

**DISCOVERING YOUR GENETIC GENEALOGY**

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**GENETIC GENEALOGY - BASICS**

* Chromosomes – 22 pairs of autosomal chromosomes (one from Mom and one from Dad) + X and Y sex chromosomes
* DNA Inheritance Patterns – recombination process creates a unique record of your ancestors
* Your testing goal: determining the correct test to take
* DNA Tests (autosomal (atNDA) + Y + mitochondrial (mtDNA); testing companies
* DNA Test Results: dna matches, relationships, ethnicity
* Genetic relationships identified by centimorgans (cMs) of shared matches
* DNA painter.com – relationship tool – how close is that match?

**WAITING FOR DNA RESULTS**

* Create or Update genealogical family tree; upload GEDcom file
* Search for family bibles, letters, records to construct family relationships in your tree
* Document tree with sources

**UNRAVELING DNA RESULTS**

* Start with what you know: common surnames, known cousin relationships, etc.
* Identify DNA matches by grouping: maternal, paternal, and unknown
* Examine shared matches to help sort out possible family lines – ancestors in common
* ThruLinesTM – visualize possible family tree relationships with connections to DNA matches
* Update your family tree based on identified DNA matches

**DISCOVERING UNKOWN MATCHES**

* Analyze genetic relationships; review shared matches; compare family trees
* Establish communications with potential matches**;** emotional side of DNA testing
* Finding unexpected “surprises” in DNA matches.

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| **DNA TESTING COMPANIES** |
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| Ancestry | Ancestry.com/DNA | Autosomal test (atDNA) + traits + health reports |
| 23andMe | 23andMe.com | Autosomal test + haplogroup + health reports |
| MyHeritage | MyHeritage.com | Autosomal test + health reports |
| FamilyTreeDNA | FamilyTreeDNA.com | Autosomal test (Family Finder), Y-DNA, mtDNA + health reports |
| LivingDNA | LivingDNA.com | Autosomal test  |



Excerpt from Family Tree Magazine, “How to Use Shared DNA to Determine Relationships”



