



# The Basics of Searching HOMER (Music Emphasis)

## The University of Connecticut Libraries' Catalog

<http://homerweb.lib.uconn.edu>

HOMER lists books, scores, recordings, videos, and journals owned by all the UConn Libraries. This guide briefly outlines HOMER's Simple Search screen, with emphasis given to music. Beginners may wish to consult UConn's general guide, **How to Search HOMER (Brief Version)**.

### Consult Our *Finding Music Series*

- Get detailed explanations, numerous examples, and useful strategies.
- Guides #1 and #2 (**Prolific Author/Composer Search** and **Keyword Search**) are especially useful for music. Also read #5 (**Uniform Titles**) to learn how musical titles are entered in the catalog. This helps you browse the Prolific Author/Composer search and create effective Keyword searches.

### Which Search Do I Use?

To...	...Do This Search
Browse a composer's works (scores, sound, and video recordings) that UConn owns.	Prolific Author/Composer (enter last name only)
Mix terms (composer, title, instrument, performer, contents, subject headings, etc.).	Keyword—Boolean (or Advanced Search)
Browse items as they appear on the shelf.	Call Number
Browse by topic, genre, or instrument.	Subject Heading (for organized results) or Keyword—Boolean
Browse books or videos by title.	Title or Keyword--Boolean
Browse books by author, or find recordings featuring a performer or group.	Author (for organized results) or Keyword (more complete)
Identify journals owned by UConn (use separate indexes to identify article citations).	Journal Title (more precise) or Keyword (if not sure of terms)
Apply limits (e.g., date, format, language) to your search.	See below. Use only with Keyword or Title searches.

### Brief Explanation of Searches

ASK FOR THESE DETAILED GUIDES

*Punctuation and capitalization do not matter unless specified below.*

SEARCH TYPE	SUGGESTED USE	SEARCH TIPS	EXAMPLES	MORE INFO
<b>Author</b>	Use AUTHOR to find items by individuals or bodies (e.g., author, performer, illustrator, organization, etc.). <i>Best for books. For music, use <b>PROLIFIC AUTHOR/COMPOSER</b>.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter personal names, last name first (no comma needed).</li> <li>• Can add first initial or full name.</li> <li>• Type out ensemble or organization names.</li> <li>• To combine author and title, use KEYWORD--BOOLEAN.</li> </ul>	<i>shakespeare william palisca c hilliard ensemble</i>	How to Search HOMER
<b>Prolific Author/Composer</b>	Use <b>PROLIFIC AUTHOR/COMPOSER</b> to browse composers' works. <i>Highly RECOMMENDED for scores and recordings.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter composer's last name (and first initial/name if desired).</li> <li>• Do NOT enter the musical work.</li> <li>• The Uniform Titles guide explains how titles are arranged.</li> </ul>	<i>schubert mozart w bach johann s (not bach j s)</i>	Finding Music #1, 5
<b>Call Number</b>	Use CALL NUMBER to browse items as they appear on the shelf.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and scores: type number exactly. OK to truncate.</li> <li>• AV: Do not type the entire call number. Type only the 1st element ("mcd," "lp," or "mvt"), then the 1st letter that follows.</li> </ul>	Book: <i>ml 410 c455 b3</i> Compact disc: <i>mcd s (NOT mcd s87 sym1)</i>	Finding Music #3
<b>Journal Title</b>	Use JOURNAL TITLE to find titles of journals, magazines, or newspapers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Omit beginning articles such as a, an, the, le, la.</li> <li>• Excludes journal articles. (Use an index to find citations.)</li> </ul>	<i>journal of music theory choral journal</i>	How to Search HOMER

## Brief Explanation of Searches (Cont'd)

SEARCH TYPE	SUGGESTED USE	SEARCH TIPS	EXAMPLES	FOR MORE INFO
<b>Keyword--Boolean</b>	Use KEYWORD--BOOLEAN when you are unsure of the exact subject, author, or title, or when you want to combine search terms, e.g., title, composer, performer, format, etc.  <i>RECOMMENDED for scores and recordings. See separate handout for music keyword strategies.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use “and” between keywords to combine terms.</li> <li>• Use “or” to search for synonyms, different spellings, abbreviations, and related terms.</li> <li>• Enclose adjacent words in quotes.</li> <li>• Use the truncation symbol ? to find various word endings.</li> <li>• Use parentheses help group concepts.</li> </ul>	<i>rodgers and carousal theater or theatre</i> <i>“london symphony orchestra” sonat? = sonata sonatas sonaten sonatina sonatinas</i> <i>haydn and sonata? and (piano or harpsichord)</i>	Finding Music #2
<b>Subject</b>	Use SUBJECT to find items <i>about</i> a specific topic, or to find music for specific instruments or genres.  <i>For scores and recordings, if you already know the composer or musical work, use the Prolific Author/Composer or Keyword—Boolean search.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For information <i>about</i> composers or their works, just type the last name, then browse the resulting list.</li> <li>• If you do not know the subject heading, or to combine subject terms, try KEYWORD--BOOLEAN instead.</li> </ul>	<i>oboe (music, books about)</i> <i>symphonies (books about)</i> <i>mahler (books about life and works; do NOT type works, e.g., mahler symphonies)</i>	Finding Music #4
<b>Title</b>	Use TITLE if you know the title of a book, journal, or video.  <i>Not recommended for scores or recordings.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Omit beginning articles such as a, an, the, le, la.</li> <li>• If you are unsure of the exact title or of the first few words of a title, use KEYWORD--BOOLEAN instead.</li> </ul>	<i>new grove dictionary (instead of the new grove)</i> <i>jazz the rough guide</i>	Basic HOMER Guide

### Search Limits

Search limits are possible when doing Keyword or Title searches. They do *not* work with Author, Prolific Author/Composer, and Subject searches.

**Method A: “Limit to”** (drop-down menu). User can select one frequently used limit: a UConn campus, English language, or format.

**Method B: “Set More Limits”** (button). Includes all limits available through HOMER: publication date, library location, language, format, material type, and publication place. Allows multiple limits. User can set limits for an entire session.

**Method C:** When doing KEYWORD--BOOLEAN searches, you can add **and (mcd or lp)** or **not (mcd or lp)** to your searches. This tells HOMER to “retrieve only CDs or LPs,” or “exclude CDs and LPs.” We do *not* recommend adding **and music** or **and score**. Type **and video?** to specify videorecordings.

Examples:      mozart and nozze and (lp or mcd)      *Finds LPs or music compact discs of Mozart’s Nozze di Figaro. Type **mcd** to find CDs only.*  
                   mozart and nozze not (lp or mcd)      *Excludes LPs or music compact discs, but finds musical scores, videos, or books about the opera.*  
                   mozart and nozze and video?      *Finds videotapes or videodiscs of Mozart’s Nozze di Figaro.*

### Save, Print, or Email

Use the **Save, Print, and Email Options** box at the bottom of any record display to save, print, or email records. See **How to Search HOMER** for instructions.

*Consult a music librarian if you do not find what you need.*