

# Beginner's Genealogy on the Internet

March 2010

This pathfinder will be useful for beginners who would like to start a family history search using the Internet. On a cautionary note, remember that the Internet is merely a vehicle to help you begin the process. It is not the only resource you should use, but is a wonderful road map to help you start your ancestry search.

For an introduction to the topic, see:

- [The Online Genealogy Handbook by Brad Schepp](#) (2008) 929.1 SCH

## Key Resources at a Glance:

- [Secrets of Tracing Your Ancestors by W. Daniel Quillen](#) (2009) 929.1 QUI
- Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet Beginners <http://www.cyndislist.com/beginner.htm>

## Resources

### Books

- [How to do Everything Genealogy by George G. Morgan](#) (2009) 929.1 MOR
- [Finding Anyone, Anywhere, Anywhen, by Noel Montgomery Elliot](#) (2009) 929.1 ELL
- [The Official Guide to Ancestry.com by George G. Morgan](#) (2008) 025.069291 MOR
- [Genealogy Online 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Elizabeth Powell Crowe](#) (2009) 929.10285 CRO
- [The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy by Loretto Dennis Szucs](#) (2006) 929.1 SOU
- [Genealogy Online for Dummies 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Matthew Helm](#) (2008) 929.10285 HEL

### Journals

- [Family Chronicle](#)
- [Family Tree Magazine](#)
- [Heritage Quest](#)
- [Everton's Genealogical Helper](#)

## Search Aids

### Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

- Genealogy
- Internet Genealogy
- Online Genealogy

### Subject Headings

(Use in card catalogs and print indexes)

- Genealogy-Data Processing
- Genealogy-Computer Network Resources
- Genealogy
- Internet

### Call Number

- 929.1 (Dewey Decimal)
- 929.4 (Dewey Decimal)
- 025.06929 (Dewey Decimal)

### Indexes and Abstracts

- EBSCOHost <http://search.ebscohost.com>
- FirstSearch <http://firstsearch.oclc.org>

### Library catalogs

- Urbandale Public Library <http://www.urbandalelibrary.org>
- SILO -- (Iowa Locator) -- State-wide catalog <http://z3950.silo.lib.ia.us/cgi-bin/zform.CGI?SILO>
- WorldCat - world-wide catalog <http://worldcat.org>

## Magazine Articles

- “Strangled by Roots” by Steven Pinker, *New Republic*. (August 6, 2007, Vol, 237, Issue 3)  
Available through EBSCOhost
- “Ancestry.com Hopes to Stand Test of Time”, by Douglas MacMillan, *Business Week Online*.  
(November 5, 2009) Available through EBSCOhost

## Web Pages and Web Portals

- World Vital Records (<http://worldvitalrecords.com>)
- USGen Web Project (<http://www.usgenweb.org>)
- Ellis Island Records (<http://www.ellisland.org>)
- Family Search (<http://www.familysearch.org>)
- Genealogy.com (\$) (<http://www.genealogy.com>)
- LinkPendium (<http://www.linkpendium.com>)
- Cyndi’s List (<http://www.cyndislist.com>)
- Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (<http://www.raogk.org>)
- BYU Family History Archives (<http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc>)
- US National Archives (<http://www.archives.gov>)
- RootswEB (<http://www.rootswEB.com>)
- HeritageQuest-inside and outside usage from the Urbandale Public Library  
(<http://www.heritagequestonline.com>)
- Ancestry.com-inside usage only at the Urbandale Public Library  
(<http://ancestrylibrary.proquest.org>)

## Organizations

- Iowa Genealogical Society  
628 E. Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
515-276-0287  
<http://www.iowagenealogy.org>  
e-mail address: [igs@iowagenealogy.org](mailto:igs@iowagenealogy.org)
- Family History Center  
3301 Ashworth Rd.  
Des Moines, IA 50265  
515-225-0416
- State Historical Library  
600 E Locust  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
<http://www.iowahistory.org>

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