

Exploring Your Genetic Genealogy



Getting Started

- Understand the ethics and standards of genetic genealogy as well as the **surprises that you may encounter** when investigating your genetic genealogy.
<http://www.geneticgenealogystandards.com/>
- Before you choose a DNA testing company, read “Before You Buy,” an article which can be found on the International Society for Genetic Genealogists Wiki. There you will find links to DNA testing company comparison charts and questions that you should consider before you test. https://isogg.org/wiki/Before_You_Buy
- Some DNA testing companies allow you to upload your raw DNA from other DNA tests into their databases for free or at a discounted rate. See the ISOGG Wiki’s Autosomal DNA Testing Company Chart to find out which companies offer free/discounted uploads.
https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_testing_comparison_chart
- Read helpful research guides, including the books and websites suggested below.

Reference and Search Guides

The books below can be found at the Central Library, in the Grosvenor Room (*reference only*) and the Non-Fiction & Stacks department (*usually circulating*). Please check our online catalog for books at branch and town libraries: https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default

Key

GRO Ref = In Grosvenor Room. Reference book, cannot be borrowed.
GRO Ser = In Grosvenor Room. Periodical, cannot be borrowed.
Non-Fict = In Central Library Non-fiction section.



Non-Fict and GRO Ref CS21 .B48 2016

Bettinger, Blaine T. **The family tree guide to DNA testing and genetic genealogy**. Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Books, [2016]. *Includes a chapter on adoption.*

GRO Ref CS21 .S688 2020

Southard, Diahann. **Your DNA guide, the book: step-by-step plans to connect you with your family using your DNA**. [United States]: Your DNA Guide, [2020].

GRO Ref CS21 .Y682 2014

Southard, Diahn. **Autosomal DNA for the Genealogist.** [California]: Genealogy Gems Publications, [2014].

GRO Ref CS21 .Y683 2014

Southard, Diahn. **Mitochondrial DNA for the genealogist.** [California]: Genealogy Gems Publications, [2014].

GRO Ref CS21 .Y684 2014

Southard, Diahn. **Understanding AncestryDNA: a companion guide to "Autosomal DNA for the genealogist."** [California]: Genealogy Gems Publications, [2015].

GRO Ref CS21 .Y685 2014

Southard, Diahn. **Understanding family tree DNA: a companion guide to "Autosomal DNA for the genealogist."** [California]: Genealogy Gems Publications, [2015].

GRO Ref CS21 .Y686 2014

Y Chromosome DNA for the genealogist: YDNA. [Place of publication not identified: Genealogy Gems Publication, 2014]. *Y-DNA can be useful for adoptees trying to find their birth father/surname.*

GRO Ref CS21.3 .A37 2019

Wayne, Debbie Parker. **Advanced genetic genealogy: techniques and case studies.** Cushing, Texas: Wayne Research, 2019.

Non-Fict CS71 .G848 2016

Griffeth, Bill. **The stranger in my genes: a memoir.** Boston, Massachusetts: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2016.

Non-Fict HV874.82.H55 A3 2012

Hill, Richard. **Finding family: my search for roots and the secrets in my DNA.** Grand Rapids, Mich.: Richard Hill, [2012].

Adoption

See also the Grosvenor Room guide titled *Adoption Search: A research guide for adoptees in New York State.*

GRO Ref CS21 .W456 2018

Weinberg, Tamar. **The adoptee's guide to DNA testing: how to use genetic genealogy to discover your long-lost family.** Cincinnati, OH: Family Tree Books, [2018].

DNA Adoption

<https://dnaadoption.org/>

Free online instruction on how to use DNA to find biological family members.



DNA Detectives Kits of Kindness

<http://ddkitsofkindness.blogspot.com/>

Donate or request a free DNA testing kit for finding biological family members separated due to adoption.

DNA Testing Adviser

<http://www.dna-testing-adviser.com/>

DNA testing advice for adoptees and others seeking biological family members.

Search Angels

<https://www.searchangels.org/>

Request help from a Search Angel, a volunteer genealogist who may help you in your search related to adoption.

Genealogy Magazines & Journals

GRO Ser CS1 .N4

National Genealogical Society Quarterly - A good place to find genetic genealogy case studies.

GRO Ser *CS9 .F5

Your Genealogy Today - An easy-to-understand how-to magazine for genealogists which often includes articles on genetic genealogy.

Journal of Genetic Genealogy: <http://jogg.info/index.html>. A free, online quarterly journal which features case studies, reports, editorials, and reviews.

PERSI: <https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/periodical-source-index> -

Find articles about genetic genealogy in genealogy periodicals. Good keyword terms to use are: genetic, DNA.

Websites & Social Media

Beginners' Guides to Genetic Genealogy:

https://isogg.org/wiki/Beginners%27_guides_to_genetic_genealogy

Cyndi's List: A compiled list of websites, publications, and research services.

<https://www.cyndislist.com/dna/>

DNA Detectives: A Facebook group where you can post questions.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheDNADetectives/>

DNAeXplained: A blog covering a variety of DNA topics. <https://dna-explained.com/>

DNA Newbie: A Facebook group for those new to DNA.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/dnanewbie/>

The Genetic Genealogist: A blog by genetic genealogy expert, Blaine Bettinger.

<http://thegeneticgenealogist.com/>

International Society of Genetic Genealogists Wiki: A great place to learn about DNA tests, genetic genealogy concepts, and genetic genealogy resources.

https://isogg.org/wiki/Wiki_Welcome_Page

Segment-ology: A blog about autosomal DNA and triangulation. <https://segmentology.org/>

Tools for Genetic Genealogy

DNA GEDCOM: <https://dnagedcom.com/> - Upload your raw DNA and use the tools on this site to analyze your DNA. *Intermediate - Advanced*

DNA Land - <https://dna.land/> - A non-profit and run by academics affiliated with Columbia University and the NY Genome Center. Upload your raw DNA files for free and find out your ethnicity percentages, DNA relatives, and a trait report. *Beginners – Advanced*

DNA Painter - <https://dnapainter.com/> - A tool to help you map your DNA segments to specific ancestors. *Intermediate - Advanced*

GEDMatch: <https://www.gedmatch.com> – Upload your raw DNA files for free and find genetic relatives who may have taken DNA tests from different companies. Be sure to see the GEDMatch Wiki. *Beginners - Advanced*

ISOGG Wiki, Autosomal DNA Tools: https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_tools
Intermediate - Advanced

Promethease: <https://www.promethease.com/> – A low cost site which provides information on your DNA and health after you upload your raw DNA report. *Beginners – Advanced*

Shared cm Project: <https://dnapainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4> - An interactive chart that predicts family relationships based on the amount of shared DNA between two individuals.

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