

# How To Find Your Family Roots And Write Your Family History

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**French-Canadian Roots** Lawrence Compagna 2017-08-10 The author has traced thousands of his direct ancestors, all the way into the middle ages, and arguably right back into antiquity. Using methods described in this book you can do the same, through your French Canadian ancestors, whose pedigrees are some of the best documented on the planet. The instructions are step-by-step, with tips on what to look for and how to progress rapidly. Your kin are waiting to be discovered and this book will help you find them.

**The Best of Reclaiming Kin: Helpful Tips On Researching Your Roots** Robyn Smith 2016-10-04 This book is a compilation of blog posts from my popular genealogy blog, "Reclaiming Kin." My blog is primarily a teaching blog, and I aim to use my own research as a tool to discuss how to evaluate evidence and how to use the records. I discuss family history research in a fun and engaging way, with a special emphasis on African-American families and the challenges of slave research.

**Genealogy Online For Dummies** Matthew L. Helm 2008-03-31 Researching your genealogy online is like being a kid in a candy store. So many neat things catch your eye that it's difficult to decide which one to try. That's where *Genealogy Online For Dummies*, 5th Edition comes in. This completely practical handbook helps you become a smart, discriminating researcher from the moment you start your investigation. Unlike other genealogy books, this easy-to-use guide does more than show you how to access and use online resources; it lays out a sensible organized process you can follow to make your research more efficient and achieve your genealogical goal faster. You'll learn how to start your research before you go online, understand traditional methods of genealogy, identify Web sites that will be most helpful to your research, get vital information and statistics from government records, and much, much more Discover how to: Use basic online and offline research techniques Develop a plan for your research Integrate Internet resources to achieve your genealogical goal Create Web sites where family members can make contact Access domestic records for births, deaths, immigration, and more Research ethnic ancestry through international records Verify what you find Protect your research Complete with a companion CD-ROM packed with valuable genealogy software, *Genealogy Online For Dummies* puts you in touch with all of the tools, resources, methods, and know-how you need to make your research into your family history a total success. **Catawba Indian Genealogy** Ian Watson 1995-01-01

**Shaking Your Family Tree** Ralph J. Crandall 1986 Provides information on research, organization, and publishing a family history.

**A History of the Hardgrave Family** Clarence Russell Williams 1998 Chiefly a record of some of the ancestors and descendants of Francis Hardgrave. Francis was born 5 Mar 1745 in Augusta County, Virginia, to James Hardgrave III and Elizabeth Cawley. He married Sarah Skelton in 1769. She was born 7 Feb 1751 in Augusta County, Virginia. She died 30 Nov 1832 in Davidson County, Tennessee. He died 7 Aug 1828 in Davidson County, Tennessee. They were the parents of nine children. Descendants lived in Alabama, Kansas, New York, and elsewhere.

**The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook** Emily Croom 1994-04-15 A hands-on guide to uncovering your past.

**102 Ways to Apply Career Training in Family History** Genealogy Anne Hart 2006-09-12 Here are 102+ ways to use training in family history and genealogy when applied to real-world careers in education, business, or government, including creative entrepreneurial start-ups. With the future marriage of genealogy to smart cards, online databases, or similar authentication technology for family history, population registration (census), and library research, it may be easier to research family lines, not only by DNA matches through DNA testing for deep ancestry, but also with smart, electronic cards designed for electronic identity. It's also a way to track military records as another way to trace family history. Careers and research may focus on various state libraries or historical associations. History and family studies are part of an interdisciplinary liberal arts program that emphasizes research and writing. Journalism courses help round out your ability to express in plain language the results of your reading, explorations, and interpretations. Obtaining a degree or even taking one course or self-study in Family, Public, or Social History can lead to broad, interdisciplinary careers. Graduate work in library science, law, journalism, public history, or genetics counseling (with a double major in the life sciences and social work) also lead to careers in which an historical education may be used.

**100 Genealogy and Family History Tips** Genealogy Girl Genealogy Girl Talks 2017-12-13 What started as a 100 Day Project for me has now become a book. It was during 2017 that I learned about the 100 Day Project. A project that encourages participants to do one thing creatively for 100 days. Naturally, I decided to create something related to Genealogy & Family History. That is how these 100 Genealogy Tip were envisioned. Some are educational, some are inspirational, but all are Family History & Genealogy related. I hope they help you in your own research journey...

