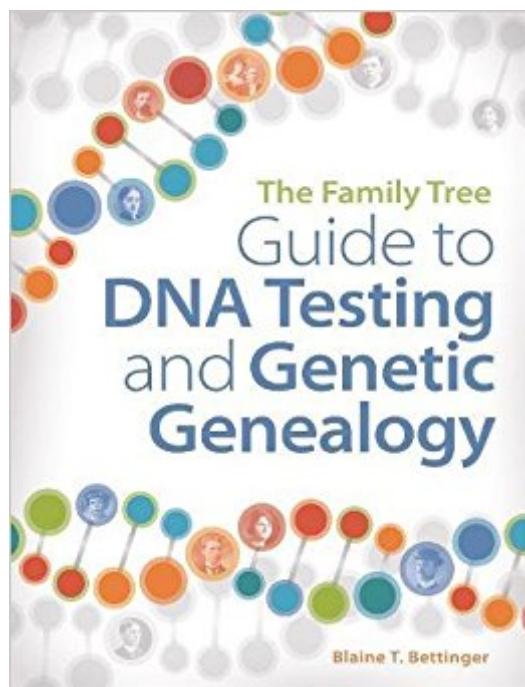


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# The Family Tree Guide To DNA Testing And Genetic Genealogy



## Synopsis

Unlock the secrets in your DNA! Discover the answers to your family history mysteries using the most-cutting edge tool available. This plain-English guide is a one-stop resource for how to use DNA testing for genealogy. Inside, you'll find guidance on what DNA tests are available, plus the methodologies and pros and cons of the three major testing companies and advice on choosing the right test to answer your specific genealogy questions. And once you've taken a DNA test, this guide will demystify the often-overwhelming subject and explain how to interpret DNA test results, including how to understand ethnicity estimates and haplogroup designations, navigate suggested cousin matches, and use third-party tools like GEDmatch to further analyze your data. To give you a holistic view of genetic testing for ancestry, the book also discusses the ethics and future of genetic genealogy, as well as how adoptees and others who know little about their ancestry can especially benefit from DNA testing. The book features: Colorful diagrams and expert definitions that explain key DNA terms and concepts such as haplogroups and DNA inheritance patterns Detailed guides to each of the major kinds of DNA tests and which tests can solve which family mysteries, with case studies showing how each can be useful Information about third-party tools you can use to more thoroughly analyze your test results once you've received them Test comparison guides and research forms to help you select the most appropriate DNA test and organize your results and research once you've been tested Whether you've just heard of DNA testing or you've tested at all three major companies, this guide will give you the tools you need to unpuzzle your DNA and discover what it can tell you about your family tree.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[This] Guide to DNA Testing offers a lot of information for the beginner and advanced researcher alike...[and] is easy to read and comprehend" --Bobbi King for Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter "There are very few titles on my book shelf in my genealogy office that I refer to constantly. I know that The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy will be one of those titles for years to come. I don't think I could have made some of my recent progress in my research without the valuable information provided by a knowledgeable DNA [expert] like Blaine Bettinger." --Thomas MacEntee "Informative. Understandable. Solid." --Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist "[Bettinger] describes, in the simplest of terms, how to begin using genetic technologies to connect with both close and more distant members of our great human family." --Jennifer Wagner for Genome magazine

Blaine Bettinger, Baldwinsville, NY, [thegeneticgenealogist.com](http://thegeneticgenealogist.com). Blaine is an intellectual property attorney who started The Genetic Genealogist, one of the first and most widely read blogs on DNA-related genealogy topics.

This 240-page book is the most complete and up-to-date resource on genetic genealogy. While some material is too advanced for raw beginners, you will want this comprehensive book on hand as you work your way through the DNA testing process. Blaine clearly explains all the different DNA types and their individual inheritance patterns. Then he adds lots of supplementary information, including a great list of More Resources. Blaine naturally encourages readers to read his book from start to finish. But not many people read their vehicle owner's manual before taking their new car for a ride. Likewise, you don't need 100% of this knowledge before jumping into the exciting world of DNA testing. Furthermore, each topic will make much more sense when you have your own results to look at. Do read enough to understand the key points. For example, it's important to know that autosomal DNA passes on random selections of each parent's DNA. But you can get by without knowing exactly HOW recombination occurs. The subject of X-DNA inheritance confuses even experienced testers. So just skip that chapter until (and if) you encounter a situation where an understanding of X-DNA is needed. The book is available in both print and Kindle formats. I purchased the print version due to the many excellent tables and illustrations.

There are other books out there about DNA testing for genealogy, but this one is head and shoulders above. It presents up to date information for this evolving field, introducing the science of

genetic genealogy in easy to understand chapters. The three types of DNA testing are discussed, sorting out the advantages and limitations of each. The author leads you through how to interpret your own results, and how to use available tools to get the most thorough analysis. He discusses ethical issues surrounding "surprises" in your DNA and searching for birth parents. Simple charts illustrate the points he makes. Whether you are a professional genealogist or just curious about your genetic makeup, this book will be an excellent reference source for many years to come.

I have several books on the topic, read blogs, read articles, take classes--and here it all is, organized wonderfully, great graphics, excellent information, printed on good paper--an excellent buy--and so much easier to comprehend as you read through it rather than picking up bits and pieces hither, thither and yon. I highly recommend it, am highlighting and flagging it extensively. A MUST purchase.

I have been working with genetic genealogy for five years, and I highly recommend this book! It has everything a beginner needs to know, and has all the topics someone with more experience might need to review now and then. Charts, diagrams, and clear explanations. If you have taken a DNA test and want to get the most from your results, this book will show you how to do that!

I'm a self-taught genealogist who's spent way too much time over the years piecing family trees together over the years....with a lot of success. I've fought getting involved in the DNA side of things for years. I'm not one who ever had an easy time in biology or the sciences...., and it just seemed intimidating and impersonal. BUT....I was up against a huge wall with one of my husband's family lines and I could either quit....or try DNA. I decided to take the DNA plunge....and after reading every page of this book, I'm ashamed that I waited so long to get on the bandwagon. This author makes things super simple to understand....and provides so many helpful illustrations that break down the information into understandable blocks powerful knowledge. What is even better? The DNA market is hard to understand if you don't know what you are doing....If you are confused about whether to go with Ancestry's test, or one of the products on FamilyTreeDNA or 23AndME.....this is THE BOOK. It'll help you invest your dollars in the tests the will be the most help....right from the get-go....AND understand the results!!! This book is gold. Thanks Blaine T. Bettinger. I was on Ancestry's DNA support forum asking questions....and another user referred me to the book and told me I could get it all right here. He was right.

Excellent book on what DNA Testings and what it can tell you and what it can not. The author has a degree in biochemistry, but is also a genealogist so the book is written so the average genealogist can understand. It covers the four main types of tests, mt DNA Testing, Y-DNA Testing, atDNA Testing, and X-DNA Testing and the advantages and limitations on each. He also covers the three main Genealogical Sites DNA Tests (Ancestry DNA, 23 and Me, and Family Tree DNA) and how they differ. Filled with charts and graphs the book is up to date and easy to understand. Highly Recommended for those who have taken a DNA Test or thinking about it. Not only for genealogical purposes but any of other reasons.

A fascinating non scientist review of a highly technical subject. Well done. This is a very interesting area with lots of upside in the future.

The Guide covers the basic types of DNA tests and tools for analysis of the test results. The book is both a text and reference book very useful to those about to make the decision to have their DNA tested at one of the 3 major DNA testing companies as well as those who want to make good use of their test results. Those who enjoy doing historic genealogy will find knowledge of genetics a valuable tool to aid in their research.

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