

# What Do I Do Next?

## 5 Tips for Using FamilySearch Partners

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### About FamilySearch Partners

FamilySearch has partnered with five commercial websites that provide access to 3.5 times the records. Although members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have free access to these websites, everyone can access them for free at Family History Centers worldwide. Some features are also available for free at each website. A brief overview of each partner from the FamilySearch partner access page describes what can be found on each website.



"Offering 14 billion global historical records and integration with FamilySearch Family Tree. Available in English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, and Swedish."



"Specializing in the United Kingdom and its many historical colonies, with records going back to AD 875. Available in English only."



"Providing family tree tools, unique matching technologies, and billions of historical records, in over 42 languages."



"Focusing on American family history, from 17th-century colonial New England through 21st-century immigration research."



With 3 billion indexed individuals on the site and 600,000 online trees, Geneanet is the family history leader in France and Europe.”

## Getting Started with Free LDS Accounts

- Go to the FamilySearch Partner Access page: <https://www.familysearch.org/partneraccess>
- Click on the blue “join for free” icons under each website.
- Follow the easy instructions to create a username and password for each site.
- Tip: use the same password for each family history website, adding in something unique such as the initials of the website

## Getting Started with Free non-LDS Accounts at Partner Websites

- [Creating a Free Ancestry Account](#)
- [Register for free on FindMyPast](#)
- [Create a family tree on My Heritage](#)
- [Guest membership on American Ancestors](#)
- [Getting started with Geneanet](#)

## Tips for Using the FamilySearch Partners

### Tip #1: Create a family tree on the website of your choice.

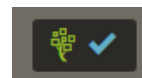
- ❖ Get record hints for your ancestors, similar to FamilySearch hinting.
- ❖ Create a tree that no one can change but you.
- ❖ Connect DNA results to your tree.
- ❖ Connect with others researching your ancestors.

### Tip # 2: Learn about each website.

You don’t need to become an expert but do click around and learn to navigate. In a nutshell, here are a few things unique to each website:

#### [Ancestry.com](#)

- ❖ **Connect individuals** in your Ancestry tree to their record on FamilySearch Family Tree
  - You’ll know if an individual is connected to FamilySearch because a blue checkmark appears to the right of the tree icon.
  - Clicking on the arrow opens the drop-down menu and you have several options such as comparing information or adding relatives from FamilySearch
- ❖ **Autosomal DNA testing**



- AncestryDNA has the largest database of the major testing companies.
- Connect your family tree to your DNA results and you'll be able to start making connections with cousins
- Download your raw DNA results, then upload to FamilyTree DNA and My Heritage DNA for even more cousin matches, for free
- ❖ **Ancestry Hints** appear as green leaves on the pedigree view of your family tree.
  - Easily evaluate the record hint and choose an action
  - Review other Ancestry member trees to compare information
- ❖ **Ancestry Tree Tags**
  - Attach a custom tag, a DNA tag, a reference tag, a research tag, or a relationship tag
- ❖ **Ancestry's Workspace**
  - Add and edit tree tags
  - Add notes and comments to an individual's record

### [MyHeritage.com](https://www.myheritage.com)

- ❖ **Record Matches and Smart Matches.** Once you've uploaded your tree, you can choose to have MyHeritage send you emails of these matches.
- ❖ **Pedigree Map** is a fun tool that maps the locations from your family tree. Clicking on a location pulls up all the events associated with it. Find the Pedigree Map under more on the "Family Tree" tab.
- ❖ **DNA testing.** MyHeritage offers its own DNA testing and allows uploads from other testing companies. Discover new cousin matches. The chromosome browser and auto cluster tools help you make new discoveries.
- ❖ **Family Website.** You can build a MyHeritage Family Site and invite other family members to add to it. This includes your family tree, family stats, and family photos.

### [Findmypast.com](https://www.findmypast.com)

- ❖ **My Family Tree** on FindMyPast has hints, individual details, and a fun box with historical information on each person's name. The website has excellent instructions for how to download your family tree from Ancestry, My Heritage or RootsMagic, then upload it to FindMyPast. <https://blog.findmypast.com/how-to-upload-your-1651170951.html>
- ❖ **My Records** is one of the tool bars across the top. It lists all of the records you have ever looked at complete with the date accessed, notes, and the ability to click on the image and see it again. You can star favorite records, delete records, and sort the list in a variety of ways.
- ❖ **One billion records from the British Isles** make this the place to start for British, Irish, Canadian, or Australian research
- ❖ **The Catholic Heritage Archive** features records in Philadelphia, England, Ireland, and Scotland with more to come. <https://www.findmypast.com/catholicrecords>
- ❖ **United State Marriages Collection**, now the largest online indexed group or marriage records contains over 168 million records. <https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-records/united-states-marriages>
- ❖ **PERSI - The Periodical Source Index** lets you easily locate millions of entries about people and places from historical, genealogical, and ethnic publications. <https://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index>

