

# Every Surname In Your Pedigree Can Benefit from YDNA Testing

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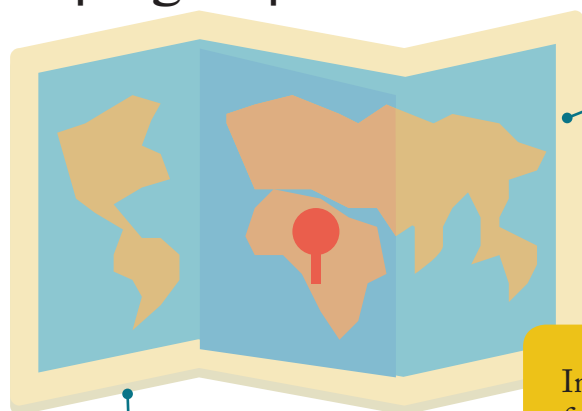


Many genealogists have hopped on the DNA testing bandwagon only to be faced with test results that they don't understand. Like any new toy, it just takes someone who knows how, to show you how! Here are a few quick tips for jumping into your **YDNA** test results.

Remember, the **YDNA** is the direct paternal line test. It can tell you information about your **direct paternal line**. Only males can take the test, so if you are a female, you will need to use your powers of persuasion to get a brother, father, uncle, or cousin to test for you.

Once you submit your DNA sample to the laboratory for testing and it is processed, you get two different kinds of results from the testing company: a haplogroup and a profile.

## Haplogroup



A haplogroup is a DEEP ANCESTRAL group. That means that it describes the heritage of your direct paternal line or your direct maternal line on a very extended scale- think tens of thousands of years ago.

Knowing your haplogroup can act as a GPS- a genealogical positioning system to help you better understand where your line originated.

Investigate the following tools at FTDNA to learn more about your haplogroup and origins.

Some haplogroups can be very specific, even helping you understand a country of origin for your ancestors- but that usually requires additional testing.

Visit [www.eupedia.com](http://www.eupedia.com) and look through their genetics and anthropology section to learn more about your European haplogroups.

My DNA		My Projects	Resources
My Y-DNA		Matches	
My mtDNA		Advanced Matching	
Family Finder		Ancestral Origins	
Other Results		Haplogroup Origins	
		Haplotree & SNPs	
		Matches Maps	
		Migration Maps	
		Printable Certificates	
		SNP Map	
		Standard Y-STR Results	

# Your Haplogroup- Digging Deeper

*Some next-steps for those interested in deep ancestry*

## 1 Projects

Nearly every haplogroup has a project established at Family Tree DNA to help you navigate the world of SNP testing to verify your haplogroup. You can find your group by clicking on the “Projects” tab at the top of your FTDNA home page, and then searching for your haplogroup. Join the project, and then reach out to the Project Administrator for further instructions.

## 2 Get SNP tested

If you want to move forward on your own, here are your SNP testing options.



[www.genographic.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.genographic.nationalgeographic.com)



## DNA Profile

*Called a “haplotype” if you want to be technical.*



Your YDNA profile works to help you verify and extend your paternal and maternal lines respectively.

Because of the way this kind of DNA is inherited, a living person tested today can almost exactly represent every ancestor on a direct paternal line for at least 8 generations, and up to 12 or more! This means that you have an original document from 8 generations ago right inside of you!

The power of YDNA testing is in finding matches to your YDNA profile. A match indicates that you share common ancestry with that person- you are genetic cousins! But all matches are not created equal. In YDNA testing we are only interested in individuals who have:

**3** or fewer  
differences  
from your profile

67 MARKERS - 16	
Genetic Distance	
2	
2	
2	
2	
4	
5	
6	
6	

As reflected in the genetic distance column in your match table at FTDNA.

# Family Projects

Harnessing the true power of YDNA testing



Your Homework:  
Google your surname + DNA like:

