



Refined Search

Best Practice: How to Implement Refined Search

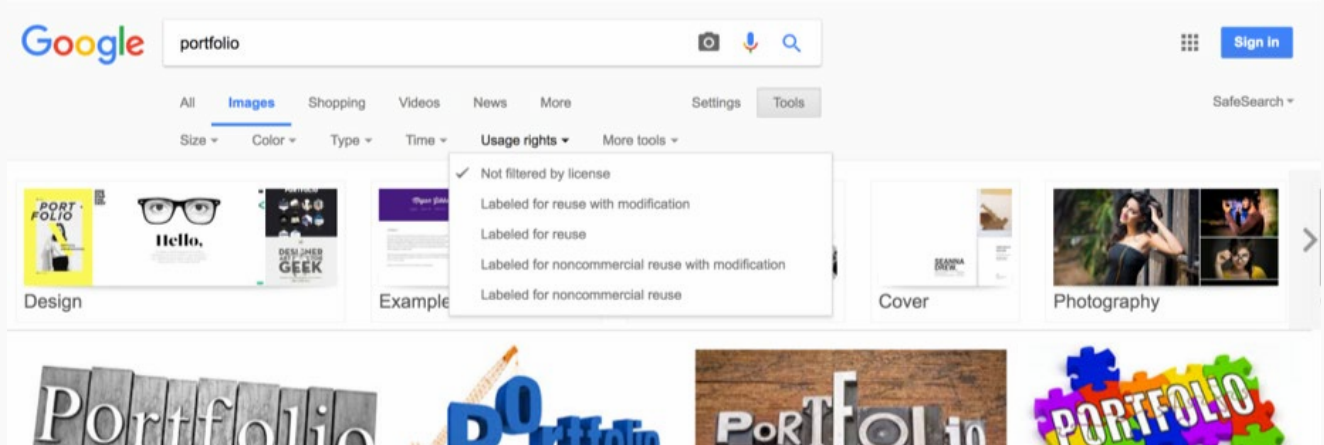
By including a refined search option, the users can zero in on their desired content with greater speed than if the search engine produced results from all levels and categories within the user interface. If results from every category and section were displayed at once, there would, more likely than not, be a large number of *irrelevant* options to consider, options slowing the user down and which might be very frustrating. Implementing a refined search design pattern will be smooth and simple, with these steps:

- 1** | **Provide the users with an input field** in which to enter their search term.
- 2** | **Identify the different categories** of contents the users can use to refine their search. Assign logical names to these categories, so the users are in no doubt which section of the user interface search results will be generated from.
- 3** | **Put these different 'refine search' categories into another user interface design pattern;** typically, a dropdown menu is used for this purpose (see the example in the next page). As a default search option, you can select 'all', or simply leave the default option blank in the menu so the search is not refined at first.

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- 4 | **Allow the users to select an option** in the 'refine search' menu using the mouse and keyboard. Once an option has been selected, the users should be able to move back to the input field by using the shift key or clicking on any area within the input field.

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UI Design Patterns for Successful Software

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User interface (UI) design patterns can be a designer's best friend, allowing you to build excellent user experiences with structure and speed. When used in the wrong way, however, they can quickly lead to experiences that confuse your users... and no-one wants that! Our course [UI Design Patterns for Successful Software](#) will equip you with the knowledge required to master UI design patterns and secure them as one of the best attributes in your designer's toolkit. You'll be guided through best practices relating to content organization, navigation, data entry, and social integration—all with detailed templates that you can use in your daily work. You'll also analyze and critique popular websites to see how the best of the best utilize UI design patterns to achieve great UX design. If you found this template useful, then this course is a treasure trove of resources and guidance that will continue to enhance your knowledge of UI design.

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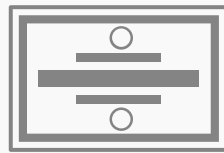
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