



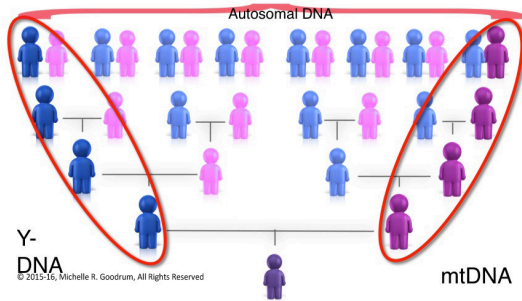
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<http://www.theindepthgenealogist.com/>

DNA Testing



AncestryDNA only does autosomal DNA testing (atDNA). **Autosomal DNA** covers all lines of your pedigree. It is a “numbers game.” You are interested the total amount of DNA you share with another person and the number and lengths of the segments (called centimorgans – cMs) you share. These are used to estimate how you are related (i.e. 2nd or 3rd cousin). You can use these estimates to figure out where on your tree the common ancestor might be. Don’t just look for surnames in common with your match but also

similar *locations* at about the same point in *time*. It’s also important to fill in your family tree with collateral lines as much as possible. The collateral lines are where you will find the matches that lead to your common ancestor.

Tips for Autosomal Testing with AncestryDNA:

1. Upload GEDcom (pedigree/family tree file) to Ancestry;
2. Link your DNA results to your GEDcom;
3. Dates and places are crucial;
4. Test as many of your relatives as possible;
5. When your results come back, investigate best/closest matches first.

Shared Ancestor Hints or “Shaky Leaf Hint” means you match DNA *and* have a common ancestor in yours and your match’s tree. Look at these to see who the common ancestor *might* be.

Whether you have a Shared Ancestor Hint or not, look at and click the list of **Shared Surnames** to find potential common ancestors. It’s at the top of the pedigree.



Use the Filter Features

After applying the filter, sort by either relationship or date.

- Starred matches: Use to sort by maternal or paternal matches if you haven't tested your parents. OR star a particular family group you are researching. Or use your imagination!
- New (blue dot): This filter brings up new matches. After you view them, you can remove the blue dot.
- Hints: Shows matches with "Hints" or shaky leaves in their tree.

Searching Matches

Search your matches' trees for a surname or birth location of interest.

Tips for Identifying Matches

1. Look at "Shared Matches" with your match;
2. Dig around for a tree even if one of the following appears next to a match:
 - a. No Tree;
 - b. Unlinked Tree;
 - c. Tree unavailable;
 - d. Private tree [tree with a padlock];
3. Mine a match's profile for clues;
4. Use the surname search feature;
5. Build out the match's tree;

DNA Circles

Composed of people with a tree that suggests you have you have a common ancestor. AND they have DNA evidence that links them to you OR to someone else in the circle.

- Your tree must be public;
- Your tree must be linked to your DNA test.

You may not share DNA with everyone in a circle. But each member of the circle shares DNA with at least one other person in the DNA Circle.

DNA Story

This includes both your Ethnicity Estimate and DNA Migrations. Ancestry defines a Migration as AncestryDNA test-takers who share DNA and descend from a common identified population within the last couple hundred years or so.

1. Includes historical background of the population;
2. Visual picture of immigration paths of the population;
3. Identifies specific individuals from your tree who fit in with the community.
4. Your genetic matches who are part of the population.



Contact Your Matches

Use the **GREEN** “Send Message” button on the match’s summary page. Ancestry includes a link at the bottom of the message that takes your reader to a screen with your DNA match information. The **ORANGE** “Contact” button on the match’s profile page doesn’t include this link.

1. Use Ancestry’s identifiers.
2. Identify what company you tested with.
3. Ask for and provide link to online tree.
4. Briefly describe how you believe you are related.
5. Ancestry acts as contact go between. Provide your email so you can correspond directly.
6. Keep track of who you have contacted.

