The most common Boolean operators are:

**AND**
- used to narrow the focus of a search
- results of search will contain not only one concept but also another
- the intersection of sets

*example: steroids AND sports*

**OR (inclusive)**
- used to expand a search or widen its scope
- results will have at least one of the concepts
- may retrieve results that contain all identified concepts
- range searching and truncation are forms of OR-ing

*example: cars OR autos*

**NOT**
- eliminates results that include a particular search term or concept
- sometimes is called BUT NOT or AND NOT
- needs to be used very cautiously

*example: virus NOT aids*