Boolean Search Tips

Boolean searches use operators to narrow or broaden your search results for documents, plans, and specs.

Notes:
- AND, OR, NOT, and NEAR must be written in all caps.
- Quotation marks and parentheses must be closed.

AND
Looking for results that include two or more search terms.
Example: *CertainTeed AND roof*

OR
Looking for results that include any or all of the search terms.
Allows for a max of 1000 OR operators in a search.
Example: *concrete OR tile OR landscape*

NOT
Looking for results that exclude the search term written after "NOT".
Example: *concrete NOT tile*

NEAR
Looking for results that include the search terms within 25 words of one another.
Allows for a max of 100 NEAR operators in a search.
Example: *concrete NEAR tile*
Add a number after "NEAR" to change the range of searched words.
Example: *concrete NEAR50 tile* returns results where concrete and tile are within 50 words of each other.

" " Quotation marks
Looking for results that include multiple words together on the same page.
Search terms that are adjacent but on separate pages are not included in results.
Example: *"reinforced concrete"*

* Asterisk/Wildcard
Looking for results that include other possible endings for search terms.
Allows for a max of 50 wildcards in a search.
Asterisk must be typed at the end of the search term.
Must have at least 3 characters before asterisk.
Example: *roof** returns results including roof, roofs, roofing, roofed, roofer.

( ) Parentheses
Rules outside of parentheses apply to everything within parentheses.
Example: *(concrete OR clay OR masonry) AND (bridge OR viaduct)* returns results that include at least one search term from the first set of parentheses and at least one search term from the second set of parentheses.

OTHER SEARCH TIPS:

Special Characters
Omit special characters from the search.
Example special characters: *& , ! @ # $ % ^ - / \ + = ~ < > ? .*

Combining operators in a search
AND, OR, NOT, and NEAR need at least one search term between them in a search.
Example: *concrete AND tile NOT landscape*

Autocorrect
Corrects most common errors.
Example: Multi-word searches without quotation marks are treated as if they have them and lowercase operators are treated as if they are written in all caps.