

# Library: Truncation and Wildcard Symbols

| SOURCE   | TRUNCATION   | WILDCARD                                     |                                    |   | PHRASE   | PROXIMITY   | Other Notes |
|--|--|--|------------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------|
|  |  | Stands in for 0 or 1 characters              | Stands in for 0 or more characters | Stands in for exactly 1 character         |  |   |             |
| <b>OVID databases:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Medline</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Embase</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">EBM reviews</a> (incl. Cochrane)</li> <li>• <a href="#">HaPI</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">AGRICOLA</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">FSTA</a></li> </ul>   | <p>* or \$ or :</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>disease\$<br/>Child*<br/>Balance:</p> | <p>?</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>flavo?r</p>  |                                    | <p>#</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>wom#n</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No quotation marks needed for phrase searching</li> <li>• Stop words will be removed</li> </ul> | <p><b>adj/n</b><br/>(adj=adjacent and "n" is the number of words)</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>seat adj5 wheelchair</p> |             |
| <p><a href="#">PubMed</a></p>  | <p>*</p>   |  |                                    |   | <p>“XXX”<br/>Phrase searching prevents subject mapping</p>   |   |             |
| <b>EBSCOHOST databases:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Academic Search Premier</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cinahl</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Communication and Mass Media Complete</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Mental Measurement Yearbook (Buros)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">PsycInfo</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SPORTDiscus</a></li> </ul> | <p>*</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>disease*<br/>Child*<br/>Balance*</p>             | <p>#</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>flavor#r</p> | <p>*</p>                           | <p>?</p> <p><b>Example:</b><br/>wom?n</p> | <p>“XXX”</p>   | <p><b>N/n or W/n</b><br/>(N= Near, W= within and "n" is the number of words)</p>                                      |             |

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