Add the MIT Search Box to your site

Add a Simple Search Box

You can add a search box to your website to help visitors find content on your site. You can restrict the search to a specified directory or search the entire MIT website. The search box will look and behave like this:

1. Insert the following HTML into your web page where you want the search box to appear (parameters in bold can be customized):

   ```html
   <div><form method="get" action="http://search.mit.edu/search">
   <input type="text" name="q" size="32" maxlength="255" value="" />
   <input type="submit" name="btnG" value="Search" />
   <input type="hidden" name="site" value="mit" />
   <input type="hidden" name="client" value="mit" />
   <input type="hidden" name="output" value="xml_no_dtd" />
   <input type="hidden" name="ie" value="UTF-8" />
   <input type="hidden" name="as_dt" value="i" />
   <input type="hidden" name="as_sitesearch" value="your_URL" />
   </form></div>
   ``

   An example of the `your_URL` format would be `web.mit.edu/newsoffice` or `itinfo.mit.edu`. Do not use a final slash on your URL.

2. Customize the following parameters:
   - **name="q" size="32"**
     Sets the width (in number of characters) of the search box. You can change the size to suit your site’s layout, but don’t change the `maxlength` value.
   - **name="btnG" value="Search"**
     The text that appears on the search button. (e.g., "Search News Office")
   - **name="as_sitesearch" value="your_URL"**
     Searches will only include pages in the specified directory e.g., `name="as_sitesearch" value="web.mit.edu/newsoffice"`
     - You must specify the complete canonical name of the host server followed by the path of the directory.
     - E.g., `web.mit.edu/newsoffice` not `web/newsoffice`
     - If the ("/") character is at the end of the web directory path specified, then only files within that directory will be searched and files in sub-directories will not be considered.
     - E.g.,
       - `web.mit.edu/newsoffice` to include sub-directories
       - `web.mit.edu/newsoffice` to exclude sub-directories
   - **as_sitesearch** allows you to specify one directory (and all its sub-directories) as the domain to be searched; you cannot specify multiple disparate directories using this option. If your site spans multiple sites or directories, consider setting up your own Google Custom Search Engine (CSE).
   - If you want the search feature on your site to search the entire MIT website, delete the `as_sitesearch` and `as_dt` parameters.

Related Links

- Adding a Search Box to your MIT website