

# How to Trace Your Genealogy and Family History Easily in 9 Simple Steps and Get to Know Your Ancestors!

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**What is genealogy all about?**

**8 Reasons why you are here and why you should read this book**

**Introduction**

**1. How to use what's in your head and home to start you on your journey**

- Begin by writing down all that you know
- Collect information that is around your home
- Birth, death, and marriage records are vital to you
- Census records
- What's contained in the Census records?
- Military records
- Family life and memorabilia
- School, employment, and licenses
- House and land records
- Health records
- Citizenship records

**2. How to organize what you've got so you are ready for the journey ahead**

- Benefits of organized research
- The right filing system for you
- Get office supplies to store your findings
- Color-coding your research
- Practical ways of color-coding your research
- Get charts, forms, and worksheets

- Citing resources and why you should do it
- How to cite your sources
- Benefits of a genealogy software program
- Features of a genealogy software program
- Find the best genealogy software program that's right for you
- Which one do I recommend?
- Genealogy software for Mac users
- What about an online tree builder or app?
- Why use a genealogy app?
- Other types of genealogy app

### **3. How to include your family to fast track your research**

- Benefits of interviewing relatives
- Tips to follow for the interview
- Preparing for the interview
- Best method to record the interview
- Conducting the interview
- 20 questions you should be asking your relatives
- The process after the interview
- The benefits of a family reunion
- Planning a family reunion
- Tips on getting started
- Getting kids interested in genealogy

### **4. How to preserve your old family photos and heirlooms, and feel connected to your ancestors**

- Preserving the past can bring you closer to your ancestors
- Find all of your old photos
- Identifying old photograph types
- Common problems with preservation process
- Organizing your old photos
- Finding out who is in your old photos
- The four clues to finding out who is in your old photos
- Preparing to use your scanner

- Best settings for your scanner
- Deciding on a naming convention
- Why you should clean your old photos
- What you will need to clean your old photographs
- Steps to clean your old photographs
- How to store and display your old photos
- Storage options for your digital photos
- Considerations when storing old photos
- Archiving old documents and letters
- Preserving medals, coins, silver, and other metals

#### **5. Learn what free sources that you can use both online and offline**

- Benefits of free genealogy resources
- 10 free genealogy sites
- Genealogy books online
- Genealogy gifts and presents
- Free genealogy software
- Free genealogy apps
- Genealogy classes
- Genealogy blogs
- Ask questions through message boards and forums
- Library resources
- Before visiting a cemetery
- What to bring to a cemetery
- What information can you get from a grave headstone?

#### **6. How to get invaluable help and information from genealogy societies, archives and conferences**

- Benefits of a genealogy society
- Joining and what to expect from a genealogy society
- National Genealogical Society (NGS)
- Society of Genealogists
- Federation of Genealogical Societies
- How to find a genealogy society from around the world

- What records and services are available at a local archive?
- Contacting the local archives
- Planning a visit to the archives
- What you can do at the archives
- Genealogy conferences, and how much do they cost?
- What to expect from a genealogy conference?
- How to prepare yourself for a genealogy conference
- How to plan for a genealogy conference
- How to pace yourself at a genealogy conference
- How to promote yourself at a genealogy conference

## **7. How to get (nearly) everything about your ancestors from the Internet**

- Benefits and what to expect from genealogy search websites
- Accessing an image or index, and some helpful tips
- 7 Common complaints about Ancestry and other genealogy sites
- The best genealogy search websites
- Other genealogy search websites that can help you
- Genealogy courses and programs
- Genealogy webinars
- Genealogy podcasts

## **8. How to accelerate your research through DNA testing and connecting with cousins**

- Benefits of DNA testing and why you want to do one
- Limitations and drawbacks of DNA testing
- So, what is DNA?
- The 4 different types of DNA tests
- How to take a DNA test
- DNA testing ethnicity, how is it tested, and how to read your results
- DNA testing accuracy and how reliable are they?
- DNA test privacy concerns
- The best DNA testing kits
- Best DNA test for Native American ancestry
- Can you get a free DNA testing kit?

- Upload raw DNA data
- 10 helpful tips for contacting DNA matches

### **9. Learn how to write your family history so you can pass down your legacy**

- What to think about when you start to write your family history book
- Bring out the story of your ancestor
- Look at historical events during the time of your ancestor
- Writing the timeline of your ancestors
- Software and resources that you will need
- How will you lay out of your book?
- Review your family history book
- Printing and binding your family history book

### **Appendix A: Relationship Chart**

### **Appendix B: Dictionary**

### **About The Author**