

How Are You Related?

This chart helps explain how you are related to your cousins. The trick is knowing the common ancestor. Then from the common ancestor, what is your relationship to them? Find yourself in one of the green columns. Then find your cousins relationship to the common ancestor on the opposite green column. Where they intersect is your relationship.

Hypothetical example: Let us say you are trying to figure out the relationship with a newfound cousin named Bob. You know you are the great grandchild of the ancestor you have in common with Bob, but you are not sure how you two are related.

In row 3, find the green great grandchild box and write your name in it (labeled "You"). You know that Bob is a great-great grandchild of the same common ancestor (or ancestral couple). In column 4, right the name of the cousin (in this case "Bob") in the green box. Find where they intersect (red arrows). Here we find, Bob would be a second cousin, once removed from you.

How Are You Related?							
Generation Difference		1	2	3	4	5	6
Common Ancestor	Child	Grandchild	Great Grandchild	Great-Great Grandchild <i>Bob</i>	Great-Great-Great Grandchild	Great-Great-Great Grandchild	
1	Child	Sibling	Newpew or Niece	Grandnephew or Grandniece	Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	Great Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece
2	Grandchild	Newpew or Niece	First Cousin	First Cousin Once Removed	First Cousin Twice Removed	First Cousin Three Times Removed	First Cousin Four Times Removed
3	Great Grandchild <i>You</i>	Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Once Removed	Second Cousin	Second Cousin Once Removed	Second Cousin Twice Removed	Second Cousin Three Times Removed
4	Great-Great Grandchild	Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Twice Removed	Second Cousin Once Removed	Third Cousin	Third Cousin Once Removed	Third Cousin Twice Removed
5	Great-Great-Great Grandchild	Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Three Times Removed	Second Cousin Twice Removed	Third Cousin Once Removed	Fourth Cousin	Fourth Cousin Once Removed
6	Great-Great-Great-Great Grandchild	Great Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Four Times Removed	Second Cousin Three Times Removed	Third Cousin Twice Removed	Fourth Cousin Once Removed	Fifth Cousin



Once Removed?

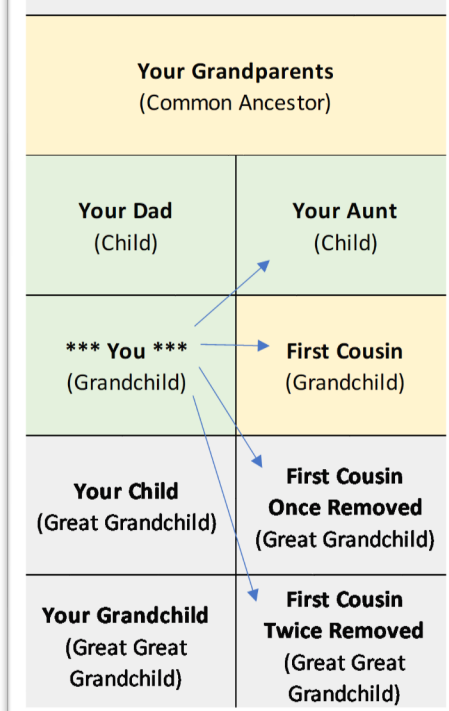
In this chart you can see the relationships laid out a little differently.

Here you can see that the “removed” part is just a generational difference.

As you can see, the child of your first cousin is your first cousin, once removed. Thus, one generation difference from your relationship with your first cousin.

Two generations different would be the same cousin relationship (first cousins) but twice removed.

Example: (Relationship to Common Ancestor)
Arrows show relationship to you.



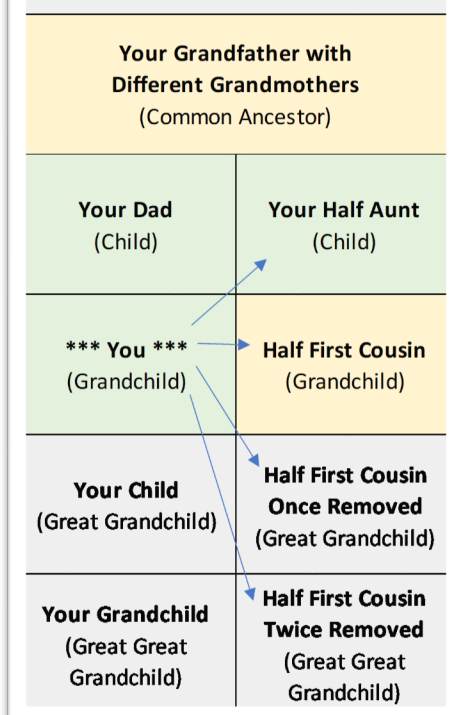
What about Half Relationships?

In this example, whenever there are common ancestors with child born from one different parent, we simple state it as a half relationship in front of the cousin relationship.

This can be particularly important to remember when doing DNA descendency research as the expected Centimorgans (cM) will be less than a full relationship.

Go to <https://dnainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4> to see the cM ranges for half and full relationships (for those doing DNA research).

Example: (Half Relationships)
Arrows show relationship to you.



Here is a clean copy you can print and write on.

		How Are You Related?						
		Generation Difference →	1	2	3	4	5	6
Generation Difference ↓	Common Ancestor	Child	Grandchild	Great Grandchild	Great-Great Grandchild	Great-Great-Great Grandchild	Great-Great-Great-Great Grandchild	
	1	Child	Sibling	Newpewh or Niece	Grandnephew or Grandniece	Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	Great Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece
	2	Grandchild	Newpewh or Niece	First Cousin	First Cousin Once Removed	First Cousin Twice Removed	First Cousin Three Times Removed	First Cousin Four Times Removed
	3	Great Grandchild	Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Once Removed	Second Cousin	Second Cousin Once Removed	Second Cousin Twice Removed	Second Cousin Three Times Removed
	4	Great-Great Grandchild	Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Twice Removed	Second Cousin Once Removed	Third Cousin	Third Cousin Once Removed	Third Cousin Twice Removed
	5	Great-Great-Great Grandchild	Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Three Times Removed	Second Cousin Twice Removed	Third Cousin Once Removed	Fourth Cousin	Fourth Cousin Once Removed
	6	Great-Great-Great-Great Grandchild	Great Great Great Grandnephew or Grandniece	First Cousin Four Times Removed	Second Cousin Three Times Removed	Third Cousin Twice Removed	Fourth Cousin Once Removed	Fifth Cousin

Video for this handout is "[Cousins! What is a Second Cousin? DNA Cousins? Cousin Chart!](#)"