Internet Search Engine Basics

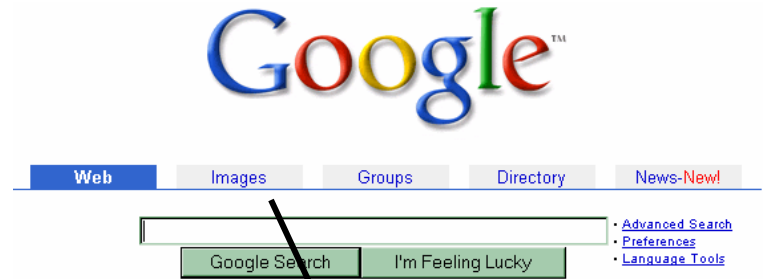While there are many search engines, most people can find everything they need with just a couple of different engines.
Google (http://www.google.com) is one of the most popular general search engines now. It has several tabs which can provide different types of searches.
Lycos Multimedia Search (http://multimedia.lycos.com/) is one of the best for finding audios, MP3's and videos.

Search by:
- *Webs* (the default for Google)— broadest possible search
- *Images*—great for finding pictures to download / insert (MS Word or PowerPoint)
- *Directories*—searching according to categories similar to Yahoo.com

Click the appropriate tab before typing in your keywords.

Multimedia Search (audio, MP3's, videos)

Lycos (http://multimedia.lycos.com/)

Click the media you are searching for. Next enter your keywords.

Keywords
The best way of narrowing your search is by always starting with two words instead of just one word. Two words usually return more specific web sites. Use quotation marks around both words (ex., "California flag") to have the engine search for both words together.
Also, it will be helpful to make a list of related words or synonyms to use in the search.
Finally, realize that some searches will not treat "California," "Californian," "California's," and "Californians" the same way, so try all the variations of the words you are searching for.

- **Use two words**
- **Use related words or synonyms**
- **Use every variation of the keyword**