Search Strategy Worksheet

Use one worksheet per search

Database or source: ________________________________ (e.g. Scopus, ERIC, PubMed, etc.)

Search question: ____________________________________________________________

1. Identify your key concepts in the question described above and write them at the top of each column. The number of concepts depends on your question.
2. Identify relevant subject headings (if applicable, not all databases use subject headings) and add them to the appropriate column.
3. Brainstorm keywords and add them to the appropriate column.
4. Search each concept separately. Combine related terms and synonyms that describe a single concept with OR to create result bundles.
5. Combine your result bundles for each concept with AND to get your final result set.
6. Apply limits if necessary (e.g. publication type, date range, language, etc.)
7. Review your results and modify your search as necessary. Remember, searching is an iterative process!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject heading/Keyword OR</th>
<th>Concept 1</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>Concept 2</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>Concept 3</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>Concept 4</th>
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</thead>
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</tbody>
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Total number of results __________________________