Power Search Using Command Codes

POWER SEARCH

TI   title
AU   author
SU   subject
KW author, title, subject, summary
SE   series (if materials have been cataloged with series information)

Combine any of these field codes (TI, AU, SU, KW, SE) with the codes for assigned branch, collection, circulation status, or publication date. (Codes are listed on pages 3-5 of this document.)

If you are looking for individual items such as what is available at a specific branch, use the **Item Record** search. Otherwise, use the **Bibliographic Record** search to find titles and place holds. Always verify that there are items to fill holds; some records have a "withdrawn" status but still appear in Polaris.

Examples:

- Picture books, beginning readers and easy beginning readers (duck books) about friends who are sad. You want books that are currently in the branch at FX.
    - Find tool - Item record search – Power Search
    - Insert the terms you want in between the quotation marks and add additional criteria as needed
    - KW ALL "sad friend*" AND AB=5 AND COL={21,22,23} AND CS=1
    - Or, because you can do things multiple ways in Polaris, you can delete **the *KW ALL* ""** string and type your own search. You don't need the quotes around sad and friend in the following search:
    - KW=sad friend* AND AB=FX AND COL={jp, jr, duck} AND CS=in

- Star Wars - children's chapter books, series or graphic novels anywhere in the system
    - Find tool – Bibliographic search – Power search
    - KW ALL "star wars" AND COL={2,16,18} is the same as KW=star wars AND COL={jfic, jgraphic, jseries}

- Adult fiction books written by James Patterson and published after 2021
    - Find tool – Bibliographic search – Power search
    - AU=james patterson AND PD>2021 AND COL=1

- Children's nonfiction science experiments or projects about the environment
    - Find tool – Bibliographic search – Power search
    - SU ANY "project* experiment*" AND KW=environment* AND COL=5

- Adult fiction books currently "in" at BC on the new books shelf that were published before 2024
    - Find tool – Item record search – Power search
    - SHELF=new AND PD<2024 AND AB=12 AND COL=1 AND CS=1

- Nonfiction books about the history of Rome currently on the shelves at FX
    - Find tool – Item record search – Power search
    - SU ALL "rome history" AND AB=5 AND CS=1 and COL=4 is the same as
    - SU=rome history and AB=fx AND CS=in AND COL=nf

- Harry Potter books - either juvenile or young adult fiction - currently "in" at TY
    - Find tool – Item record search – Power search
    - TI ALL "harry potter" AND COL={2,3} AND CS=1 AND AB=11 is the same as
    - TI=harry potter AND COL={jfic, yfic} AND CS=in AND AB=ty

GENERAL TIPS:

- Capitalization is optional.
- Combine nearby branch codes if your customer is willing to drive to nearby locations.
    - Example: AB={5,22,23} or AB= {fx,ok, ph} looks for items at FX or OK or PH
- Combine collection codes such as jp, jr and duck books in COL={21,22,23} or COL={jp, jr, duck}
- PD Publication date – PD>=2024 finds books published in 2024 and later.
    - TI=dummies AND PD>=2024 finds books with dummies in the title and published in 2024 or later.
    - You could also enter TI=dummies AND PD>2023 and get the same results.
    - (Be aware that there is a 9999 pub date for some items.)
- There is a code for digital which includes databases but not Overdrive books.
    - Use AU=overdrive to find eBooks, eAudioboks and eMagazines that are available from the OverDrive collection

SEARCHING TIPS:

- Use ANY to search any of the words in the string of text. ANY is an "OR" search.
    - TI ANY "harry potter fire" finds 2527 titles with either harry, potter or fire in the title (bib record search)
- Use ALL to search all of the words in the string of text. ALL is an "AND" search.
    - TI ALL "harry potter fire" finds 13 results with all the words harry, potter, fire in the title (bib record search). Shortcut: TI=harry potter fire
- Use == for an exact search (only for a particular word)
    - TI=="pigeon" finds *The Pigeon* by John Galsworthy but not *The Pigeon Spy* by Terry Deary
- Use ==* to search for a phrase at the beginning of the title
    - TI=="pigeon*" finds *The Pigeon finds a hot dog* but not *Don't let the pigeon drive the bus*

SYMBOLS

<   Less than
<= Less than or equal to
<> Not equal to
=   Equal to
>   Greater than
>= Greater than or equal to

AB (Assigned branch)/CIL (Check-in Location) | CS (Circulation Status) | SHELF (shelf location)