**Basic Genealogy and Beyond** Szabados Stephen (author) 1901

**Using Technology to Find Your Family History** Tammy Gagne 2011-09-15 Learning about the past can be fun. It is even more exciting, though, when the stories you discover are from your own family history. Genealogy is an enjoyable hobby that helps you map your family tree. Do you know where your second great-grandfather lived? Do you know what he did for a living? Did your ancestors come to the United States from another country? If so, do you know why they made this life-changing decision? Technology can help you answer these and many other questions. One of your best tools for finding this information is the Internet. Your family history awaits—it's just a few mouse clicks away!

**The Official Guide to Family Tree Maker, Version 11** Rhonda R. McClure 2003 For more than 10 years, Family Tree Maker has been America's #1-selling and top-rated family tree program. This book is your complete guide to using the software to create a family history that you and you family will treasure for years to come. This informative guide will teach you how to get started by entering what you know by simply filling in the names of your family. Then, with its advanced features, you can search CD-ROM databases and the Internet for more ancestors. You'll also learn how to share your family tree and instantly create a variety of trees, reports, and more with a click of your mouse. Your family and friends will be delighted!

**Unofficial Guide to Ancestry.com** Nancy Hendrickson 2018-07-02 Master the world's #1 Genealogy Website Discover the secrets to Ancestry.com success! This book, newly revised and expanded, will help you get the most out of your Ancestry.com subscription. Inside, you'll discover how to take advantage of what the world's biggest genealogy website has to offer—and how to find answers to your genealogy questions within its billions of records and millions of AncestryDNA profiles. Each chapter includes step-by-step examples with illustrations to show you exactly how to apply search techniques to your genealogy. A new section on AncestryDNA will also help you understand and analyze your DNA test results. What you'll learn: \* Timesaving tips for uncovering specific records, time periods and topics using Ancestry.com's search forms and Card Catalog \* Details on Ancestry.com's historical record collections, including what you can expect to find in them \* Step-by-step guides for creating and managing your family tree on Ancestry.com, plus how to connect with other users and utilize the site's powerful Hint system \* Plain-language strategies for using your AncestryDNA results, including guides to your ethnicity report and DNA matches Whether you've just begun dabbling in family history or you're a longtime Ancestry.com subscriber, this book will turn you into an Ancestry.com power user!

**How to Trace Your Family History on the Internet** 2008

**Finding Your Family Tree** Sharon Leslie Morgan 2023-03-28 Finding Your Family Tree is the perfect guide for beginners of all backgrounds entering the world of genealogy, providing techniques for finding and understanding your family history.

**The Family Tree Irish Genealogy Guide** Claire Santry 2017-05-29 Discover your Irish roots! Trace your Irish ancestors from American shores back to the Emerald Isle. This in-depth guide from Irish genealogy expert Claire Santry will take you step-by-step through the exciting—and challenging—journey of discovering your Irish roots. You'll learn how to identify immigrant ancestor, find your family's county and townland of origin, and locate key genealogical resources that will breathe life into your family tree. With historical timelines, sample records, resource lists, and detailed information about where and how to find your ancestors online, this guide has everything you need to uncover your Irish heritage. In this book, you'll find: • The best online resources for Irish genealogy • Detailed guidance for finding records in the old country, from both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland • Helpful background on Irish history, geography, administrative divisions, and naming patterns • Case studies that apply concepts and strategies to real-life research problems Whether your ancestors hail from the bustling streets of Dublin or a small town in County Cork, *The Family Tree Irish Genealogy Guide* will give you the tools you need to track down your ancestors in Ireland.

**Growing Your Family Tree** Cherry Gilchrist 2011-09-01 The process of exploring your family history and roots is a moving and meaningful quest. It affects heart and soul, as well as providing an intellectual challenge to piece all the information together. GROWING YOUR FAMILY TREE is the first book to promote the experiential aspects of family history. It gives sound, practical advice on researching your family history, but also promotes the emotional, spiritual and creative elements of the task, helping to lift genealogy out of its earlier dry an formal setting, into a more meaningful and accessible activity which can enrich a person's identity. Advice and information includes: \* How to write up your family history \* How to make a heritage corner or trail in your home \* A consideration the nature of ancestry, family lines and our inner connection with our ancestors \* How to organise your research and keep moving forward

**My Family Tree** Cathy Coulter 2016-06-30 My Family Tree for Children is the perfect way for your child to connect with their family. In side you will find: fill the blank pages for your family members, a place for family photographs, a family tree, crafts, and even pages to write your family stories, and traditions. Share your family history, create memorable moments with your children as they learn about their family history and create special crafts centered on their family.

