

Ancestry DNA Steps



1. Open an Ancestry account – a free one is fine at the start
2. Go through your account settings and complete them, including your public profile
3. Start to build your family tree, direct ancestors first and then add the branches
4. Order your Ancestry DNA test, take the test when it arrives and send it off
5. Link your test to yourself on your Ancestry Family Tree
6. If you have a smartphone, download the Ancestry App and the Ancestry DNA App.
7. Go through your DNA settings and adjust as you wish
8. When your DNA results arrive, look at your ethnicity and see if it matches expectations
9. Download your DNA and save on your computer, so you can upload to GEDmatch etc.
10. Check out the info you get when clicking on the ? on the front screen of your DNA results
11. Filter your matches on 'Common Ancestors' and go through each one, labelling as to whether Mother's Side or Father's Side, and confirming the relationship with you
12. Look for shared surnames and locations and use the 'Search' facility
13. Complete your colour groupings on Ancestry – read 'Grouping Your DNA Matches'
14. Work on your shared matches – Read 'Shared Matches on Ancestry DNA'
15. Don't forget about your 'Centimorgan Relationships Chart'
16. Learn about endogamy – Read 'Endogamy'
17. Learn about a variation of colour grouping – Read 'The Leeds Method'
18. Consider all your ThruLines – which give you even more information if you have a subscription – Read 'ThruLines'
19. Add your DNA Matches to your tree and mark them with a DNA logo as their profile image
20. Contact whichever of your matches you want, through Ancestry Messages
21. Check out Ancestry Message Boards
22. Don't forget about the help available through Ancestry Academy and Ancestry Support
23. Check out useful blogs such as

<https://blogs.ancestry.co.uk/ancestry> (ancestry.co.uk)

<https://mossiesmusings.blogspot.com> (Christine Woodlands)

<https://genie1.com.au/blog> (Louise Coakley)

<https://thednageek.com> (Leah Larkin)

24. Think about getting other relatives on both sides of your tree to test - the older the better
25. Make sure you check each day, if possible, for new matches by filtering on the Menu
26. Record any good 'finds' or brick walls broken down as a result of your DNA test results, so you can share them with others
27. Upload your DNA to GEDmatch in preparation for the next stage of your analysis!