

Ancestry.com home page

The Basics

QUICK LINKS	
Home	< www.ancestry.com >
Search	< search.ancestry.com >
Card Catalog	< www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog >
Support	< support.ancestry.com >
AncestryDNA	< www.ancestry.com/dna >
New and updated collections	< www.ancestry.com/cs/recent-collections >
Account settings	< www.ancestry.com/secure/account >
Message Boards	< www.ancestry.com/boards >
Research Center	< www.ancestry.com/learn/learningcenters >
Ancestry Blog	< www.ancestry.com/corporate/blog >
RootsWeb Wiki	< wiki.rootsweb.com >
Ancestry Facebook page	< www.facebook.com/AncestryUS >

BY THE NUMBERS

- Founded in 1983
- 27 billion digitized genealogy records, organized into 33,000 collections
- 100 million family trees, with 13 billion profiles
- 18 million DNA kits in database

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION		
Membership	Cost	Benefits
Registered guest	free (registration required)	Building family trees, using message boards, searching, accessing free records
US Discovery	\$24.99/month; \$99/six months	All of the above, plus access to premium records
World Explorer	\$39.99/month; \$149/six months	All of the above, plus access to international records
All-Access	\$49.99/month; \$199/six months	All of the above, plus access to Fold3 and Newspapers.com
AncestryDNA test	\$99/test (though frequently discounted)	Ethnicity estimates and DNA matches; integration with online family tree; downloadable raw data

SEARCHING BY KEYWORD

Add a birth year and/or place your ancestor might have lived to help distinguish him from others with the same name.

Enter whatever name information you have. Click the word Exact for a popup menu of options to restrict your search to "Exact" (to perform a search on just the characters you typed), "Exact and Sounds Like" (a search on names that sound similar) or "Exact and Similar" (a search on names with similar meanings or spellings). You can also search by initials (for first names) or Soundex matches (for last names).

Click Add Event to also search by a specific event: birth, marriage, death, "Lived In" (place of residence in, for example, census records), "Any Event" (all date fields in a record), etc. You can add as many as you like, though these will restrict your search results.

The screenshot shows a search interface with the following fields and options:

- First & Middle Name(s):** Elizabeth
- Last Name:** Teipel
- Exact options:** Exact, sounds like & similar; Exact & similar
- Place your ancestor might have lived:** City, County, State, Country
- Birth Year:** 1858
- Exact +/-...**
- Search:** Show fewer options ^ Match all terms exactly
- Add event:** Birth Marriage Death Lived In Any Event More v
- Year:** Birth 1858
- Location:** Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio, USA
- Exact +/-...** **Exact to...**
- Add family member:** Father Mother Sibling Spouse Child
- Spouse:** First & Middle Name(s) Louis; Last Name Thoss
- Exact:** Exact
- Keyword:** Occupation, street address, etc.
- Gender:** -- Select --
- Race/Nationality:**
- Collection Focus:** All Collections
- Checkboxes:** Historical Records; Stories & Publications; Family Trees; Photos & Maps
- Search:** Clear search

Click Exact to add a range of 0, 1, 2, 5 or 10 years.

Select a location from a dropdown of places, then click "Exact to" to filter records by different regions (exact place, county, state, etc.).

Click to add a mother, father, sibling, spouse and/or child who should appear with your target in the record you want. You can mark these fields as Exact to limit results even further.

Narrow results by selecting a gender or entering a term such as *Black* or *French* in the Race/Nationality field.

Adding a keyword related to your target (such as a military regiment or the name of the ship your ancestor traveled on) can help the right record rank higher in your search results. Check Exact to find only records with that keyword—but note this can exclude other potential matches.

Choose a country or ethnicity so records from related collections rank higher in your search results. Also check boxes for the types of results you want—Historical Records, Stories and Publications, Family Trees, or Photos and Maps.

ANCESTRY.COM SEARCH TIPS

1 Run “fuzzy” searches. Names, dates, and places in old records are often inconsistent or spelled incorrectly. Broaden your search to include records that are close to your search terms. The “Show More Options” section of the search form, as well as the search forms for categories and individual collections, have filters to search for sound-alike names and date ranges.

4 Research individual collections. By searching in one research collection at a time (e.g., “U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current”), you’ll get a more manageable list of search results. Use the Card Catalog <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog> to identify your desired research collection, then click the collection’s title to go to its search page. Be sure to read the description so you can determine if it’s right for you.