**Genealogy 101** Barbara Renick 2003-04-23 A recent Maritz Poll reported that 60% of Americans are interested in their family history. And with good reason. Through genealogy, you can go back into history to meet people who have had more influence on your life than any others -- your ancestors. And the better you get to know your ancestors, the better you will get to know yourself: the who's and what's and why's of you. Barbara Renick, a nationally-known lecturer on genealogy, tells the uninitiated researcher the steps needed to find out who their ancestors really were, and brings together for even the more experienced genealogical researchers the important principles and practices. She covers such topics as the importance of staying organized and how to go about it; where and how to look for information in libraries, historical societies, and on the internet; recognizing that just because something is in print doesn't mean it's right; and how to prepare to visit the home where your ancestors lived. *Genealogy 101* is the first book to read when you want to discover who your ancestors were, where they lived, and what they did.

**Dig Up Your Roots and Find Your Branches** Susan H. Hubbs 2000-10 Imagine the excitement when you discover information that proves your family is descended from royalty, or Abraham Lincoln, or even the outlaw Jesse James! Look no further than the pages of this book to get step-by-step instructions on beginning a fantastic adventure into your past! Not only will you create a family tree on paper, you'll learn simple ways to search for family history. The fun never ends with puzzles, charts, a "genealogy dictionary", and a list of the author's favorite genealogy web sites! What are you waiting for? Grab that shovel and start digging for your roots!

**Collins Tracing Your Scottish Family History** Anthony Adolph 2010-01-21 The authoritative and comprehensive guide to tracing your Scottish ancestry

**Your Family Tree Online** Graeme Davis 2009-07-31 This is a step-by-step guide to using the wealth of online records to trace your family tree from your own computer, without the need to travel to national and regional record offices. Whether you are a novice or an experienced genealogist, and whether you plan to devote just a few hours of your time or embark on a life-time hobby, this book will guide you through the mass of records available - birth, marriage and death, the census, and much, much more - so that you can trace your line back hundreds of years. You will also learn how to upload your results to the internet, both to preserve your family's heritage and to connect with relatives, so that you can exchange photos and reminiscences. Contents: Welcome!; 1. What the internet offers the genealogist; 2. How to start; 3. Finding records of birth, marriage and death; 4. Using census records; 5. Other major sources; 6. Military; 7. Wills and where to find them online; 8. Migration; 9. Newspapers; 10. Occupations; 11. The poor and workhouse records; 12. Noble ancestors; 13. Directories; 14. School and university records; 15. Working with the wider context; 16. Family medical history; 17. DNA; 18. Working with names; 19. Recording your family tree; 20. Online recording options; 21. Problems of online trees; 22. Finding living relatives; 23. Genealogical miscellany; 24. Accent and dialect; 25. Final; Key websites; Index

**How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist's Guide: With Specific Resources for Major Christian Denominations Before 1900** Harold a. Henderson 2019-06-05

**How to Start Personal Histories And Genealogy Journalism Businesses** Anne Hart 2006 Here's how to open your own genealogy, family history journalism, or personal history business. This includes a genealogy course template and instruction on how to start and operate a home-based business working with personal and oral histories, genealogy, family history, and life story writing. You also learn how to interview people, what questions to ask, and how to put together a business and/or a course or book on any aspect of genealogy around the world, journalism, writing, personal history, and life story writing. Start your own course using the genealogy course template to inspire you to develop your own specialties and niche areas. Work with almost any ethnic group, and create businesses ranging from DNA-driven genealogy reporting services to family history, memoirs writing, or personal history videography services. Use social history to find information such as female ancestors' maiden names that had not been recorded using hidden and niche areas of information, including ethnic, religious, and institutional sources such as widows' military pension applications. Develop genealogy and personal history classes anywhere. You'll make history. To start, first you need to create a course syllabus-either to teach beginners genealogy or to train professionals in other fields to use personal history techniques to find hidden information, or organize information for the reports you generate for your clients or family. You'll learn how to write social history by using genealogy journalism resources, find hidden records, and market your own course or write your book or report in many different areas of personal history and genealogy journalism. Make family tree charts. Start your own business, club, franchise, or course.

