

# Integration of eTools.ch Metasearch by using an HTML Form

## Technical Description

### 1. Create an (X)HTML form

The following code example uses the [eTools.ch Metasearch](#):

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.ertools.ch/searchSubmit.do">
  <input type="text" name="query" />
  <input type="submit" value="search" />
</form>
```

If you prefer to use the eTools.ch 'Mobile Search', please use the following code example:

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.ertools.ch/mobileSearchSubmit.do">
  <input type="text" name="query" />
  <input type="submit" value="search" />
</form>
```

If you prefer that the resulting eTools.ch page is displayed in a new browser window, try the following:

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.ertools.ch/searchSubmit.do"
      target="_blank">
  <input type="text" name="query" />
  <input type="submit" value="search" />
</form>
```

The forms above contain an input field and next to it a submit button labeled 'search':



The image shows a simple web form consisting of a rectangular text input field on the left and a rectangular button labeled "search" on the right. The button has a light gray background and a dark border.

This is basically all you need to meta-search with eTools.ch from an external website.

The layout design of the form is not covered in this document, because we are not aware of your applied standards and technologies.

## 2. Add optional parameters to the (X)HTML form

The optional parameters have to be added inside the form. In the following example, a 'hidden' form parameter is used:

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.ertools.ch/searchSubmit.do">
  <input type="hidden" name="timeout" value="3000" />
  <input type="text" name="query" />
  <input type="submit" value="search" />
</form>
```

This example adds a timeout-parameter with the value of 3000 milliseconds to the search query.

The following table lists the possible optional form parameters:

Parameter Name	Default Value	Allowed Values	Description
timeout	2000	1000 - 8000	Maximum time in milliseconds to wait for an answer of the requested search engines.
country	web	web, CH, LI, DE, AT, FR, IT, ES, GB	Main country in which to be searched.
language	all	all, de, en, es, fr, it	Main language in which to be searched.
dataSources	all	all, fastest	Selection of search engines that will be queried simultaneously.
safeSearch	false	true, false	Try to filter out offensive content.

### Notes:

- All parameter names and values are case sensitive.
- The parameter 'query' with a value of at least one character is required.
- The search syntax of the parameter 'query' is described on the [eTools.ch help page](#).
- If a parameter is not in the allowed range, the default value will be applied.
- Both the HTTP methods GET and POST are supported.
- The HTTP request and response is UTF-8 encoded.
- Please [contact](#) us, in case you prefer an XML-Stream.