7 Revisit record collections. Ancestry.com regularly adds collections and updates existing ones, so be sure to periodically return to searches (particularly those that have come up empty in the past). Keep track of what, when and where you searched, and visit <www.ancestry.com/cs/recent-collections> to view new or recently updated collections.

2 Use wildcards. Ancestry.com’s search filters help account for mistakes and inconsistencies in records, but they don’t catch everything. Search wildcard characters can help. Use a ? to substitute for one letter in a name, and a * to stand for zero or more letters. For example, *Johns?n* will return records for Johnsen and Johnson, and *Smel*er* finds Smeltzer, Smeller and others.

5 Check the message boards. Visit Ancestry.com’s message boards <www.ancestry.com/boards> for the surnames and places you’re researching. Other users may have already asked questions (and hopefully have gotten answers!) about the same topics in your family history search.

8 Browse record images. If you can’t find the record you want by keyword searching, consider manually paging through the images of indexed records. Find Browse This Collection on the right side of a collection’s page, then choose a place, time frame, first letter of the surname or other option (depending on how the records are organized). Use the arrows to “page” through record images, or jump around by typing in a number and hitting enter.

3 Go nameless. Can’t find a record? A name could be misindexed or nonexistent. Leave out the target person’s name in your search and enter other details, such as a birth year, place of residence and immigration year. Search a specific collection and keep search terms narrow by using filters and date ranges. Add and remove filters and search terms as necessary.

6 Consider Member Trees to be clues. Among your search results, you’ll likely find profiles from other users’ family trees. Note that these aren’t independently verified, and you shouldn’t add any information from Member Trees to yours until you’ve confirmed it yourself. Until then, keep Member Trees data as clues to follow up on. Subscribers can contact other users directly to ask about sources, providing one strategy for evaluating others’ work.

9 View related records. When you find a record matching your ancestor, look on the right side of the record summary page for links to other records that may name the same person. Check these suggestions carefully, as they may be for unrelated people with a similar name—or they could provide low-hanging fruit for your family tree.

SEARCHING BY COLLECTION

USING THE CARD CATALOG

Search the Card Catalog if you're looking for a specific collection or type of record. Choose Card Catalog from the Search dropdown or go to <www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog>.

Search individual record collections to get a more manageable list of results.

Enter search terms in the Keyword(s) box unless you know the exact name of your collection.

Sort collections by collection title, date updated, date added or number of records.

Use filters to view results for a particular type of record ("Collection"), location or date.

Card Catalog

Searchable listing of all record collections

Results 1-25 of 32,674

Sort By Date Added

Title	Collection	Records	Activity
10,000 Vital Records of Eastern New York, 1777-1834	Birth, Marriage & Death	19,659	NEW
10,000 Vital Records of Central New York, 1813-1850	Birth, Marriage & Death	18,876	NEW
Hautes-Alpes, France, Census, 1836 (in French)	Census & Voter Lists	114,367	NEW
Hautes-Alpes, France, Census, 1856 (in French)	Census & Voter Lists	145,740	NEW
Hautes-Alpes, France, Census, 1876 (in French)	Census & Voter Lists	78,405	NEW
Vienne, France, Census, 1896 (in French)	Census & Voter Lists	365,772	NEW
(in French)	Census & Voter Lists	107,598	NEW

BROWSING BY PLACE

Look for record collections based on place if you're not sure what record to search for, or if you want to see what's available for your ancestor's locale. Choose All Collections from the Search dropdown menu, or go to <www.ancestry.com/search>. Then scroll down to Explore by Location to view a clickable map of the United States, the United Kingdom and Ireland, Europe, Canada, or Australia and New Zealand.

State-related data collections are organized by category.

Click History for state facts, featured collections and more.

Under Resources, get details on census availability and link to the state archives, vital records office and other sites.

Click a county to view collections associated with it.

Ohio

Welcome to our Ohio family history research page. Here you'll find record collections, history, and genealogy resources to help you trace your Ohio ancestors.

Collections History Resources

Data Collections

Ohio Census & Voter Lists	
Ohio, Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1790-1890	472,914
U.S. Federal Census - 1880 Schedules of Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes	325,492
U.S. Census Reconstructed Records, 1660-1820	171,563
View other Census & Voter Lists collections related to Ohio. (27)	
Ohio Birth, Marriage & Death	
Ohio, County Marriage Records, 1774-1993	18,873,749
Ohio, Births and Christenings Index, 1774-1973	13,086,969
Ohio, Death Records, 1908-1932, 1938-2007	8,266,980
Ohio, Birth Index, 1908-1964	8,222,073
Ohio, Marriage Abstracts, 1970, 1972-2007	6,777,856
View all Ohio Birth, Marriage & Death (26)	

Select another state or region

USA Ohio

Narrow by region

Select a region to view its unique collections.

