Patent Public Search - Basic Search overview



Quick Reference Guide 2023

In Patent Public Search's Basic Search, you can execute simple search queries.

Quick lookup

- 1. Enter a patent number or published patent application number in the Quick Lookup query box and select "Search." Utility Patent numbers must be entered as a minimum of seven digits, with leading zeroes if needed. For other types of patents, if the patent number is alphanumeric (e.g. letter prefix D for a design patent or PP for a plant patent), leading zeros may be needed after the letter prefix to meet the minimum requirement of seven digits. Utility patents numbered 10 million or greater will have eight digits (see **Figure 1**). Published patent application numbers must be 11 digits with the first four digits being the publication year.
- 2. Select "Search" to produce a results list of patents or published patent applications. The search results are displayed below Basic Search.



Figure 1. Quick lookup option

Basic search: Everything

Basic search provides two search query boxes that may be used to enter keywords. The "Everything" default will search all fields in patents and published patent applications. In the Basic Search, the word(s) in the search query boxes will be searched in all three databases (USPAT, USOCR, US-PGPUB). In **Figure 2**, "automobile" is entered in the first search query box and "sensors" is entered in the second query box.

- 1. Enter only one search word in each search query box. If only one query box is used, then only that word will be searched.
- 2. Select the operator from the drop-down Operator menu. Select "AND" if a resulting document must have both term 1 and term 2. Select "OR" if a resulting document must have either term 1 or term 2. Select "NOT" if a resulting document must have term 1 but not term 2.

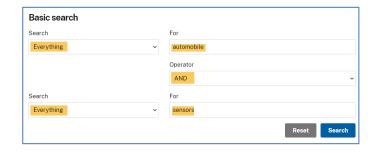


Figure 2. Basic Search option Everything [All fields]

3. Select "Search" to produce a results list of patents and published patent applications.

Basic search: Other possible fields

Search fields (searchable indexes) can focus a word or number search to designated areas of a publication record to create a results list of only documents with those words or numbers in a particular field or section of a document (see **Figure 3**). Both the drop-down menus for Field 1 and Field 2 provide the user a choice of fields:

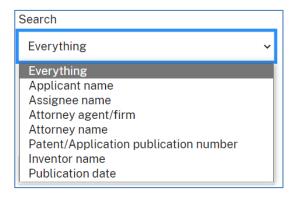


Figure 3. Field selection options

Search results

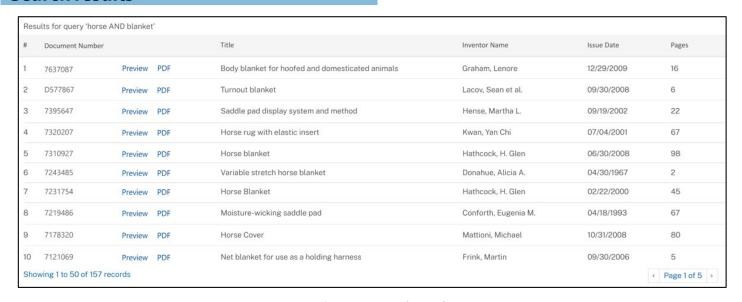


Figure 4. Search results

The search results provide the option of viewing only the front page of a document ("Preview") or downloading the entire document as a PDF file ("PDF"). The search results list displayed on the screen may be printed using your web browser's print function.

Advanced Search

Select "Go to advanced search" in the top right corner of the page to open up a new tab for Patent Public Search's Advanced Search. Searches and search results conducted in Basic Search will not transfer to Advanced Search, but the Basic Search session will remain open in its own tab for comparison.