

# Free patent databases to use in conjunction with databases maintained by the USPTO

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## Esp@cenet

<http://ep.espacenet.com>

- Very comprehensive coverage of documents from more than 80 countries, managed by the European Patent Office
- English-language abstracts are available for all patent specifications from the PCT minimum documentation or for their corresponding documents
- Many documents available in .pdf
- Can export documents

## Free Patents Online

<http://www.freepatentsonline.com/>

- Excellent searching capabilities, similar to the USPTO advanced search screen
- Allows simultaneous searching of US patents, US applications, EP documents, Japanese patent abstracts, and PCT information
- With free account, allows users to save searches, and will even alert you by email when new documents matching your search are added to the database
- Individual documents are in .pdf format for easy printing
- Easy exporting of documents in up to 20 portfolios (up to 1,000 documents total) directly into a spreadsheet
- Can set up RSS feed of newly published US patents or US patent applications in certain broad categories, or by classification

## Patent Lens

<http://www.patentlens.net/daisy/patentlens/patentlens.html>

- Search patents from the US, Europe, and Australia as well as published patent applications from the US, Europe, Australia, and the WIPO/PCT
- Most documents available as .pdf
- Links to patent family information
- Can save searches
- Can set up RSS feed of newly published documents for any saved search
- Can search DNA, RNA and Protein Sequences
- Lots of new features are in development

## **Patents.com**

[www.patents.com](http://www.patents.com)

- US patents, US published patent applications, and EPO documents
- Can search more than one patent number at a time, separating numbers with a comma
- US documents available as .pdf
- Can set up RSS feed of newly published documents for any saved search
- Boost feature ^ allows you to assign more weight to a relevant keyword
- Results display keywords in a cluster, similar to faceting features of Engineering Index and Web of Science
- Fewer output options, but the strength of the searching makes up for the lack
- Advertisements can be a bit distracting

## **Patentscope**

<http://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/>

- Search more than 1.5 million patent applications from a number of different countries, managed by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- With free account, last 20 searches are kept in search history folder to retrieve saved search results
- Click on search summary at the bottom of any results screen to see useful information about the number of hits per term, etc.

## **Miscellaneous Useful Tools**

<http://www.pat2pdf.org>

Type in a patent number to retrieve a pdf file to allow easy printing of the entire document

<http://www.thepatentpal.com/>

Toolbar that provides easy access to many patent searching resources and tools

<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/3142>

Aspator plug-in for Firefox links directly to pat2pdf to download one or several patents. NOTE: it does add some annoying graphics to uspto and esp@cenet pages...

<http://www.pattools.com/main.html>

a number of different applications, many related to organizing claims

[http://www.intellogist.com/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.intellogist.com/wiki/Main_Page)

Quick Comparison Chart of Patent Databases

<http://www.sparkip.com>

with free account, can create a visual representation of a particular area of technology, inventor, or organization's portfolio