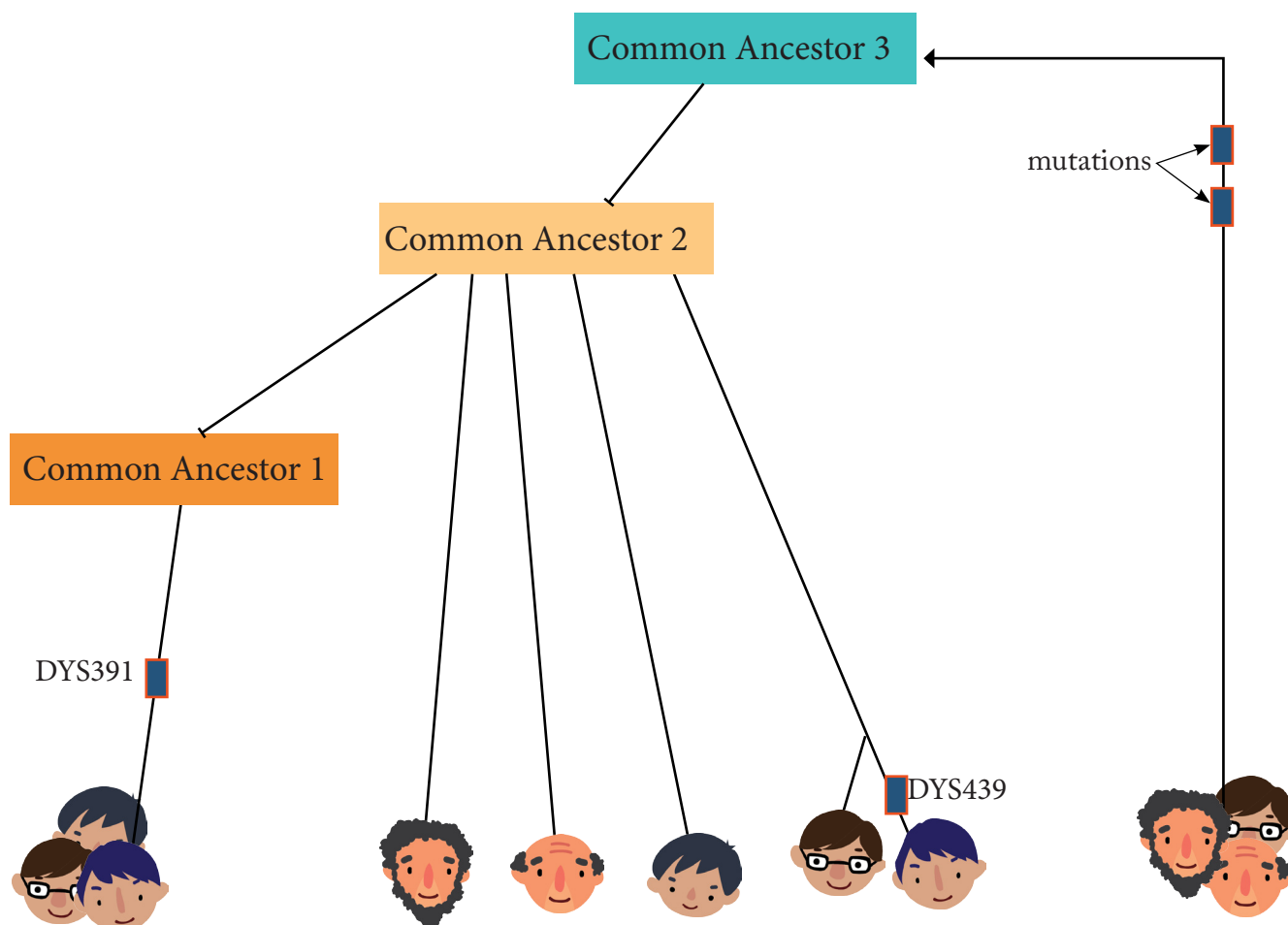
## Southard DNA

so you can get a feel for how many people with your surname have already been tested. You can look through the lists of earliest known ancestors to become familiar with those who are currently represented in the database.

Markers: Y-DNA12		Page Size: 500	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show All Columns
Kit Number	Name	Paternal Ancestor Name	
Buffalo Shoals Morrison - Married Mary, daughter of Immigrant Brother James			
MIN			
MAX			
MODE			
269835	Morrison		
From the line of Immigrant Brother Andrew			
MIN			
MAX			
MODE			
131	Morrison		
4508	Morrison		
282724	MorrisonJames Morrison		
From the line of Immigrant Brother James			
MIN			
MAX			
MODE			
32434	MorrisonJames Morrison b 1702 (PA 1730 > NC 1750)		
32309	Morrison		
N107668	MorrisonPA		
121684	MorrisonRobert Morrison (1596) Glasgow, Scotland		
From the line of Immigrant Brother Thomas			
MIN			
MAX			
MODE			
48157	MorrisonThomasMorrison1783SilverCreekNC f of JohnDuckworth		
82890	MorrisonWilliam Morrison, ca. 1735-1807		
153558	Morrison		
133809	Morrison		
From the line of Immigrant Brother William			
MIN			
MAX			
MODE			
294919	morrison		
50301	MorrisonWilliam Morrison, b 1704, d 1771		
Ungrouted			
528530	Opt		
45346	MorrisonWilliam Morrison, 1757 - 1837		
151967	Morrison		
263294	Opt		
240201	Walker James Walker, b. abt 1795, Scotland; m		
318940	Akers		
252650	Akers		

Gathering multiple descendants of a proven or presumed common ancestor can sometimes help you make discoveries about how various individuals are related to each other. We do this by tracking the mutations that have occurred over time and determining what the likely YDNA profile was of the common ancestors. For many this process will produce the situation below, which is helpful. But for a select few, it may be able to tell you much more about the relationships of the individuals involved.

**Guiding Principle:** A YDNA mutation should happen just one time, at a common ancestor. Therefore any individuals sharing a common mutation should share a common ancestor with each other before they share a common ancestor with the rest of the group.



# step by step

## 1 find the guy

You know, THE guy. The one who holds that perfect, magic Y chromosome that just might be able to solve your genealogical question. This is a direct paternal descendant of the ancestor you have a question about. For most of us this will be a living man today who has the same surname as the ancestor you want to find out about.

## 2 get tested

You can only be YDNA tested for family history purposes at Family Tree DNA.

[www.ftdna.com](http://www.ftdna.com)

You can start with the 37 marker test, though you will likely eventually upgrade to the 67 markers.

## 3 become a groupie

Remember that the power of YDNA can only be attained in a group setting. So join (or start!) your surname group. Encourage others on your match list to join. Correspond with your project coordinator and encourage him or her to post the genealogy of your group online using FTDNA's web hosting service.

## 4 marriage

Of genetics and genealogy, of course! Use the pedigree and genetic information to try to determine how each paternal line is related to each other. Recruit additional individuals where needed. Verify your hypothesis with traditional genealogical methods.