**From the Family Kitchen** Gena Philbert Ortega 2012-04-12 Celebrate Your Family Recipes and Heritage From Great-grandma's apple pie to Mom's secret-recipe stuffing, food is an important

ingredient in every family's history. This three-part keepsake recipe journal will help you celebrate your family recipes and record the precious memories those recipes hold for you--whether they're hilarious anecdotes about a disastrous dish or tender reflections about time spent cooking with a loved one. The foods we eat tell us so much about who we are, where we live and the era we live in. The same is true for the foods our ancestors ate. This book will show you how to uncover historical recipes and food traditions, offering insight into your ancestors' everyday lives and clues to your genealogy. Inside you'll find: • Methods for gathering family recipes • Interview questions to help loved ones record their food memories • Places to search for historical recipes • An explanation of how immigrants influenced the American diet • A look at how technology changed the way people eat • A glossary of historical cooking terms • Modern equivalents to historical units of measure • Actual recipes from late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century cookbooks

**Basic Genealogy** Stephen Szabados 2013-08-22 Find your roots! Start your search now. This book reviews a process that will help everyone start their research and it gives hints that will help make your research successful. The author draws from his genealogical research experiences to describe the resources that are available and how to use them to find your ancestors and their history. Both Internet and archival research efforts are covered. This is a "must have" book for the beginning genealogy researcher. Note this is an updated version of the author's earlier book "Find Your Family History Steps to get started"

**How to Find Your Royal Ancestry for Free in Less Than 14 Days** Gregory Wright 2018-10-21 Ever wonder if you were a descendant of the famous kings and queens of history? Curious to find famous ancestors? This book shows you a fast, inexpensive, fun way to search your heritage. It also shows how to get past roadblocks and go deep into history to find your roots. It shows step by step how to map your family tree and find the royalty in your genealogy. You will find the author's story and you will learn the tricks he used to find his royal heritage! If you ARE ready, then this book will show you the way! If you have ever wondered about who you are and where you have come from, this book will help you to finally find some answers! Download right now and take your first steps to knowing your royal heritage!

**Family Tree Maker For Dummies** Matthew L. Helm 2000-01-12 Do you rummage through your grandmother's attic for pictures of old relatives? Have you ever wondered where your family came from? Would you like to know if you and someone famous share a common great-great grandparent? If you've answered yes to any of these questions you might be an amateur genealogist without even knowing it! Genealogical programs like Family Tree Maker are widely available and do not require any special training to use. That's right -- with a PC, a computer program, and an interest in discovering your roots you can begin tracing your family's history from its early years to today. Along the way you just might visit exotic lands, meet famous relatives, or dabble in a foreign language! Family Tree Maker For Dummies is your guide to getting the most out of today's most popular genealogy software on the market. Begin by investigating the many features Family Tree Maker offers all budding genealogists. Find out what you need to get underway and how to start recording data you have collected. The book helps you create an investigation strategy that taps into close (and distant) relatives, high-tech resources, and other genealogists from around the world! You can also explore options for presenting your completed family tree, from including photos and video in the final product to making copies for relatives. Family Tree Maker For Dummies makes preserving vital family records a fun and rewarding experience.

**History Comes Home** Steven Zemelman 1999 Teachers recognize that to succeed in school, children need to make connections between their own lives and the subjects they study. By creating a supportive classroom community and employing in-depth inquiry on a topic of real significance to students, you can help them see how school subjects provide essential tools and knowledge for their lives. The explorations of family histories developed in History Comes Home provides a powerful vehicle for achieving these goals in classrooms of all kinds. In this lively, step-by-step text you will find everything you need to carry out family history projects that will engage even your most reluctant students. Strategies for organizing in-depth exploration of their own heritage and activities for articulating and sharing their new knowledge are clearly explained in units that include: student-on-student pair interviews; interviewing family members; profiling and graphing classroom data; researching and assembling kinship charts; creating family and formal history time lines; making family history videos. You will learn how to promote strong writing about family history, use other expressive forms such as "sketch-to-stretch," to link family history with literature and math, find Internet resources and government archives for tracing family origins, and meaningfully assess student work. Wide choices and options are described, so that all students--whatever their family make-up--can feel included. Strategies for relating family history projects to district standards and requirements allow teachers to ensure that necessary curriculum is covered even as the strategies support students' own lines of inquiry. History Comes Home will help you expand the widely-used "family tree" assignment into a rich and powerful part of your teaching that will strengthen your students' skills in writing, research, and thinking, and help your classroom come alive with learning across the curriculum.

