Using search commands and connectors on Lexis Practice Advisor®

Lexis Practice Advisor® 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 Practice Advisor searches. Here’s what you need to know:

Lexis Practice Advisor® automatically interprets search commands
Just enter your words and commands in the Lexis Practice Advisor 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 Practice Advisor 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/50 or W/15 respectively.

Let the red search box help you!
Use the pre-search filters to select content types and narrow by topic. Make your selections and add them to your search.

When more than one connector is used ...
Lexis Practice Advisor acts on the connectors in this order:
- OR
- Proximity connectors (W/n, /p, near/n, etc.): from left to right
- AND
- AND NOT, NOT W/n

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

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

Common legal phrases
Lexis Practice Advisor automatically recognizes many common legal phrases, e.g., limited liability partnership, credit agreement, and promissory note. 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 Practice Advisor commands and connectors and how they work:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command/Connector</th>
<th>Overview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| !                 | **Law!** finds **law**, **lawyer**, **lawful**, **lawsuit**, etc.  
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. 
Note: Lexis Practice Advisor automatically finds common plural words, i.e., ending in s, es and ies. |
| *                 | **When used as a suffix: Law* is the same as Law! The ! and * are equivalents. They will both replace 0 or more characters.**  
Search results for *m include firm, from and freedom. Fo*m will find form, forum and foreman. |
| OR                | **attorney OR lawyer**  
Lexis Practice Advisor finds documents with either word or both words. |
| AND               | **law*** AND transacti!**  
Lexis Practice Advisor finds documents with BOTH words only. Words can be ANYWHERE in the same document, not necessarily close in context. |
| W/n or near/n     | **disparate W/10 impact or disparate near/10 impact** (Use a number with W/n or near/n)  
W/p or /p  
W/s or /s  
W/seg or /seg  
Converts to W/50  
Converts to W/15  
Converts to W/100 |
| NOT W/n           | You must use a number with NOT W/n. |
| NOT /n            | **rico NOT W/2 puerto** will find documents where “puerto” is mentioned, but not within two words of “rico.” The NOT W/n connector is less restrictive than AND NOT; unless you’re certain specific words must be totally excluded from your results, use NOT W/n instead of AND NOT. |
| ATLEASTn          | You must use a number and search words in parentheses with ATLEASTn.  
ENTER: **atleast5(real AND estate AND acquisition)** and a Lexis Practice Advisor search will find documents with at least five mentions of each search word. You can use the OR and AND connectors with ATLEASTn. You can use the OR, AND and proximity connectors like W/n with ATLEASTn. |

Get more tips for using Lexis Practice Advisor efficiently on our Resource Center.  
Talk to a LexisNexis® Customer Support representative—live support virtually 24/7—at 800-543-6862.  
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