

Bridgeman Education

What is Bridgeman Education?

Bridgeman Education makes available the wide range of images in the Bridgeman Art Library digital image database. It spans every period from prehistoric to the present, and covers the visual culture of all civilisations.

Getting Started

[Access Bridgeman Education here](#). You will need an Open University Computer Username (OUCU) to use this service. Once logged in you are placed by default in the Quick Search screen, where you will see a single search box. This is a 'Google' type search using keywords, which will retrieve results containing one or more of the keywords you enter. The results will be sorted by relevance. For example, a search using the keywords **Hopper, woman** and **street** will first retrieve results containing all three words, then two of them and finally all results with one of the keywords.

Searching for a phrase

- To search for an exact phrase, use quotation marks. For example, to find images of the creation of Eve, type "**creation of Eve**".

Truncation

- Use an asterisk to find words with the same beginning and multiple endings. For example, **kandinsk*** will find Kandinsky or Kandinski. The asterisk can represent any number of letters.

Excluding terms

- To exclude images from a search enter a minus sign in front of the term you wish to exclude. For example, **Picasso -horse*** will exclude all horse images (where the words horse or horses are used) from your search results.

Advanced search

- The 'Artist' search can be used to locate works by an artist whose name could have other meanings, for example, **Black**.
- The 'Location' search refers to collection or gallery, rather than region or country and is useful when looking for images at a specific location such as the **Guggenheim** or **Louvre**.
- Note that 'Medium' refers to the actual materials used, rather than a generic category such as sculpture. For example, **oil on canvas, stone** or **watercolour**.

Viewing and saving search results

Results Display

- The images retrieved from your search are displayed as thumbnails. You can change the manner in which the results are sorted (e.g. relevance, artist name, medium etc.) by using the **sort results by** drop-down menu.

Detailed image view

- To view the image in more detail, either click on **More info** or click on the image itself. This will open a new window in which you can view the complete image details, including keywords that can be clicked on to take you to related results.
- From this screen, click on **Zoom image** to focus in on particular features of interest.

Saving images

- To save an image, right click on it (or Control click it if you use a Mac). This should give you a menu allowing you to download or copy the image.
- You can also create your own slideshow of images by clicking on the **Add to slideshow** button under the image you are interested in.
- Click on the **View slideshow** button to view your selections.
- All changes you make to your slideshows are automatically saved for four weeks. In order to make a slideshow permanent you must name it. To do this, click on the **Save and edit the current slideshow** button.

Other Hints

Remember that when searching for images you are relying on the description provided in words for that image, rather than on what the image looks like. You may need to try different search terms to find what you are looking for, for example, dog, hound.

You may need to install flash software on your computer to view downloaded slideshows. **Flash Player** can be downloaded free from the Adobe website: <http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/>

If in trouble, always refer to the online Help provided by the database itself. This can be found by clicking on **Using the site** then on **Searching**.