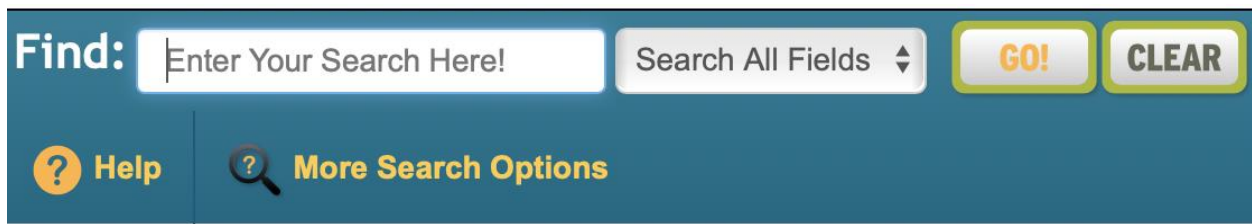


Tech Coach Corner – Online Card Catalog: Search Refinements

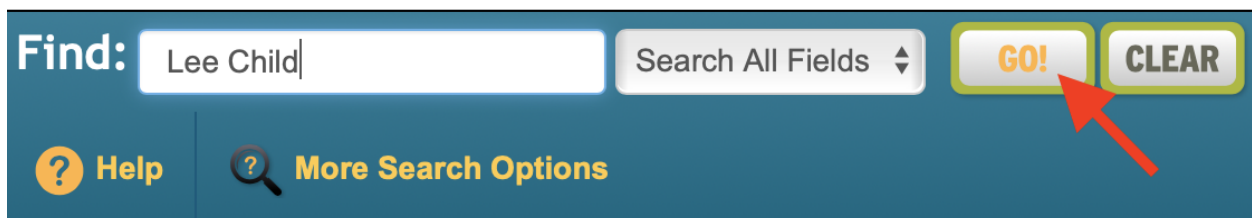
by LTCL Coach, Bryan Smith

Previously, we reviewed [how to log in to the online card catalog in order to manage reserves and renewals](#) and [how to search for a book](#). In this week’s tech coach column, we will talk about how to refine your search results, aka, “I don’t want to wade through a list of 280 results!”

I’m still thinking of taking that planned vacation I mentioned, and as you know by now, my favorite mindless reads are from author Lee Child. In the last Online Card Catalog column, you’ll remember that our first step is to [log in to the online card catalog](#) at [laketravislibrary.org](#) and then moving the cursor to the search box in the top left corner where it says “Enter Your Search Here!”



In this search box, I type in the author’s name, Lee Child and then click the “GO!” button to the right of the search box.



And in this case, I get a whopping 280 matches – WooHoo? Wait a minute... I don't want to scroll through 280 matches. Here's where the "Search Refinements" are going to help me. If I click on the "Material Type" menu, I can see different types of materials like "Audio" for audio books, "DVD"s and "Fiction" which is what I select:

Search Refinements

Current Refinements
281 rows in main search.

- Require Material type: Fiction ✕

37 rows shown after refinements.

Add Refinement

Require ▾

Keyword	Add
Availability	▾
Medium	▾
Downloadable	▾
Material type	▾
Language	
Copyright Year	
Authors	
Subjects	
Series	
Forms	

Material type dropdown menu:

- Audio (21)
- Beginning Reader (1)
- DVD (12)
- ✓ Fiction
- Juvenile (9)
- J Audio (1)
- Board Books (1)
- Picture Books (12)
- Large Print (12) (2)
- NF Juvenile (5)
- Biography (1)
- 300 - 399 (1)
- 800 - 899 (2)
- 922 - 999 (1)
- Chapter Book (1)
- TV (1)

Summary:

- Fiction (34)
- Politics and government (1)

Refine Search

Whew... much better. I now see that the library has 37 books that match my search. But I also see that many of these are not currently available. So, I now continue to refine my search. Since I want to get a book in the next few days, I next click on the "Availability" menu and I see these options:

Search Refinements

Current Refinements
281 rows in main search.

- Require Material type: Fiction ✕

37 rows shown after refinements.

Add Refinement

Require ▾

Keyword Add

Availability Available anywhere (29)
 Available at Main (27)
 Available at Bookmobile (1)
 Not available anywhere (8)

Medium

Downloadable

Material type

Language

Copyright Year 1954 ▾ — 2020 ▾ Add



Refine Search ▼

I want to see what's available for pickup at the library, so I select "Available at Main" and see that now I only have 27 book that match my search.

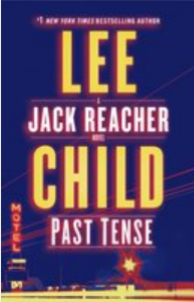
OK, one last refinement... I've read almost all of his books, so next, I want to add another refinement of recent books, so I set the "Copyright Year" to 2018-2020:

Copyright Year 2018 ▾ — 2020 ▾ Add

Perfect... I now see two recently published books by Lee Child that are books that are available at the library:

Cover on	Match ↑	Location	Label	Title	Author	Available		Total	©Date
						Main	Bus		
	100	F CHILD		Past tense: a Jack Reacher novel	Child, Lee	1	0	1	2018
	100	NEW F CHILD		Blue moon	Child, Lee	1	0	3	2019

If I click on one of these, I can then "Reserve this Item" for pick up.



This item is currently on the shelf.

[Reserve this item](#) [Bookmark this item](#) [Print record](#) [Save record](#) [Permalink](#)

Title:	Past tense: a Jack Reacher novel Lee Child.
Author:	Child, Lee
Location:	F CHILD
Extra Data:	Annotations Biography Excerpt
Reviews:	Review this title!
Subjects:	Family secrets — Fiction Murder — Investigation — Fiction Reacher, Jack (Fictitious character) — Fiction Suspense fiction
Number:	<i>ISBN:</i> 978-0-399-59351-2 <i>LCCN:</i> 2018022559

Remember, if you get lost or have questions, you can always call 512-263-2885 for help from the library's staff.

Tech Coach Assistance

Tech Coaches are now providing remote Tech Coaching. Simply send an email to techcoach@laketravislibrary.org and one of our coaches will respond to assist you with any questions or challenges you may have.