The Family History Guide: Learn, Search & Succeed

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https://thefhguide.com

This RootsTech presentation provides an overview of The Family History Guide website and how it can help you learn, search, and succeed in your family history efforts. Note that The Family History Guide is part of The Family History Guide Association, a charitable non-profit organization funded by donations.

Part One: Learn

- A. Learn to navigate The Family History Guide website. Its drop-down menus and finding tools are simple and easy to use. Explore the Search link, <u>Topics</u> page, and <u>Features</u> Help. The website is mobile-responsive there is no separate app to download.
- B. Get familiar with The Family History Guide's learning system, based on Projects, Goals, Choices and Steps. It's flexible, with options to pursue many different learning paths.
- C. Walk through Project 1: FamilySearch, <u>Goal 1</u> as an example. You'll discover links to articles and videos, as well as Summaries and Exercises for each Choice in the Goal.
- D. Browse the other Goals in Project 1. We'll point out some items of interest along the way. Each Project in The Family History Guide is organized on the same structure of Projects, Goals, Choices and Steps.
- E. Browse <u>Project 2: Memories</u> in FamilySearch, including tips for gathering family records and conducting interviews.
- F. Browse <u>Project 4: Discover Project</u> in FamilySearch, including best practices for forming research strategies and solving research problems.
- G. Explore the <u>General Knowledgebase</u> in The Family History Guide. It's an ongoing information source on general research topics.
- H. Browse Projects in Ancestry, including DNA.

- I. Browse Projects in MyHeritage, including DNA.
- J. Browse Projects in Findmypast.
- K. Visit the <u>Vault</u>, a secondary resource in The Family History Guide with links to hundreds of additional articles and videos. These are arranged by category with an index.
- L. More: Activities and Faiths. Learn how these resources can open doors for learning and research.

Part Two: Search

- A. Browse Project 4: Discover, <u>Goal 6</u> Develop Search Skills. This covers basic skills, Google searches, search variations, etc.
- B. Browse Project 4: Discover, <u>Goal 4</u> and <u>Goal 5</u>. These cover FamilySearch-specific search skills and tools.
- C. Browse Ancestry Project 4: Research, <u>Goal 4</u>, <u>Goal 5</u>, and <u>Goal 6</u>. These cover Ancestry-specific search skills and tools.
- D. Explore the Countries menu and main <u>Countries</u> page. There are over 60 country pages in The Family History Guide, each with Goals, Choices, Steps, and links to helpful articles and videos. We'll visit a few of them.
- E. Find additional country links in The Family History Guide.
- F. Explore the <u>Countries Knowledgebase</u>. It's an ongoing information source on country-specific research topics.
- G. Explore the <u>United States</u> country page. Its Goals are grouped into categories.
- H. Discover the power of QUIKLinks and how they can take you to record search screens just-in-time.
- I. Review county links in U.S. states. There are also county links for <u>England</u>, province links for <u>Canada</u>, and state links for <u>Australia</u>.
- J. Explore the Ethnic pages for The Family History Guide. These include <u>African American</u>, <u>Asian</u>, <u>Basque</u>, <u>Hispanic</u>, <u>Jewish</u>, and <u>Native American</u>.

Part Three: Succeed

- A. Learn how to download and use <u>Word Trackers</u> to monitor progress in The Family History Guide.
- B. Create and use a free account in the Online Tracker.
- C. Explore the Online Tracker features. Help screens are available in the drop-down menu.
- D. Use the Project Exercises to help you set skill levels for each Choice in the Online Tracker.
- E. Use Resource Stars to help you track progress.
- F. Run your own Stars Reports to see at a glance the resources you have used.
- G. Learn how to create Report Groups and run reports in the Online Tracker, to measure group progress over time.

Other Resources in The Family History Guide

- A. Social Media Pages: Blog, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram
- B. Media Page: Pass-along cards, brochures, flyers, etc.
- C. <u>Computer Basics</u>: How-to pages for PC, Mac, apps, social media, etc.
- D. Trainers Pages: How to use The Family History Guide to train others
- E. <u>Contact Us</u>: Send feedback, report a problem, etc.



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