**Basic Genealogy and Beyond: Easy Steps to Find Your Family History and Tips to Break Down Brick Walls** Stephen Szabados 2019-10-23 My new book includes the basic material from "Basic Genealogy" and additional new tips. Enjoy information on search tips, organization, an outline of steps to find where your European immigrants left, and the basics of using DNA testing in genealogy. **Basic Genealogy and Beyond** Stephen Szabados 2018-12-04 This book goes beyond the great tips I covered in my earlier book, "Basic Genealogy," and gives many additional methods and sources to find more information to help create a wonderful family history of your ancestors. My new book includes the basic material from "Basic Genealogy" and includes new material that covers search tips, organization, an outline of steps to find where your European immigrants left, and the basics of using DNA testing in genealogy. I want to share my successes in my genealogy research with the reader to help them enjoy more successes in researching their family history. My goal for this book is to outline the steps that I should have followed to begin my genealogical research and give tips to make everyone successful. These are the steps that I now follow. I developed my current methods after some wasted efforts learning what not to do. I know my book will prove helpful to you. Following these steps should help you to be more efficient in your beginning research than I was. The book will give you a method to get started in your research and hopefully give you a plan to find your family history. We will cover the initial portion of genealogical research so that you will become familiar with genealogical sources. We will discuss the use of documents such as census records, passenger manifests; vital records and others that will help identify your family members and will also give you information about your family's history. I also cover methods and sources to help find where our European immigrants left. These will be basic steps. I would suggest reading my book "Finding Grandma's European Ancestors" when you are ready to start looking for your ancestors in European records.

**Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office** Jane Cox 1999 "This is the fifth edition of a handbook originally written in 1981 by Mrs J Cox and Mr T Padfield...In this, the fifth edition, it has been revised and enlarged again by Dr Bevan, to take into account the closure of the Public Record Office's Chancery Lane site, the opening of the Family Records Centre, and the development of Kew, as well as the natural increase in the number of records available to the public -- in particular, the service records of the First World War. Other chapters too have been added or considerably expanded."--Preface.

**Virtual Roots** Thomas Jay Kemp 1997 Lists sites of archives, libraries, institutions, genealogical and historical societies, and family associations around the world

**Tracing Your Jewish Ancestors** Rosemary Wenzel 2015-04-30 This fully revised second edition of Rosemary Wenzel's lively and informative guide to researching Jewish history will be absorbing reading for anyone who wants to find out about the life of a Jewish ancestor. In a clear and accessible way she takes readers through the entire process of research. She provides a brief social history of the Jewish presence in Britain and looks at practical issues of research - how to get started, how to organize the work, how to construct a family tree and how to use the information obtained to tell the story of a family. In addition she describes, in practical detail, the many sources that researchers can go to for information on their ancestors, their families and Jewish history.

**How to Find Your Family Roots** Timothy Field Beard 1977 A comprehensive guide to genealogy includes case histories, advice on reference texts, special libraries, and book dealers, and information on government and other archives, local and European records, and diverse sources

**Ancestry Family Notebook** Simple Books Press 2019-09 Ancestry Workbook One of the most valuable gifts you can give your family members is information about where your family came from. If you are struggling to find a concise way to document your ancestry searches or looking for a great gift for someone, this ancestry workbook could be the answer to your search. Are you struggling with how to record the information about your family that you currently have? Are you unsure of how to compile the information? This work book provides ample space for you to keep notes on how and where you found the information so no information will be lost. Add To Cart Now This ancestry workbook is a perfect way for you to leave a lasting legacy of detailed family history for your children, grandchildren, siblings and other family members. Features: Time Line Pages Individual Detail Pages For Ancestors Information Source Information Pages Where Note Pages For Tracking Life Events Memory Pages for Family Memories and Traditions Product Description: 8.5x11" 144 pages Uniquely designed gloss cover! High quality paper We have more great workbooks and journals, so be sure to check out our other listings by clicking on the "Author Name" link just below the title of this workbook. Ideas On How To Use This Workbook: Christmas Gift Mother's Day Gift Fathers Day Gift Birthday Gift New Parents Gift Grandparents Gift Grandson Gift Granddaughter Gift Friend Gift Stocking Stuffer