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VIEWING SEARCH RESULTS

RECORD VIEW

1 Record View summarizes each search result. Click the icon or the name of the person in the record to view more details and an image of the record (if available).

2 Click the “See more like this” link to view details from other Ancestry Member Tree profiles that may match your search.

3 Use sliders to narrow or broaden your search. Click Edit Search to change your search terms.

4 Click the arrow by a category to see subcategories. Click a category name to view a ranked list of matches from that category. You can further filter your results by choosing from a list of collections within that category.

5 Click Categories to view results by record category. (See below for more on this view.)

All results for Heinrich Seeger

Search Filters: Heinrich Seeger, BORN: 1852, IN: Germany. Sliders for Broad/Exact search range.

3 Edit Search | New Search | Update

4 All Categories: Census & Voter Lists (52), Birth, Marriage & Death (96), Immigration & Emigration (9), Stories, Memories & Histories (1), Directories & Member Lists (1), Court, Land, Wills & Financial (13), Family Trees (9).

1 Friedrich Heinrich Konrad Seegers

2 See more like this...

5 Records Categories

Matching Person (from family trees)

Spouse: Wilhelmine Sophia Johanna Hunrichs
Children: Helene
Birth: 21 Mar 1852 Groß Munzel, Region Hannover, Niedersachsen, Germany
Death: 1 Dec 1922 Hannover, Niedersachsen, Deutschland

Matching Records:

Record	Name	Birth
Cook County, Illinois, Birth Certificates Index, 1871-1922	Heinrich Seeger	Germany Abt 1852
Germany, Prussia, Brandenburg and Posen, Select Church Book Duplicates, 1794-1874	Heinrich Adolph Helmuth Seeger	given name surname given name surname dd mm year location
Germany, Select Births and Baptisms, 1558-1898	Heinrich Christian Seegers	date location date location

CATEGORIES VIEW

1 This view organizes your search results by category. Click a category header to view a list of matches in that category.

2 Click a collection title to view search results just from that collection (e.g., just results in “1891 English Census”). Only the collections in the category with the most matching search results will appear here, so you’ll need to click “See all [#] results” to view the full list of collections in each category.

3 As in Records view, you can use the sliders to narrow down your search results, or click Edit Search to make changes to your search terms.

4 If you want to remove filters once you’ve narrowed your results to a specific category, click All Categories to return to viewing all record categories.

5 Click Records to switch to Records View. (See above for more on this view.)

All results for Heinrich Seeger

Search Filters: Heinrich Seeger, BORN: 1852, IN: Germany. Sliders for Broad/Exact search range.

3 Edit Search | New Search | Update

4 All Categories: Census & Voter Lists (52), Birth, Marriage & Death (96), Immigration & Emigration (9), Stories, Memories & Histories (1), Directories & Member Lists (1), Court, Land, Wills & Financial (13), Family Trees (9).

1 172 results

5 Records Categories

Census & Voter Lists 52

- 1900 United States Federal Census 6
- 1920 United States Federal Census 5
- 1870 United States Federal Census 5
- 1891 England Census 4
- 1881 England Census 4

See all 52 results...

Birth, Marriage & Death 96

- Germany, Select Births and Baptisms, 1558-1898 16
- Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1500-1971 15
- Saxony, Prussia, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1760-1890 5
- Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1518-1921 5
- U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current 4

See all 96 results...

