

# Research Like a Pro with DNA

## 1. Assess Your DNA Matches and Analyze Your Pedigree

Review DNA matches, basic clustering (i.e. Leeds Method), figure out possible relationships with Shared cM Project tool, identify research questions that can be answered with DNA

## 2. Organize DNA Results and Create a Research Objective

Chart matches in Lucidchart or Diagrams.net, add matches to a master family tree like Ancestry or personal genealogy software, craft a research objective

## 3. Timelines, Source Citations, and File Organization

Gather previously found sources, create a timeline and add citations, make citation templates, decide on a file organization system and naming protocol

## 4. Analyze Sources and DNA Matches

Add labels to the source, information and evidence columns in the timeline, create a diagram of DNA matches on the relevant line, analyze relationships and shared DNA

## 5. Locality Research and Ethnicity

Study locations of common ancestors with matches, make locality guides in places relevant to the research question, study ethnicity of test takers and matches

## 6. Explore DNA Tools and Methodology: Genetic Networks

Try DNA tool or method that has to do with separating matches into groups or clusters, or pedigree triangulation

## 7. Explore DNA Tools and Methodology: Segment Data

Try DNA tool or method that has to do with segment data, chromosome browsers, or chromosome mapping

## 8. Research Planning

Summarize known facts and create a working hypothesis, identify sources and methods, then create a prioritized strategy

## 9. Follow Your Plan, Research Logging, and Writing as you Go

Add entries to your research log for documentary and DNA sources, write notes and analysis as you go along

## 10. Correlate Findings and Write Research Report

Write your report, add tables to correlate data, discuss findings, write a conclusion, summary of findings, and future research suggestions

## 11. Finish Report, Publishing, Privacy, and Copyright

Edit report and incorporate feedback, get permission for copyrighted images, ask permission from matches to share report publicly, make private any matches who don't respond

## 12. Productivity and Further DNA Education

Incorporate efficiency into your research habits and create a DNA education plan for the future