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Alternative spellings and word endings

Why bother to search for alternative spellings?

Many of the databases that we use are American (such as the EBSCO or Firstsearch databases), and will therefore use American spellings in the subject headings, so if you don't search for both English and American spellings, you'll miss relevant records.

How do I do it?

Use * (star or asterisk) or ? (question mark) in place of the letter that is different or missing eg:

counsel*ing behavio*r

Counsel?ing behavio?r

This finds counselling or counseling and behaviour or behavior.

Everything out on loan?

Place a hold to make sure you get a copy.

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