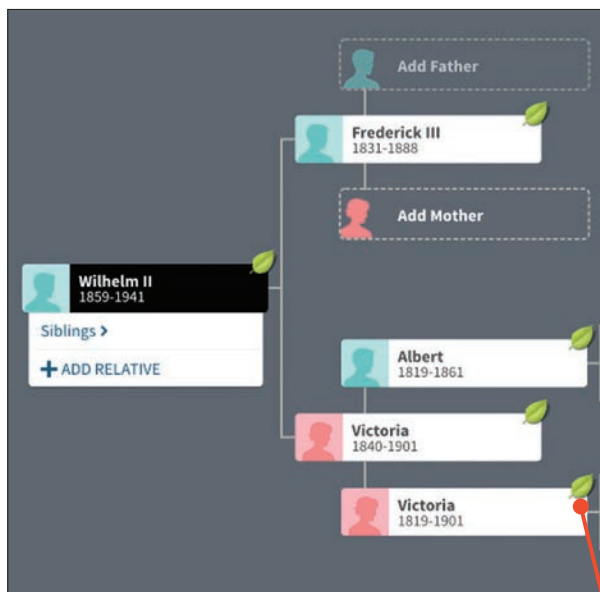
Immigration & Emigration 9

- Bremen, Germany Sailors Registry, 1824-1917 2
- Bremen, Germany Ships Crew Lists, 1815-1917 2
- Bremen, German Desertions of Sailors, 1855-1874 2
- Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934 1
- U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925 1

ANCESTRY FAMILY TREES AT A GLANCE

In addition to its billions of records, Ancestry.com supports a robust online family tree feature that can help you track your research. Add Ancestry.com records directly to your tree, or upload your own facts and sources (including GEDCOM files). And with more than 100 million user-created family trees in Ancestry.com's database, you're sure to find your ancestors among other users' family trees—though (as with other published genealogy sources) you should always verify the information in other users' Member Trees before adding it to your own.

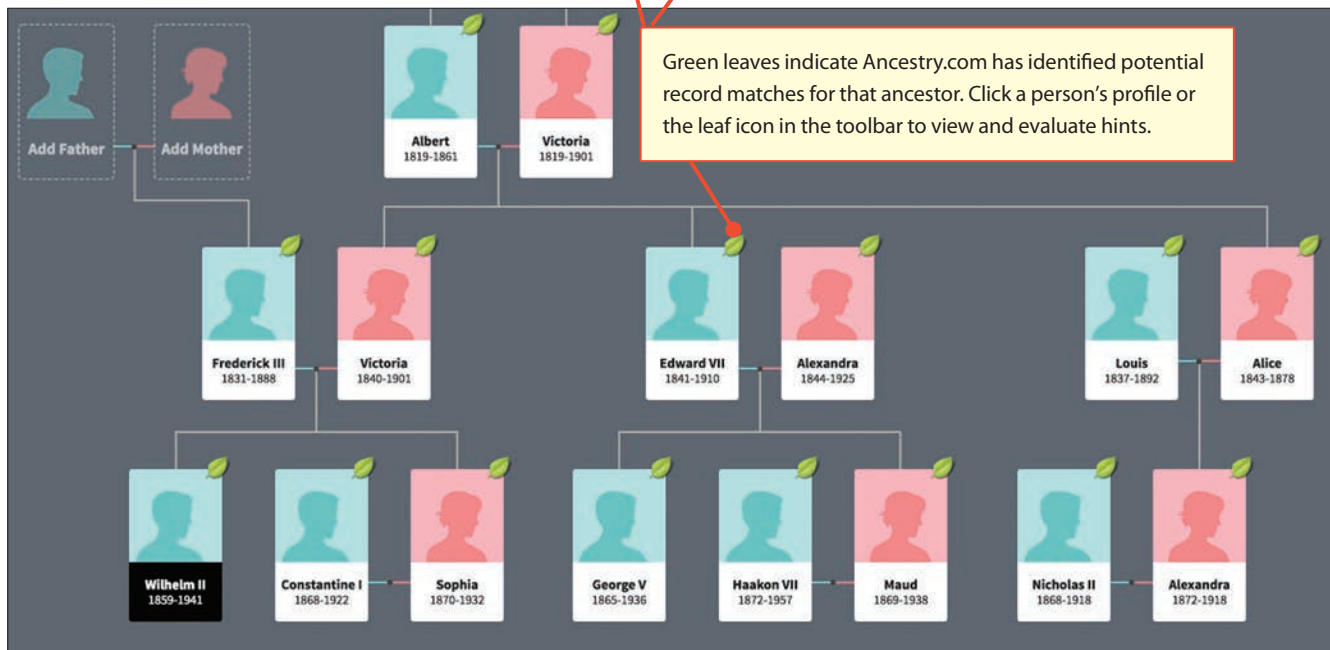
Ancestry.com's family trees sync directly with RootsMagic and Family Tree Maker software.



The **pedigree view** shows only a person's direct-line ancestors and children. While not comprehensive, this view allows you to view many generations at once.

