



Types of Websites

- **.com (Commercial)**
- **.edu (Education)**
- **.gov (Government)**
- **.mil (Military)**
- **.net (Networking Organizations)**
- **.org (Nonprofits & Associations)**
- **New Ones Proposed -- .firm, .arts & .web**

Research Uses of the Internet

- **Current - Not Retrospective Information**
 - **Company homepages, news, financials**
 - **Government sites, federal & state**
 - **Finding people**

Where to Start

- **Define the subject matter**
- **Determine likely organization with answer**
- **General or Legal**
- **Use Directory (Findlaw, Yahoo, etc.)**
- **Go straight to a site that may have the information (guess the URL)**
- **Have URL - Just type and go**
- **Search engines for unique words and phrases**

Search Engines

v **Altavista**

- **Powerful, large database, use +, default fuzzy OR, can truncate with *, use NEAR, OR, AND NOT**
 - **<http://www.altavista.digital.com>**

v **Hotbot**

- **Options, all words, any words, exact phrase, person, URL - use when the others fail**
 - **<http://www.hotbot.com>**

v **Excite**

- **Simple searches, use AND, OR +**
 - **<http://www.excite.com>**

Search Engines Don't Find --

- v **Adobe PDF and formatted file content**
- v **Content from a site requiring a login**
- v **CGI output data - from forms**
- v **Protected pages**
- v **Intranets; pages without links**