**The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide** James M. Beidler 2014-03-14 Explore Your German Ancestry! Follow your family tree back to its roots in Bavaria, Baden, Prussia, Hesse, Saxony, Wurttemberg and beyond. This in-depth genealogy guide will walk you step by step through the exciting journey of researching your German heritage, whether your ancestors came from lands now in modern-day Germany or other German-speaking areas of Europe, including Austria, Switzerland, and enclaves across Eastern Europe. In this book, you'll learn how to: • Retrace your German immigrant ancestors' voyage from Europe to America. • Pinpoint the precise place in Europe your ancestors came from. • Uncover birth, marriage, death, church, census, court, military, and other records documenting your ancestors' lives. • Access German records of your family from your own hometown. • Decipher German-language records, including unfamiliar German script. • Understand German names and naming patterns that offer research clues. You'll also find maps, timelines, sample records and resource lists throughout the book for quick and easy reference. Whether you're just beginning your family tree or a longtime genealogy researcher, the Family Tree German Genealogy Guide will help you conquer the unique challenges of German research and uncover your ancestors' stories.

**Discover Your Family History Online** Nancy Hendrickson 2012-03-05 Your Guide to Online Genealogy The internet has made millions of records available to search any time, anywhere. Start finding your ancestors with just a few strokes of a keyboard using the detailed instruction in this book. Inside you'll find: • An overview of where and how to start your family history research • Detailed descriptions of the best online databases for family historians • Hundreds of helpful websites to further your research • Step-by-step search instructions to help you find exactly what you're looking for • Chapters dedicated to finding specific records, including birth, marriage and death; census; military; land; and immigration • Case studies that apply key concepts to real-life searches • Ideas for connecting with fellow researchers and distant relatives through social media, blogging and newsletters • Special resources for researching American Indian, African-American and Jewish ancestors • Plus access to bonus online video demonstrations If you're curious about who's hanging out in your family tree, there's never been a better time to find out. Get this book, get online and get started today!

**Trace Your German Roots Online** James M. Beidler 2016-04-29 Click your way to German ancestors! Explore your Germanic heritage from the comfort of your own computer! Trace Your German Roots Online highlights important German resources on popular genealogy websites including Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org, as well as lesser-known resources such as Archion.de. With helpful illustrated step-by-step instructions, you'll learn how to use each site to its fullest potential for German genealogy, including how to get around language barriers and navigate the various German states that have existed throughout the centuries. In addition, this book contains links to the best websites to consult when answering key German genealogy questions, from unpuzzling place names to locating living relatives in the old country. Trace Your German Roots Online features: • Tips to find and use German databases, records, and research tools on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, and other popular genealogy websites • Guidance for helpful German-focused research websites, including help translating foreign-language sites • Recommended websites for accomplishing key German research tasks • Worksheets to log research progress and at-a-glance guides to help you identify important terms and resources An ideal companion to author James M. Beidler's The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide, this book has the tools you need to take your German genealogy research to the next level. Whether your ancestors came from Bavaria, Baden, Berlin, or Bremen, this comprehensive guide will help you find your German ancestors on the Internet.

**How to Interpret Family History and Ancestry DNA Test Results for Beginners** Anne Hart 2004 How many DNA testing companies will show you how to interpret DNA test results for family history or direct you to instructional materials after you have had your DNA tested? Choose a company based on previous customer satisfaction, and whether the company gives you choices of how many markers you want, various ethnic and geographic databases, and surname projects based on DNA-driven genealogy. Before you select a company to test your DNA, find out how many genetic markers will be tested. For the maternal line, 400 base pairs of sequences are the minimum. For the paternal line (men only) 37 markers are great, but 25 markers also should be useful. Some companies offer a 12-marker test for surname genealogy groups at a special price. Find out how long the turnaround time is for waiting to receive your results. What is the reputation of the company? Do they have a contract with a university lab or a private lab? Who does the testing and who is the chief geneticist at their laboratory? What research articles, if any, has that scientist written or what research studies on DNA have been performed by the person in charge of the DNA testing at the laboratory? Who owns the DNA business that contracts with the lab? How involved in genealogy-related DNA projects and databases or services is the owner?