The screenshot shows the 'Victoria' profile page on Ancestry.com. The profile includes a name card with a silhouette, birth and death dates (1840-1901), and tabs for LifeStory, Facts, Gallery, and Hints. The Facts section is expanded, showing a list of life events: Birth (1840), Birth of Brother Edward VII (1841-1910), Birth of Sister Alice (1843-1878), and Birth of Son Wilhelm II (1859-1941). The Sources section has search and add buttons. The Family section shows relationships: Parents (Albert 1819-1861, Victoria 1819-1901), Siblings (Frederick III 1831-1888, Wilhelm II 1859-1941, Sophia 1870-1932), and Spouse & Children (Victoria 1840-1901, Frederick III 1831-1888, Wilhelm II 1859-1941, Sophia 1870-1932). A red arrow points from the 'Hints' tab to a yellow callout box.

The Facts section of an individual's **family tree profile** includes a summary of his family relationships, major life events and source associated with both.



Green leaves indicate Ancestry.com has identified potential record matches for that ancestor. Click a person's profile or the leaf icon in the toolbar to view and evaluate hints.

The **family view** shows all of a person's relatives, including siblings, aunts, uncles and brothers- or sisters-in-law. More comprehensive than the pedigree view, the family view allows you to see non-direct-line relatives—but fewer generations.

KEY RECORD COLLECTIONS

CENSUS & VOTER LISTS

- 1790–1940 United States Federal Census (15 separate collections)
- U.S., Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850–1880
- U.S., Indian Census Rolls, 1885–1940
- 1851–1911 England Census (seven separate collections)

BIRTH, MARRIAGE & DEATH

- U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current
- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014
- U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560–1900
- U.S., Newspapers.com Marriage Index, 1800s–1999
- England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538–1975
- England, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007
- Germany, Select Births and Baptisms, 1558–1898 (in German)

MILITARY

- U.S., Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800–1900
- U.S., Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889–1970
- U.S., Civil War Draft Registration Records, 1863–1865
- U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861–1865
- U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934
- U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918
- U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942
- U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938–1946

- U.S. World War II Navy Muster Rolls, 1938–1949
- U.S. Marine Corp Muster Rolls, 1798–1958
- U.S. Veteran Gravesites, ca. 1775–2019

IMMIGRATION & TRAVEL

- New York, Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820–1957
- New York, Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1820–1850
- Baltimore Passenger Lists, 1820–1964
- New Orleans, Passenger Lists, 1813–1963
- U.S. Naturalization Records Indexes, 1791–1992 (Indexed in World Archives Project)
- U.S. and Canada, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s–1900s
- U.S., Border Crossings from Canada to U.S., 1895–1960
- Border Crossings: From Mexico to U.S., 1895–1964
- U.S. Passport Applications, 1795–1925
- Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850–1934 (in German)
- Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865–1935

NEWSPAPERS & PUBLICATIONS

- U.S., Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1800s–Current
- Australia, Newspaper Vital Notices, 1931–2001
- Canada, Obituary Collection, 1898–Current

PICTURES

- U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900–1999
- Public Member Photos & Scanned Documents

STORIES, MEMORIES & HISTORIES

- Public Member Stories
- Biography & Genealogy Master Index (BGMI)
- European Registration of Foreigners and German Persecutees, 1939–1947 (in German)

MAPS, ATLASES & GAZETTEERS

- U.S., Indexed County Land Ownership Maps, 1860–1918
- Meyers Gazetteer of the German Empire (in German)

DIRECTORIES & MEMBER LISTS

- U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995
- U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900–1999
- U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993–2002
- U.S. Public Records Index, 1950–1993, Volumes 1 and 2 (two collections)

COURT, LAND, WILLS & FINANCIAL

- U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936–2007
- U.S. General Land Office Records, 1776–2015
- U.S., IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862–1918
- England and Wales, National Probate Calendar, 1858–1995
- Ireland, Griffith's Valuation, 1847–1864

DICTIONARIES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS & REFERENCE

- American Genealogical-Biographical Index (AGBI)

RESOURCES

Ancestry.com YouTube channel <www.youtube.com/c/Ancestrycom>

Articles: How to Use Ancestry.com and AncestryDNA
<www.familytreemagazine.com/ancestry>

Unofficial Ancestry.com Workbook by Nancy Hendrickson (Family Tree Books)

Unofficial Guide to Ancestry.com by Nancy Hendrickson (Family Tree Books)