

Ten Tips to Internet Searching

Byram Hills High School Library

revised September 25, 2008

Number 1

- **Know your search engine**

Only a portion of all websites are indexed by the best search engines

LYCOS

YAHOO!

Google™

Microsoft

Number 2

- Use multiple search engines or metacrawlers



Kart00

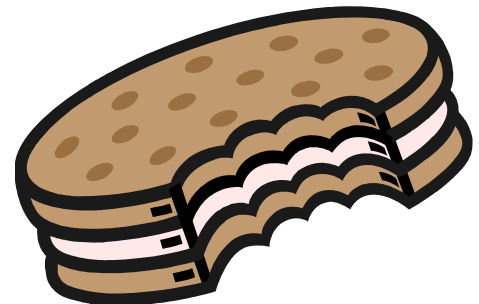


Number 3

- **Don't count on being anonymous.**

Don't forget about those cookies!

- A cookie is a very small text file placed on your hard drive by a web page server. It is essentially your identification card, and cannot be executed as code or deliver viruses. It is uniquely yours and can only be read by the server that gave it to you.
- Its purpose is to tell the server that you returned to that Web page.



Number 4

- **Search for sources, not just information.**

Look for people you can call (*or organizations you may contact*) to get more detailed information.



Number 5

- **Consider the source of what you find**

Just because it is in print, doesn't mean it's true.

Information can be typed incorrectly or copied from another source that was wrong. Or perhaps it is written just to be misleading.

DRUDGE REPORT

 **the ONION**



Number 6

- **Be prepared to spend some money to get the really good stuff.**



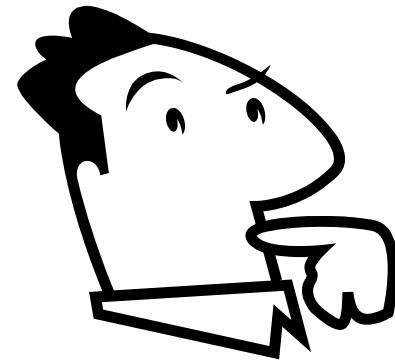
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



ProQuest

Number 7

- **Ask, "Is there any reason to believe what I want is out there?" BEFORE going on-line..**



Number 8

Don't use the Internet to do a database service's work.

ProQuest

 ScienceDirect

 Student Research Center
powered by EBSCOhost

 JSTOR®

McGraw-Hill's
ACCESS Science
Encyclopedia of Science & Technology Online

Number 9

- **Know your outcome.**

- Searching or surfing?
- Searching has an outcome in mind.
- Surfing implies enjoying the ride letting yourself be taken along where links lead you.
- Each has its purpose –
 - understand the difference



Number 10

- **Buy a kitchen timer.**

- If you don't watch yourself, you will spend hours looking for something that can't be found or you will end up surfing instead of searching.



Source

- Washington Researchers