Search Strategy for Literature Reviews

Database or source:

Research question:

Identify key concepts from the question above and write them below at the top of each column.
Search the database one concept at a time to find subject headings, e.g., MeSH (if applicable), & enter them in the rows below each concept.
There may be more than one subject heading for the same concept
Identify textwords/keywords and enter them in the remaining rows.
For each separate set of concept terms, combine subject headings and text words using OR
Run a final search to combine the different concepts sets with AND.

	Concept #1:		Concept #2:		Concept #3:		Concept #4
Subject heading (e.g., MeSH)							
OR							
Subject heading (e.g., MeSH)							
OR							
Subject heading (e.g., MeSH)							
OR							
Textword/ Keyword:		A		A		A	
OR							
Textword/ Keyword:		N		N		N	
OR							
Textword/ Keyword:		D		D		D	
OR							
Textword/ Keyword:							
OR							
Textword/ Keyword:							

Apply practical filters (limits) to your final result set (ex: published in the last ten years; English language; etc.) Filters: