

Wildcard (?) and Truncation (*) Symbols

Use the wildcard and truncation symbols to create searches where there are unknown characters, multiple spellings or various endings. Neither the wildcard nor the truncation symbol can be used as the first character in a search term.

- The *wildcard* is represented by a question mark (?). To use the wildcard, enter your search terms and replace each unknown character with a ?. EBSCO*host* finds all citations of that word with the ? replaced by a letter.

For example, type **ne?t** to find all citations containing **neat**, **nest** or **next**. EBSCO*host* does not find net because the wildcard replaces a single character.

- *Truncation* is represented by an asterisk (*). To use truncation, enter the root of a search term and replace the ending with an *. EBSCO*host* finds all forms of that word.

For example, type **comput*** to find the words **computer** or **computing**

About the CINAHL Database

CINAHL®, the Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature, provides indexing and abstracting for over 1,600 current nursing and allied health journals and publications dating back to 1982 and contains over 700,000 records. Offering complete coverage of English-language nursing journals and publications from the National League for Nursing and the American Nurses' Association, this database covers nursing, biomedicine, health sciences librarianship, alternative/complementary medicine, consumer health and 17 allied health disciplines. In addition, CINAHL offers access to health care books, nursing dissertations, selected conference proceedings, standards of practice, educational software, audiovisuals and book chapters. CINAHL is now a "full text database". This database also provides full text for 56 journals plus legal cases, clinical innovations, critical paths, drug records, research instruments, clinical trials.

