

Starting Your Genealogy

100 Most Popular Genealogy Websites

These are the 100 most popular genealogy websites, ranked by order of popularity.

Ancestry.com

Largest and most extensive genealogy reference site having well over 4 billion records. Ancestry is a "Pay Site" but the Library Edition is available in the local Charlotte County libraries at no charge with your library card.

Cyndi's List

A large categorized and cross-referenced directory of sites useful for genealogical research, with hundreds of thousands of links.

FamilySearch.org

FamilySearch is a free family history website provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is one of the most heavily used genealogy sites on the Internet.

Find A Grave

A resource for finding the final resting place of family, friends, and 'famous' individuals. With millions of names and photos, it is an invaluable tool for the genealogist and family history buff.

Florida USGenWeb Project

The purpose of FLGenWeb is to preserve and educate the public about our rich heritage in the State of Florida and to help Florida families discover their ancestors.

<http://www.genealogy.com>

Search hundreds of thousands of genealogy trees and many, many records. Owned by Ancestry.

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

Excellent free genealogy resources for beginners and experts alike. Search for ancestors, build your family tree and much more.

RootsWeb

RootsWeb - the Internet's oldest and largest FREE genealogical community. An award winning genealogical resource with searchable databases, free Web space, mailing lists and message boards.

Steve Morse's One Step Search

One-step search tools for numerous areas of genealogy including Ellis Island, passenger lists, census, etc.

USA People Search - Big List of Genealogy Links

Listing of many websites in various areas of genealogical research.

[Surname Searches](#)

Ancestry.com

Searchable but requires subscription to access some information

FamilySearch.org

Free site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

GenForum

Over 14000 online forums devoted to genealogy, including surnames, US states, countries, and general topics.

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The Danish Archives

Scandinavian emigration records were typically kept by the police. You can search Denmark's archives online in English. Norwegian police emigration records date from 1867, and these are being computerized by the Norwegian Emigration Center in Stavanger and the Digital Archive of Norway.

[Free Forms](#)

Ancestry.com

Free genealogy forms on Ancestry.

FamilySearch.org

Basic genealogy forms are available through the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints website, www.familysearch.org.

Genealogy Charts, Records, and Books

Gif and ZIP download charts & census records

[Census](#)

Ancestry.com

Census records are available free from Ancestry.com in the library through their Library Edition of Ancestry.com.

FamilySearch

The 1880 census is free through the LDS site, FamilySearch.

HeritageQuest via the Charlotte County Library

Census records are available both in the library and remotely from your home with your library card. Most census years are available. Click online databases and follow instructions.

Indicies to Canadian Censuses

Hosted project to index Canadian Censuses.

[Military Records](#)

Access Genealogy website, some free, some \$\$\$

RecordsBase.com

lists free and fee databases; subscription required \$\$\$

US Civil War Genealogy Websites

Here is the list of websites for Civil War genealogical research. .

US Civil War website

Offers a glimpse of a soldier's life

US Military Casualties of All Wars

This article lists the number of United States of America's military dead, wounded, and missing person totals for wars and major deployments.

US National Archives military records

Offers microfilm information and where to write.

[Passenger Lists](#)

Ancestry.com

Searchable but requires subscription to access some information

<http://www.castlegarden.org/>

(If your ancestors arrived in New York before 1892, this site is for you)

<http://www.ellislandrecords.org/>

(arrivals 1892-1924)

[Online Genealogy Libraries](#)

DAR Library

Daughters of the American Revolution library

Digital Library of Georgia

Notable for not just its newspapers, but especially for its South Georgia Historic Newspapers Archive, this site's records span from 1845 to 1922. It's also worth a visit for colonial wills, Confederate records, historic books, photographs and the online New Georgia Encyclopedia.

<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/>

Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana

<http://www.greenelibrary.info/>

Greene County Public Library, Greene County, Ohio

[Education](#)

Ancestry Learning Center

On this site you can discover more about your ancestry beginning with your family tree. Learn how to use records in your family search, connect with others who are seeking out their ancestors and find the answers to your tough research questions.

Cyndi's List - Education

Find all means of further genealogy education from General Resource sites, classrooms, conferences, home study, certification, etc. See the numerous "how to" tutorials.

RootsWeb Guide to Tracing Family Trees

Education subjects are under a general category, specific sources and record types with additional links and by countries and ethnic groups.

[Country-Specific Sites](#)

USA Naturalization Records

Austria

Canadian Links

Ireland - Donna Moughty's Blog

Donna's focus is on methodology, technology, the Internet, Mac computers and Irish research.

US Social Security Death Records

98% of database is for deaths occurring 1962 to present

[African American Research](#)

Our Black Ancestry

Our Black Ancestry offers information on both slaves and slaveholders in the U.S, with a focus on African American family history and culture. The site is updated regularly as more information become available. Resources include the website, a Facebook page, a Wordpress blog, and a YouTube channel.

[Jewish Ancestry](#)

Jewish Research

The major site for all Jewish genealogy research.

Additional Resources for Jewish Genealogy

Links provided by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois on their website, jgsi.org.

Orthodox Jewish Resource

This website offers resources on orthodox Jewish topics.

[Organizations](#)

Federation of Genealogical Societies

The Federation of Genealogical Societies links the genealogical community by: serving the needs of its member societies, providing products and services needed by member societies, and marshaling the resources of its member organizations. FGS publishes FORUM magazine, filled with articles pertaining to society management and genealogical news. FGS publishes an extensive series of Society Strategy Papers, covering topics about effectively operating a genealogical society. FGS presents an annual conference with four days of lectures, including one day devoted to society management topics.

National Genealogical Society

The National Genealogical Society, a non-profit organization founded in 1903, is the premier national society for everyone from the beginner to the most advanced family historian. The NGS mission is to serve and grow the genealogical community by providing education and training, fostering increased quality and standards, and promoting access to and preservation of genealogical records.