

AUSSLIT: Australian Literature Gateway

Scope Notes AustLit: Australian Literature Gateway provides authoritative information on hundreds of thousands of creative and critical Australian literature works - published in a range of print and electronic sources - and on more than 77,000 Australian authors and literary organisations, from 1780 to the present day.	
Searching 1. Simple (for easy searches) 2. Basic searches (for searching on commonly used fields) 3. Advanced searching (for complex searches) http://www.austlit.edu.au/help/index#searchOptions	Default search is Keyword. Exact search is available in Basic and Advanced searching E.g. Love hate (retrieves 'love AND hate')
Results Mostly INDEX entries but FULL TEXT for critical works and reviews are being selectively and progressively added to AustLit from 2002.	
Boolean operators Always capitalise AND, OR, NOT as search term operators. Use parentheses () to group search terms. E.g. (<i>Beat NOT the Bones</i>) OR (" <i>Woman AND Child</i> ")	
Truncation (Wildcard) Characters Truncate with * E.g. Austral*, Use * as wildcard E.g. Edin*gh	
Field Searching <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Author, Title and Subject fields only drop down menu in the Simple Search2 Specialist subsets of the database (eg Children's literature or Multicultural Writers) available in Basic and Advanced searching3 Field limiting is available in Basic and Advanced (construct your own fields for limiting the search) For more information - http://www.austlit.edu.au/specialistDatasets and http://www.austlit.edu.au/help	
Spelling 1. Australian, British and American spelling E.g. color /colour 2. Use the Thesaurus. Click on http://www.austlit.edu.au/run?ex=ShowThes . Gives broader and narrower terms. 3. Phoenetic or fuzzy spelling can be used by putting the ! before the term E.g. !Smith for Smith or Smyth	

Stop words

'the', 'a', 'and', 'or' are the stop words unless used in capitals as Boolean operators

But you can use 'and', 'or', 'not' as general search words in the title, by using quotation marks around the title

E.g. "Beat not the Bones", "Woman and Child", "Australian or Not?"

Sorting

AustLit records are initially returned in **alphabetical** order for authors and organisations

Works are listed in descending first known publication date order

Records can be **resorted** by **Title, Book or Electronic resource**

Numbers and Dates

Both **Basic** and **Advanced** searches - **dates** are entered in **date fields** with examples given on the search screen

Capitalisation

Not case sensitive

Saving the Search

Email - **YES**

Print - **YES** - from the Browser

Save – **YES** - from the Browser

Sessional saving - **NO**

There are prompts at bottom of the search list - different outputs can be used html, tagged text, plain text; xml.

Finding more help

<http://www.austlit.edu.au/help>

<http://www.austlit.edu.au/help/searchTips>

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