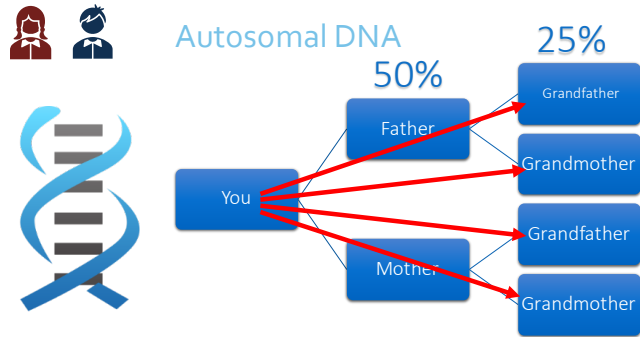


AncestryDNA® Outline

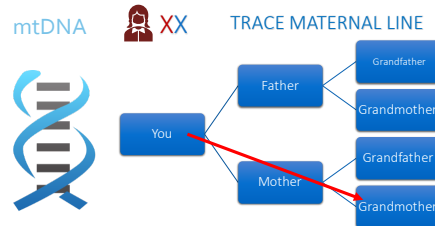
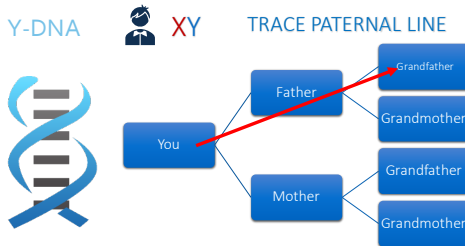
Today we are focused only on AncestryDNA® and how it can help us with our DNA Research

Basics

- Autosomal – Is the most popular. It is at all companies and is the only test available at AncestryDNA.
- YDNA
- mtDNA



INHERITANCE CUTS IN HALF WITH EACH GENERATION



Ancestry

- Ethnicity Estimates (Hint Feature)
- ThruLines® (Hint Feature)
- DNA Matches



DNA Cousin Matches

- cM Buckets
- Small Segments – Ancestry cuts off at 8 cM's because at 7-8 cM there is a 50% chance of it being a false segment.
- Longest Segment helps us determine if it is a true or false match.

Using DNA for Search for Clues

- Divide and Conquer
 - Divide Your DNA Matches Along Family Lines
 - Pre-Plan How You are Grouping Your DNA Matches
- Search DNA Cousin Match Trees for Clues and Records
 - Drill Your Matches and Look at their Trees.
 - Reach Out to Close Matches for Information in messages or emails.
 - Less is more. Do not write a long history.
 - Make an offer of information.
 - Create Floating Trees as needed to help connect the dots. See the Floating Trees on the Genealogy TV YouTube channel.

DNA Matches

Do not be overwhelmed by the number of DNA Matches. We can organize, filter, and search them for ancestor clues.

Filters

Always pay attention to your filters. You may have the list filtered and not realize it. Here, the list is filtered by the maternal side.

Search by Surname

The screenshot shows a search interface for DNA matches. At the top, there are tabs for 'All matches', 'By parent', 'BETA', 'By ancestor', and 'By location'. Below this is a 'Filter by:' section with buttons for 'Unviewed', 'Common ancestors', 'Notes', 'Trees', 'Shared DNA', and 'Maternal'. A red box highlights the 'Search' button in the top right. Below the filters, there are search fields for 'Match name', 'Surname in matches' trees', and 'Birth location in matches' trees'. A red box highlights the 'Surname in matches' trees' field. A red arrow points from the text 'the list is filtered by the maternal side.' to the 'Maternal' filter button. Another red arrow points from the 'Search' button to the 'Surname in matches' trees' field.

Filtering by surname will allow you to search your DNA Cousin match trees, by Surname. This helps find those DNA cousins who might have other parts of the family branches that you do not have. Using their trees, adding Floating Trees/Branches can help you connect the dots.

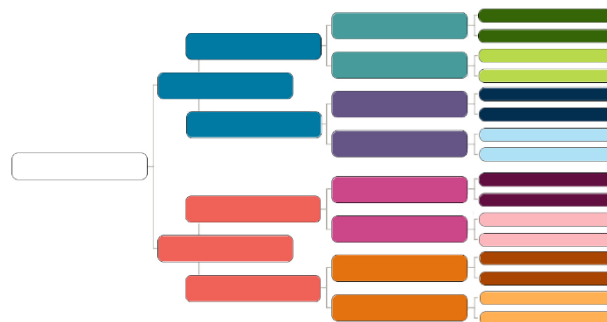
Stack Filters

The screenshot shows the same search interface as above, but with the 'Maternal' filter button highlighted in a dark grey color, indicating it is selected. The other filters are in a lighter grey color.