Resources

Online Resources

- AncestryDNA. <https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/category/dna/>.
- “Ancestry DNA and Subscriptions.” *Ancestry*. <https://support.ancestry.com/s/>.
- Aulicino, Emily. *Genealem's Genetic Genealogy*. <http://genealem-geneticgenealogy.blogspot.com>.
- Bartlett, Jim. *Segment-ology*. <https://segmentology.org>
- Bettinger, Blaine. *The Genetic Genealogist*. <http://www.thegeneticgenealogist.com>.
- ———. *Genetic Genealogy Tips & Tricks Facebook Group*. <https://www.facebook.com>.
- Cooper, Kitty. *Kitty Cooper's Blog*. <http://blog.kittycooper.com>.
- Dowell, David R. *Dr D Digs Up Ancestors*. <http://blog.ddowell.com>.
- Estes, Roberta. *DNAeXplained - Genetic Genealogy*. <https://dna-explained.com>.
- International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). <https://www.facebook.com>.
- International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). <https://isogg.org/>.
- Leeds, Dana. *DNA with Dana*. <https://dnawithdana.com/>.
- Moore, CeCe. *Your Genetic Genealogist*. <http://www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com>.
- Russell, Judy G. *The Legal Genealogist*. <http://www.legalgenealogist.com>.
- Wayne, Debbie Parker. *Deb's Delvings*. <http://debsdelvings.blogspot.com>.

Print Resources

- Aulicino, Emily D. *Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond*. Bloomington, Indiana: Author House, 2013.
- Bettinger, Blaine. *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Books, 2016.
- Dowell, David R. *NextGen Genealogy: The DNA Connection*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited, 2014.
- Southard, Diahann. *Autosomal DNA for the Genealogist*. Genealogy Gems Publications, 2014.
- Southard, Diahann. *Understanding AncestryDNA: A Companion Guide to “Autosomal DNA for the Genealogist.”* U.S.A.: Genealogy Gems Publications, 2015.
- Wayne, Debbie Parker. “Tips for Initial Contact with a Match.” *NGS Magazine* (October-December 2015): 39-41.



Ancestry White Papers:

- <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/dna-help/communities/whitepaper>
- <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/dna-help/matches/whitepaper>
- <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/dna-help/circles/whitepaper>
- <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/dna-help/ethnicity/whitepaper>

Online Tools

- DNAGedcom. <http://dnagedcom.com/>
- DNA Painter. <https://dnapainter.com/tools>
- GedMatch. <https://www.gedmatch.com>
- Genetic Affairs. <http://www.geneticaffairs.com/index.html>
- Genomemate. <http://genomemate.org/>

Relationship Charts

- Bettinger, Blaine. “August 2017 Update to the Shared cM Project.” *The Genetic Genealogist*. <https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2017/08/26/august-2017-update-to-the-shared-cm-project/>.
- Perl, Jonny. “The Shared cM Project 3.0 tool v4.” *DNA Painter*. <https://dnapainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4>.
- Wayne, Debbie Parker. “Percentage Shared atDNA Chart.” *Deb's Delvings*. <http://debsdelvings.blogspot.com/2013/10/percentage-shared-atdna-chart.html>.

Other

- Ancestry Academy. *Behind the Scenes: The Science Behind AncestryDNA Results*. <https://www.ancestry.com/academy/course/dna-genetic-genealogy>.
- Average Estimated Centimorgans for Autosomal Testing Comparison chart <http://roots4u.blogspot.com/2015/01/centimorgans-or-percentages.html>.
- MedBetterDNA is a Chrome web browser add-on. Search for it on the Chrome Web Store at <https://chrome.google.com/webstore/category/extensions>. Read more about it at Cooper, Kitty. “An Awesome Ancestry Add-on.” *Kitty Cooper's Blog*. <https://blog.kittycooper.com/2018/01/an-awesome-ancestry-add-on/>