- ❖ **Simple, clean look.** FindMyPast makes it really easy to find everything on their website. It has one of the most intuitive screens
- ❖ **DNA testing** - Upload results from Living DNA to discover specific British and Irish regions of your ancestors

### American Ancestors

- ❖ Not all features of this website are unlocked with a free or basic account, but many are fully accessible.
- ❖ **Access learning resources** such as how-to videos, archived webinars, subject guides, and downloadable genealogical templates
- ❖ **The Jewish Heritage Center** provides records and helps for researching Jewish families in New England and beyond. <https://www.americanancestors.org/jhc>
- ❖ **Excellent collection of early New England records** to assist your research.
- ❖ **African American resources** can help you get started. <https://www.americanancestors.org/africanamerican>

### Geneanet.org

- ❖ **Create a family tree and search records.**
- ❖ **Participate in a project** such as cemeteries, memorials, postcards, indexing
- ❖ **Access the Genealogy Library** which contains books, newspapers, and magazines from around the world. <https://en.geneanet.org/library>
- ❖ **Get help from the genealogy community** through forums and collaborative assistance.
- ❖ **Digitized books, newspapers, and periodicals** contain more than 3 billion indexed individuals that are searchable by surname.

### **Tip #3: Search within specific record collections of each website.**

Hinting covers only the major record collections. There are treasures to be found in smaller specific record collections so become familiar with the card catalog of each website. Drill down to specific collections that you want to search by location or record type.

- ❖ Ancestry: [Card Catalog](#): <https://search.ancestry.com/search/cardcatalog.aspx#ccat=hc%3D25%26dbSort%3D1%26sbo%3D1%26>
- ❖ FindMyPast: [Search A-Z of record sets](#) <https://search.findmypast.com/historical-records>
- ❖ MyHeritage: [Collection Catalog](#) <https://www.myheritage.com/research/catalog>
- ❖ American Ancestors: [Database List A-Z](#) <https://www.americanancestors.org/browse-database>
- ❖ Geneanet: [Collections](#): <https://en.geneanet.org/fonds/?size=20>

### **Tip #4: Search each partner website for information on your family.**

- ❖ If you are having trouble finding a particular record for an individual look for it on all four of the websites listed on the person page of FamilySearch FamilyTree.
- ❖ **Try clicking on each of the five search choices on an ancestor's details page** (FamilySearch, Ancestry, FindMyPast, MyHeritage, and Geneanet). Each website has unique collections and different search engines. Adjust the filters for best results.

- ❖ **Most of the censuses available on each website have been indexed independently**, so if you can't find your family in a particular census, try a different website.

#### **Tip #5: Attach the records you find to Family Tree.**

- ❖ When you do find a record on one of the partner websites, see if it is also on FamilySearch.
- ❖ Often you just need to change the search parameters or look in a specific record collection if it's not showing in your initial search on FamilySearch. From there you can attach it to your family member.
- ❖ If it is a unique record, only on one of the partner websites, you can create a new source on the FamilySearch Family Tree for that source.
  - Download the image from the partner website
  - Add appropriate information such as the title, source citation, notes, and reason statements
  - Add a URL or upload a memory (the document image)
  - Attach the source to all individuals named using the Source Box

#### **More Helps for Using FamilySearch Partners**

##### **Ancestry DNA**

- <http://familylocket.com/3-tips-for-making-the-most-of-your-ancestry-dna-results/>
- <https://familylocket.com/ancestry-dna-matches-three-tools-you-may-not-be-using/>
- <https://familylocket.com/are-your-irish-roots-showing-understanding-your-ancestry-dna-ethnicity-results/>
- <https://familylocket.com/how-to-use-a-surname-search-to-sift-through-dna-results/>

##### **Geneanet**

- <http://familylocket.com/have-you-heard-of-the-new-familysearch-partner-geneanet/>

##### **FamilySearch Family Tree**

- <http://familylocket.com/creating-a-new-source-on-family-tree/>
- <https://familylocket.com/what-do-i-do-next-5-tips-for-using-familysearch-partners/>