

# 3 STEPS TO START KNOWING YOUR ANCESTORS

## STEP 1: Talk to Living Relatives

Talk to your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and ask them to share any information they have about your ancestors. Record your conversation and use the space below to take notes.



## STEP 2: Start Your Family Tree

Use the space below for notes and the pedigree chart on the following page if desired (print off multiple copies for larger trees).

You could start an online tree for free on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, or others. Or you could download a family tree software such as RootsMagic.



No. 1 on this chart is  
the same person as No. \_\_\_\_\_

On Chart No. \_\_\_\_\_

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

NAME OF SPOUSE

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

| BORN | PLACE | DIED | PLACE |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|------|-------|------|-------|

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| BORN | PLACE | DIED | PLACE |
|------|-------|------|-------|

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

## STEP 3: Look for Additional Records

Now that you have your family tree started, it's time to look for more records that can help you find more ancestors and find out more of their stories.

It is essential to understand what records are available for the time and location that your ancestor lived as you start searching for records.

The FamilySearch Research Wiki is a great place to find this information:  
[www.familysearch.org/en/wiki](http://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki)

As you build your tree on Ancestry or FamilySearch, you will likely get record hints. Please be mindful as you look at these hints. They are often not correct. Always look at the information that you KNOW and see if these records make sense with that information. Don't add records or information from hints or other public trees unless you are quite certain it is correct.

## Ready to Go Further?

If you'd like structured support and want to continue researching on your own:

→ Explore the DIY Courses:  
<https://knowyourancestors.co/courses>

→ Begin with Origin Initiation:  
<https://knowyourancestors.co/origin>

There is no wrong choice – just choose the level of support that fits you right now.