Strategic Grouping Along Branches

Before you start grouping your DNA Matches along branches of the family tree, let us strategically figure out a color scheme using Ancestry's colors. See the handout called Grouping Your DNA Matches.

Once you decide your color scheme, next it is time to figure out what branch of the tree you are focused on. What is your research question?



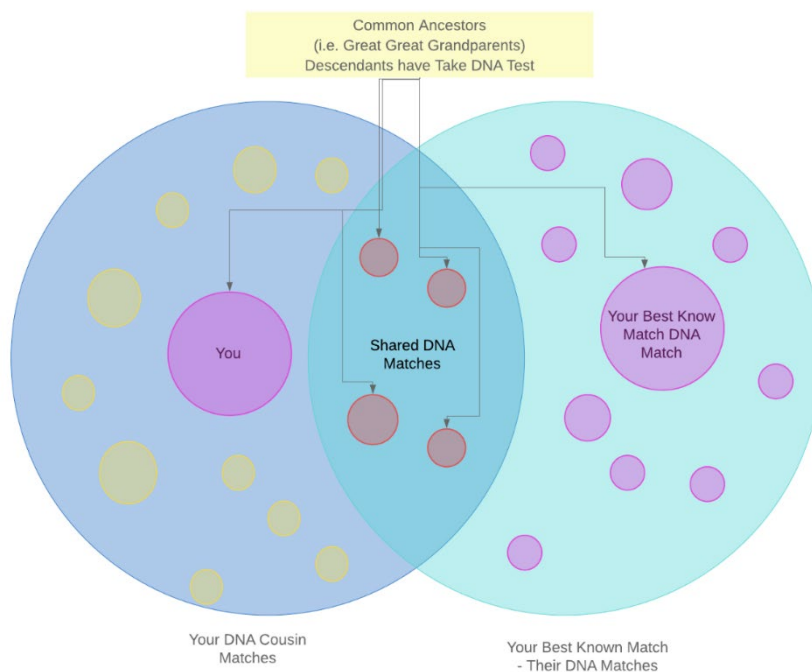
Shared Matches

What if you could take a specific cousin who you know to be on one branch of the family and then figure out all the DNA cousins you both share?

You can with the **Shared Matches Tool!**

Find Your **“Best-Known Match”** along one branch of the tree. This is the branch you want to know more about. See the Grouping DNA Cousin Matches Handout.

Colorize everyone in that branch that you and your Best-Known Match share. Let us say you have filtered to your **Best-Known Match**. Since this is a DNA match you know... you also know who your common ancestors are. For example, a second cousin, you both share a set of great grandparents. Assuming you both have that ancestral couple in both of your trees, you will see the Common Ancestors when you drill into the **Best-Known Match’s** name.



A DNA Research Process

This is one way you could work-the-problem... the research question starting with the research question.

- **Research Question**
 - Know who you want to research.
 - Your Tree is Verified to this Point.
- **Organize the Color Scheme** of your Tree for Grouping.
- **Search the DNA Cousins Matches** to refine the list using Filters or Search.
- **Group Cousin Matches** to that branch of the tree.
 - Use Your **Best-Known Match**.
 - **Shared Matches Tool**.
 - **Add a color** that represents the branch of the family. (Pencil icon on right).
 - You can then filter by those groups.
- **Research DNA Cousin Trees for...**
 - **Clues**
 - **Records**
 - **Collabs**
- **Create Floating Trees** to connect the cousins to your tree.
- Pay Attention to Your Filters! It is easy to forget the filters are on.

Conclusions

Worth Repeating - Use traditional genealogy in combination with DNA to help prove your ancestry.

You will not inherit Autosomal DNA from all branches of your distant tree. It dies out. DNA is at its infancy. There is more for us to learn. Take it slow.

Recommendations

Your DNA Guide (affiliate) <https://www.yourdnaguide.com/ref/6/>

Legacy Tree Genealogy (affiliate) <https://www.legacytree.com/genealogytv>

Book - The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy (affiliate)
<https://amzn.to/3m1JeV8>

More from Genealogy TV on YouTube

