

UPDATE – DNA FOR AGS

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How to Find New Genetic Cousins by Transferring Your DNA



If you have been tested by AncestryDNA, Family Finder (FF) at Family Tree DNA (FTDNA), MyHeritage, or 23andMe, there are now ways to find & connect with many new Genetic Cousins for FREE.

If you haven't been DNA tested yet, please do so. It opens up a whole new world of possibilities to break down your genealogy brick walls.

Both MyHeritage & FTDNA allow raw DNA data exchanges between them and they both accept raw DNA data from 23andMe & AncestryDNA.

Both MyHeritage & FTDNA have clear instructions on how to transfer raw DNA data from their competitors. Once the raw DNA data is transferred, you will typically have access to many new Genetic Cousins.

Unfortunately, neither AncestryDNA nor 23andMe allow raw DNA data to be transferred to their sites.

IMPORTANT COURTESY: You shouldn't contact a new Genetic Cousin until you have posted your own FAMILY TREE on one of these four sites!

BACKGROUND: All four of these tests are called atDNA = autosomal DNA tests. They all measure over 600,000 SNPS on all 46 of your chromosomes. These test results will match you with both female & male tested Genetic Cousins back five or six generations, which is a very powerful tool. Don't be surprised if you find Genetic Cousins who have surnames that you don't recognize. One or more of your great grandparents had a sister who had a daughter who had a daughter, etc. First, second & third cousin matches are considered reliable.

All four of these atDNA tests give you rough estimates of your % ethnicity. You will find that the results from these four companies often don't agree with each other. They are predicted to become more accurate as more people get tested & as more background research is done by the four testing companies.

My next column will discuss the power achieved when you transfer your raw DNA data to GEDmatch.com.