

? GoogleGuide making searching even easier

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Prototypes and Demos (Google Labs)

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Google's mission is to "organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful." To this end, Google showcases some prototypes and products in development on the Google Labs, the web site of Google's research group.

Visit Google Labs' home page at labs.google.com.

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Labs.google.com, Google's technology playground.
Google labs showcases a few of our favorite ideas that aren't quite ready for prime time. Your feedback can help us improve them. Please play with these prototypes and send your comments directly to the Googlers who developed them.

New! Personalized Web Search
Get personalized search results based on your interests
3/29/04 - [Give us feedback](#) - [Discuss with others](#)

New! Web Alerts
Find out about new web pages on a topic of interest
3/29/04 - [Give us feedback](#)

● **Froogle Wireless**
Search for products from your cell phone using Froogle
2/24/04 - [Give us feedback](#) - [Discuss with others](#)

● **Google Deskbar** - [Download now](#)
Search using Google without opening your browser
11/6/03 - [Give us feedback](#) - [Discuss with others](#)

● **Google Compute** - [Download now](#)
Donate your computer's idle time to help scientific research
3/26/03 - [Give us feedback](#) - [Discuss with others](#)

● **Google Sets**
Automatically create sets of items from a few examples
5/20/02 - [Give us feedback](#) - [Discuss with others](#)

● **Google Viewer**
View search results as scrolling web page images
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Graduates of Labs

- [Search by Location](#)
Restrict your search to a particular geographic area
- [Google Glossary](#)
Find definitions for words, phrases and acronyms
- [Google News Alerts](#)
Specify a topic and receive email updates when news breaks

Note: Google Labs updates its site periodically. So you may find prototypes or demos different from the ones shown here.

In Parts II and III, I mention graduates of Google Labs, services and tools that have been refined and made available through Google's home page.

- [Search by Location \(Google Local\)](#)
- [Google Alerts](#)

● [Google Glossary](#)

In this final lesson of the [Special Tools](#) section, I describe a Google Labs' prototype search tools:

● [Google Sets](#)

Google will likely refine some of these demos and make them available through Google's home page. If you want to become part of Google's development process, try out these prototypes and provide feedback to the engineers who developed them.

● [Google Sets - labs.google.com/sets](#)

Automatically create sets of items from a few examples.

Enter a few items from a set of things. Then press the "Large Set" button or the "Small Set" button and Google Sets will try to predict other items in the set. For example, if you enter Golden Gate Bridge, Palace of Fine Arts, and Coit Tower, Google Sets suggests other places worth visiting in San Francisco.

The image shows two side-by-side screenshots of the Google Sets interface. The left screenshot shows the input stage where users enter items. The right screenshot shows the output stage with predicted items.

Left Screenshot (Input Stage):

- Links: [Feedback](#), [Discuss](#), [Terms of Use](#)
- Logo: Google Sets
- Text: "Automatically create sets of items from a few examples."
- Text: "Enter a few items from a set of things. (example) Next, press *Large Set* or *Small Set* and we'll try to predict other items in the set."
- Input fields: Golden Gate Bridge, Palace of Fine Arts, Coit Tower, and two empty fields.
- Buttons: "Large Set" and "Small Set (15 items or fewer)".
- Link: "(clear all)"

Right Screenshot (Output Stage):

- Links: [Feedback](#), [Discuss](#), [Terms of Use](#)
- Logo: Google Sets
- Section: "Predicted Items"
- List of predicted items: Palace Of Fine Arts, Coit Tower, Chinatown, Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 39, Golden Gate Park, Fisherman s Wharf, Union Square.
- Button: "Grow Set"

Use Google sets to suggest: people who might share interests with you, places to visit, books to read, movies to see, synonyms, food you might enjoy, stores where you can buy a particular type of item, etc.

Exercises

These problems give you practice in using Google Labs prototypes and demos. For hints and answers to selected problems, see the [Solutions](#) page in the Appendix.

1. Visit [Google Labs](#). Try two of the prototypes and demos that are listed on the site.

2. Get suggestions for books by entering some of your favorite authors or titles and asking Google Sets to predict other members of the set.
3. Enter some of your favorite movies and see if Google Sets recommends either movies you haven't seen or other of your favorite movies.

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