Confluence Search Syntax

Here's how you can refine your search. Confluence will ignore common words like "the" unless you place your query within quotes.

**Exact phrase search**

To search for content that contains the exact phrase "chalk and cheese"

```
"chalk and cheese"
```

Confluence will ignore common words *(stop words)* like "and" above. *This is* the default list of stop words used by lucene. Please cast your vote towards this improvement request.

For eg:

1. Searching for "The One" returns all pages containing "One" because "The" is a stop word.
2. Searching for "Cheese One" would only return pages in which "One" appears as the first word (other than stop words) after "Cheese". So it would return "Cheese for One" or "Cheese to One" or "Cheese One". It would not match "One Cheese" or "Cheese Flamingo One"

**Or Search**

To search for content that contains one of the terms, "chalk" OR "cheese"

```
chalk OR cheese
```

**And Search**

To search for content that contains both the terms "chalk" AND "cheese"

```
chalk AND cheese
```

**Not search**

To search for content that contains "chalk" but NOT "cheese"

```
chalk NOT cheese
```

**Excluded Term search**

Similar to the NOT search, to search for content that contains "chalk" and "butter" but NOT "cheese"

```
chalk butter -cheese
```

**Grouping Search**

To search for content that MUST contain "chalk" but CAN contain either "cheese" or "butter" use the search:

```
(cheese OR butter) AND chalk
```

**Title Search**

To search for content with "chalk" in its title, where *title* is the field keyword.

```
title:chalk
```

**Wild card searches**

**Single character**

To search for "butter" or "batter" you can use the search:

```
b?tter
```

To search for "chicken" or "chickpea" you can use the search:

```
chick*
```
Wildcards can be used anywhere within a word, except at the very beginning. For example:

```
*chick
```

is an invalid search term.

**Multiple characters**

To search for “chick” or “chickpea”:

```
c*c*
```

You can also combine search characters to get the exact word. For example the search term below will return “chick” yet not “chickpea”:

```
c*c?
```

**Case Sensitivity in wildcard searches**

Since the fix for CONF-13846 Confluence is case sensitive for wildcard searches.

You should note that all the example searches given previously search across the default set of fields which are stored as lower case and therefore all searches of that style should be given lower case search terms (as shown in the examples).

However, if you were to search one of the case sensitive fields, such as 'content-name-untokenized' the case of your search term would need to match the document you are searching for.

**Proximity searches**

This search ensure that the two words specified must be within a certain number of words of each other to be included.

```
"octagon post"-1
```

will return “Octagon blog post”.

```
"octagon post"-0
```

is an invalid search term.

**Range search**

Searches for names that fall alphabetically within the specified range.

```
[adam to ben]
```

Note: You can't use the **AND** keyword inside this statement.

**Fuzzy search**

This search looks for words spelled similarly.

To search for octagon, if unsure about spelling:

```
octogan~
```

will correctly return “octagon”

**Combined search**

You can also combine various search terms together:

```
o?tag* AND past~ AND ("blog" AND "post")
```
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