A Super Searcher Shares 30 Search Tips

Mary Ellen Bates
Bates Information Services
mbates@BatesInfo.com

1. AltSearchEngines
   - Blog of alternative and niche search engines
   - Click the "Top 100" tab
   - Subscribe to RSS feed
   - Search using
     site:altsearchengines.com
   - AltSearchEngines.com

2. Keotag
   - Search across Web 2.0 sites
     - Technorati, Del.icio.us, Twitter, Google Blog Search and 14 more!
   - Not aggregated
   - Quick way to skim the buzz
   - Keotag.com
3. MSN's product reviews
   - Search for a specific brand
   - Compiles reviews from other sources
   - Great for tracking buzz
     - search.live.com

4. Google's new 'n' improved timelines
   - Creates a readable page
   - Easy to scan, identify trends
     - news.google.com/archivesearch

5. Watch for blended search results
   - Lower precision results, but more long-tail content, esp. for obscure topics
6. SearchCrystal
   - Meta-search engine on steroids
   - Compare search queries!
   - Shows overlap between terms
   - searchcrystal.com

7. Carrot2
   - Clustering on demand
   - with a choice of sorting algorithms
   - and a choice of search engines
   - Default is a meta-search engine
   - Can select other options
   - carrot2.org

8. Loki toolbar
   - Find location-dependent content
   - Based on IP address or nearby wifi signals
   - Tells you where you are now, locates on map
   - Search locally
   - Find a local ATM, Starbucks, etc., without knowing your address
   - Loki.com
9. CustomizeGoogle.com
   - Firefox fix for Google
   - Nice customization
     - removes ads
     - infinite scroll of results
     - numbers the results
     - lets you repeat search in other search engines
     - displays page icons in results
     - add links to archive.org, etc.

10. Google's Experimental Search
    - New way to see results
    - Add view:timeline or view:info to the search query
    - See results
      - in a timeline
      - with dates highlighted
      - with images featured(!)
      - highlighted on a map

11. SearchMash
    - Unbranded Google site
    - Cool interface
    - Results sorted by web page, images, blogs, videos, Wikipedia
    - Infinite scroll
    - Searchmash.com
12.
- Google date-limiting
- Advanced Search screen
  - Pull down menu: last 24 hours, last week
- Can also roll your own
  - add &as_qdr=dₙ to the SERP URL, where n is the number of days

13.
- DoubleTrust.net
- Compare Google and Yahoo search results
- Can "prefer" results from one or the other

14.
- I'd prefer this...
  - Search.live.com
  - Add prefer:word to query
    - Ranks these search results higher
15.
- MSN's misspelling-suggestion engine
  - adlab.msn.com/keymut/

16.
- Ask's maps
  - Both driving and walking directions
  - Takes local topography into account
  - maps.ask.com

17.
- Exalead.com
  - Use Exalead's NEAR/n operator
    - (solar OR sun) NEAR/3 power
18. Exalead supports true wild-card internal truncation
   - /colour/r/
     - ? means the preceding character or no character
   - /globali:ation/
     - . means exactly one character
   - /globali(z|s):ation/
   - /paral:+el+/
     - + means 1 or more of the preceding character

19. Use search engines’ quick-answer feature
   - Ask.com’s Smart Answers
   - Google’s OneBox
   - Yahoo’s Shortcuts
   - MSN’s Instant Answers

20. Gigablast
   - Limit to multiple sites
   - Gigabits clustering
   - Extremely cool complex search and ranking tools (see Help file for syntax)

   gigablast.com
21. SnapSearch
   - Easy to navigate
   - Visual search results
   - Can interact with site within Snap
   - Based on Gigablast
   - snap.com

22. PageBull
   - Metasearch tool
   - Entirely visual
   - Good for right-brained searchers
   - Pagebull.com

23. Factbites.com
   - Search results deliver small fact-bites
   - Max 30 results
   - Good for finding in-depth sites quickly
24. TextRunner
   - "Information mining"
   - Looks for assertions
   - www.cs.washington.edu/research/textrunner

25. NationMaster.com
   - Source for national stats
   - Cool tool for presenting graphical info
   - Data from WHO, World Bank, CIA World Factbook, World Resources Institute, UNESCO, OECD, etc.

26. TouchGraph
   - Finds relationships among URLs
     - Uses Google's "Similar pages" function
   - Finds related books in Amazon
     - Uses subject terms
27.
- Check out podcast lectures from
  - Yale
  - Princeton
  - UC Berkeley
  - Stanford
  - Johns Hopkins

28.
- Kosmix.com
  - Vertical search engine on steroids
- Excellent clustering
  - Health, Travel, Autos

29.
- LOUIS – Library Of Unified Information Sources
- Searchable documents from
  - Congressional Record, reports, hearings
  - Federal Register
  - Presidential Documents
  - GAO Reports
  - Bills & Resolutions
- louisdb.org
30. Watch public.resource.org for the full text of all US Supreme Court cases
   - Incomplete now
   - No finding / navigation tools
   - bulk.resource.org/courts.gov/c/US/

Mary Ellen offers two free email bulletins:
"Bates InfoTip" and "Info-Entrepreneur Tip of the Month"

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Also, check out her blog at Librarian Of Fortune.com

Mary Ellen Bates
Bates Information Services
www.BatesInfo.com
mbates@BatesInfo.com
303.772.7095