AB (Assigned Branch) / CIL (Check-in Location)	CS (Circulation status)	SHELF (Shelf location)
Example: AB=20 searches items assigned to Lorton	Example: CS=11 searches Withdrawn items	Example: Shelf="Consumer" searches for items designated on Consumer shelves such as Consumer Reports
Example: CIL=8 searches items checked in at Pohick	Claim Missing Parts - 21	
	Claim Never Had - 9	
	Claim Returned - 8	Possible locations
AD - 29	Delivery - 12	New
AS - 27	Econtent External Loan - 22	Display
BCD - 13	Held - 4	Atlas Stand
BC - 12	In - 1	Consumer
CE - 3	In-process - 15	Oversize
CH - 4	In-repair -14	Office
FX - 5	In-transit - 6	Information Desk
DM - 14	Lost - 7	Circulation Desk
GM - 7	Missing - 10	Default location is "none"
GF - 15	On-order - 13	
HE - 16	Out - 2	
JM - 17	Out- ILL - 3	
KP - 18	Returned - ILL - 17	
KN - 19	Routed - 18	
LO - 20	Transferred - 5	
MW - 21	Unavailable - 16	
OK - 22	Withdrawn - 11	
PH-23		
PO - 8		
RR - 9		
RB - 24		
SH - 10		
TJ - 25		
TY - 11		
VR - 6		
WW - 26		
TE - 28		
ZZ - 30 (Digital Library)		

Use the code COL if you want to limit by collection.

Example: to limit by adult fiction, you would enter COL=FIC or COL=1 (FYI: no need to capitalize.)

Adult Collection (COL)	Abbreviation	Numeric Code
Adult Fiction	FIC	1
Adult Graphic Novel	GRAPHIC	15
Adult Biography	BIO	7
Adult Nonfiction	NF	4
Adult DVDs	DVD	30
Adult CDs	CD	27
Book Discussion Kits	BKGRPKIT	19
Digital *(this finds database titles, not OverDrive books)*	ONLINE	59 (Use **AU=overdrive** for eBooks/eAudiobooks)
English Language Learning	ESL	10
Fairfax County Docs	**"FX-DOCS" (**Must use the "")	50
Grants	GRANTS	58
Hotpick	HOTPICK	11
Large Print Fiction	LPFIC	13
Large Print Nonfiction	LPNF	14
Lectures	AVLECT	33
Local Reference Collection	LOCALREF	49
Magazines	MAG	43
Microform	MICRO	51
Newspapers	NEWS	46
Paperback romance	ROMANCE	12
Reference (REF)	REF	47
Korean - Adult	KO	40
Spanish - Adult Fiction	SPFIC	34
Spanish - Adult Nonfiction	SPNF	35
Vietnamese - Adult	VIE	38
Virginia Room Rare Books	VRARE	54
Virginia Room Reference	VREF	55
Library Professional Development	PROF_DEV	57
TE Evaluation	TEEVAL	60
ILL	ILL	61
Library of Things	STUFF	52

Juvenile Collection (COL)	Abbreviation	Numeric Code
Beginning Easy Readers	DUCK	23
Boardbooks	BOARD	20
Children's CDs	JCD	28
Children's Biography	JBIO	8
Children's book with cd	JUVKIT	25
Children's DVD	JDVD	31
Children's fiction	JFIC	2
Children's graphic novel	JGRAPHIC	16
Children's large print	LPJFIC	62
Children's magazine	JMAG	44
Children's nonfiction	JNF	5
Children's reference	JREF	48
Children's series *(no longer valid)*	~~JSERIES~~	~~18~~
Early Literacy	EARLYLIT	56
Easy Readers	JR	22
Holiday Picture Books	HOLIDAY	26
Picture books	JP	21
Read-alongs	READALNG	24
Children's Korean	JKO	41
Spanish Children's Fiction	SPJFIC	36
Spanish Children's Nonfiction	SPJNF	37
Children's Vietnamese	JVIE	39
Children's World language bags	JLANGBAG	42
Children's Lauchpads (tablets)	JTAB	65
Teen Collection (COL)	**Abbreviation**	**Numeric Code**
Teen Audiobooks	YCD	29
Teen Biography	YBIO	9
Teen DVDs	YDVD	32
Teen Fiction	YFIC	3
Teen Large Print fiction	LPYFIC	63
Teen Graphic Novel	YGRAPHIC	17
Teen Magazines	YMAG	45
Teen Nonfiction	YNF	6
Spanish Teen fiction	SPYA	64