Searching in the Densho Digital Repository (DDR) works just like searching in Google. You can do basic searches by entering any key words or phrases. These searches are usually enough to find what you are looking for. However, if a basic search is not enough there are a number of tricks to pull more specific results.

**Search Names or Phrases**
Use *quotation marks* (" ") to search for exact names or phrases
- "Joe Watanabe"
- "Tule Lake reunion"

**Include in Search**
Use a *plus sign* (+) to make sure a search term is present in a record. This operator only works on the term directly on the right, no spaces
- +school Minidoka

Use *AND* to narrow a search. It will only find records that have both search terms present
- Manzanar AND school

**Broaden Search**
Use *OR* to broaden a search. This operator will find records with either term or both terms
- garden OR sports

**Exclude in Search**
Use a *minus sign* (-) to exclude the search term from the results. This operator only works on the term directly to the right
- Citizen -Pacific

Use *NOT* to exclude a term from the search. It will not find any records with that term present
- Citizen NOT Pacific

**Complex Search**
Use groupings with *parentheses* () in combination with search operators (" ", +, -, AND, OR, NOT) to create complex searches
- (Manzanar AND barracks) OR ("Tule Lake" AND barracks)
  - This search will find any records that contain both Manzanar and barracks or records that contain Tule Lake and barracks,
- ((Hirabayashi OR Watanabe OR Yamamoto) AND (NOT Gordon NOT Bill NOT Steve))
  - This search will find any records with the last names Hirabayashi, Watanabe, or Yamamoto but exclude records with the first names Gordon, Bill, and Steve