

Pedigree Charts

What is it?

A Pedigree Chart is a visual way to show the connection between you and your direct ancestors.

Where to find them?

Pedigree Charts can be found online for free. Here are some sites:

- <http://www.byub.org/ancestors/firstseries/teachersguide/charts-records.html> (shown on back)
- <http://www.ancestry.com/trees/charts/ancchart.aspx>
- <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/upload/images/PDF/ancestor.pdf>
- http://genealogy.about.com/library/free_charts/pedigree.pdf

If you enter your family history research into a genealogy software program, the program can create a pedigree chart for you to print that will include all of the data you have entered in.

Proper Techniques

1. To keep first name and surnames from being confused, it is considered best practice to capitalize every surname:

Ernest Vincent LARKIN

2. Names should always be entered in as the name the person was born with. Two examples of this would be:
 - a. Nicknames - Even though my grandpa went by the name 'Jack', he was born John Elmer THURMON and should be listed as such. Nicknames can be entered in parenthesis: John (Jack) Elmer THURMON.
 - b. Maiden Names - Women should be entered into your research always by their maiden name. Their married name is indicated on the pedigree chart through their relation to the spouse.
3. Dates should also be entered in a consistent pattern. As your research takes you back centuries and into foreign countries, you'll find dates are sometimes recorded by using different methods. Best practice for entering dates is to put the date, abbreviated month, and full 4-digit year. Example:

3 Feb 1853

If you do not know the full date, you can just list what you know such as 1853 or Feb 1853.

You can also use abbreviations such as: About/abt.; After/aft.; Approximately/approx.; Before/bef.; Between/bet.

Arthur William BRAUER

b. 24 May 1918

bp. Lockport, Niagara County, NY

m. 16 Jan 1943

mp. Clarence, Erie County, NY

d. 15 Oct 1987

dp. Clarence, Erie County, NY

ANCESTORS

Pedigree Chart

Write what you know about your ancestors on the pedigree chart below. Start with yourself (no. 1). If you don't know exact dates or places, estimate them. Example:

2 John Francis SMITH

Father (of no. 1)
Born 5 Oct 1876
Place Columbia, Boone Co., MO

Person Number 1 on this chart is the same as no. ___
on chart no. ___

