

Your Family Tree

Parents, Grandparents, Brothers, Sisters,
Aunts, Uncles, and Cousins —

How are all these people related to you?



A family tree is like a map of a family. Some start with one person and trace backward to parents, grandparents, and so on. Others start with a long-ago mom and dad and trace their descendants forward in time.

All families are different, so this chart probably won't exactly fit yours. Where's the space for step-grandma? Half-brothers? What if your family has two dads or two moms? Just draw them in! Your family tree should show the shape of your own family, however branchy it is.

As you fill in the tree, it's also fun to find out stories about the people on it. Then you can point

to your tree and say, "That's Uncle Jethro the musician. He once lured a mountain lion out of a bathroom with a piece of salami. And there's Great-Aunt Mabel who threw a pie at the mayor of Cairo because he sat on her favorite hat." Even if you don't know the names of your great-great-grandparents, your parents might know where they came from or something else about them.

You might notice that the farther back you go, the bigger the tree gets. So how come if you go back far enough, we all share the same ancestors? The trick is that eventually family trees start to overlap—someone's great-great-great grandmother on the mother's and father's sides might be the same woman.



Countries my ancestors came from:



Great
Grandfather
(Dad's Mom's Dad)



Great
Grandmother
(Dad's Mom's Mom)



Great
Grandfather
(Dad's Dad's Dad)

Great
Grandmother
(Dad's Dad's Mom)



Great Aunts & Uncles
My Grandparents'
Brothers & Sisters

Grandmother
My Dad's Mom



Grandfather
My Dad's Dad



My Aunts & Uncles
Dad's Brothers & Sisters: Married to:



DAD

My (cool) Cousins
(My Aunts' and Uncles' kids)

My Pets

ME

and my Brothers



Great
Grandmother
(Mom's Mom's Mom)



Great
Grandfather
(Mom's Mom's Dad)



Great
Grandmother
(Mom's Dad's Mom)

Great
Grandfather
(Mom's Dad's Dad)



Grandmother
My Mom's Mom



Grandfather
My Mom's Dad

Great Aunts & Uncles
My Grandparents'
Brothers & Sisters



MOM



My Aunts & Uncles
Mom's Brothers & Sisters: Married to:



& Sisters:

My (cool) Cousins
(My Aunts' and Uncles' kids)