

Mygateway.info

There are three main search situations

1. 'Normal' Search engines – e.g. Google, that are limited in what they can find by searching (only retrieve indexed and/or available to the public data)
2. The Invisible Web - not indexed but available - not found by search engines (includes mainly free databases)
3. Mygateway.info - maybe found, but not accessible by search engines (they include paid databases that fortunately WCC provides through EBSCO to WCC Library card holders).

This workshop's objective is to introduce you to mygateway.info - [Mygateway.info homepage](#), a Wellington City Council (WCC) Library resource. You can search across thousands of commercial databases, subjects and articles on a range of topics, browse online magazines and newspapers, or link to a site that has the answers you need. This outstanding collection is free to all who have a WCC library card. Sheila will cover the NZ collections and Alan will guide you around the international resources. This information available is not, generally, found by search engines. A summary image can be viewed [here](#).

Many users have the expectation that they can locate anything on the World Wide Web by using e.g. Google or Yahoo or Ask.com. As powerful as these search engines are, they do not index everything on the World Wide Web. In fact, search engines index less than 10% of the entire web! That remaining 90% is called the "Invisible Web", or in other words, "The Cloaked Web" or "The Deep Web". **This is the massive content that is publicly available, but hidden from regular search engines.**

Indeed, this is a tough concept to grasp - that billions of web pages cannot be found by Google. But it's true, billions of pages are beyond the abilities of search engine cataloguing. The robot "spiders" which scan and catalogue the World Wide Web are limited... they cannot see nor index everything.

To better visualize this concept, let's start with some size estimates from Google.com, Yahoo.com, Cyberatlas, and MIT. As at 2007:

- **Google.com indexes 12.5 billion public web pages.**
- **71 billion static web pages** are publicly-available. These pages can easily be found by Google and other search engines. (e.g. www.honda.com, www.australia.gov.au)
- **6.5 billion static pages are hidden from the public.** As private intranet content, these are the corporate pages that are only open to employees of specific companies. (e.g. employees.honda.com, secure.australia.gov.au)
- **220+ billion database-driven pages are completely invisible to Google.** These invisible pages are not the regular web pages you and I can make. Rather, these are dynamic database reports that exist only when called from large databases (e.g. custom online car quotes, government discussion on taxation).

Google, considered the best search database today, can only catalogue a fraction of this monstrous content. Even with electronic spiders to catalogue millions of web pages each week, Google current indexes only 12.5 billion out of the 220+ billion pages out there...less than 6% of all available internet content.

So if Google only catalogues 6% of the World Wide Web, and other search engines catalogue even less, then where is the remaining 90% of web content hidden? [That's where the "Invisible Web" begins...](#)

What we want to guide you through is a very small part of that 'Invisible Web' using Mygateway.info.

One tip to remember when you get into the Mygateway .info page, to stop you getting lost, is to look at the top left of the page 'breadcrumb' e.g. [Home](#) > [Mygateway.info homepage](#) > [Dictionaries & Encyclopedias](#). To get back to its home page click [Mygateway.info homepage](#) otherwise you will get lost!