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Search Logic

Boolean search strings are all about sets. Think of each keyword as having a "set" of results that are connected with it. These sets can be combined to produce a different "set" of results. You can also exclude certain "sets" from your results by using the NOT modifier. Start building the search by chunking the keywords into sets by job title, skills, and action words that can be used to express the job.

Recruiter processes your search terms from left to right, but it processes all the Boolean AND operators before processing any Boolean OR operators. To change this order, group synonyms or terms that belong together with parentheses. Anything enclosed with parentheses is evaluated first.

Parentheses

The statement in parentheses — "project manager" OR PM — is processed first. The results will include one or both of those different expressions of the job title. The term budgeting is then processed, resulting in profiles that must contain either terms "project manager" or PM, along with budgeting.

Constructing the search string this way ensures the search is expanded to include the synonyms for the job title, while also ensuring that the skill budgeting appears on any and all of those profiles.

("project manager" OR PM) AND budgeting



Without Parentheses

If the parentheses are omitted, then the AND operation would be processed first, meaning your results would be restricted to those profiles that only include PM and budgeting together. The search is then also expanded to include "project manager." However, profiles with the term "project manager" would not be required to also have budgeting.

As you can see, the results from the search string without parentheses would not be precisely targeted.

"project manager" OR PM AND budgeting



