reading the phrase literally.</p>
W/n or near/n	<b>disparate W/10 impact or disparate near/10 impact</b> (Use a number with W/n or near/n)
W/p or /p	Converts to W/75
W/s or /s	Converts to W/25
W/seg or /seg	Converts to W/100
AND NOT	<p><b>rico AND NOT puerto</b></p> <p>Lexis Advance finds documents with "rico." Documents with any mention of "puerto"—anywhere in the document—will not be retrieved.</p>
ATLEASTn	<p>You must use a number and search words in parentheses with ATLEASTn.</p> <p>ENTER: <b>atleast5(obama AND putin AND oil)</b> and a Lexis Advance search will find documents with at least five mentions of each search word. You can use the OR and AND connectors with ATLEASTn.</p> <p>You can use the OR, AND and proximity connectors like W/n with ATLEASTn.</p>

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efficiently at [lexisnexis.com/advancesupport](http://lexisnexis.com/advancesupport).

Talk to a LexisNexis® Customer Support representative—  
live support virtually 24/7—at [800-543-6862](tel:800-543-6862).

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