Fast Accurate Research – FamilySearch

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A. Start with the broadest search possible using the "Search" and "Records" links:

1. **Put a location in the "Any" field** (not birth, death, marriage or even name), then hit enter
2. Next put in a **last name only** and check the box at the end of the "any" and the "last name" lines
3. At this point **if you have only a few hundred names**, **search using the browser's search box, or use a filter**
4. If there are more than a few hundred names, **try additional options (see C, below)**

B. Decendancy Research (Family Search) – WONDERFUL – great place to start
https://familysearch.org/tree/pedigree/XXXX-XXX/descendancy

1. Expand back to about 1700 on any line, and change to "Generations 4", then uncheck "portraits"

2. Use the "Show" (it helps explain the options)

C. Important options:

1. **Five Search Strategies** – There are 5 basic strategies, but try one at a time
   a. **Narrow Filters** – parents, marriage, locations, countries
   b. Use **"Wild Cards"** - asterisk and question marks
   c. **Add a Relationship** – spouse, parents, other
   d. **Add a Life Event** – marriage, residence, etc
   e. **Browse Images** – find "images that are not yet indexed"
2. **Exact, Close and Partial, compared** – try using each of the following
   a. **Exact** – put check in the box next to the field you type in (this turns off soundex)
   b. **Close** – a question mark can represent ONLY one character
   c. **Partial** – an asterisk can represent any number of characters (best to start with at least 3 characters)
3. **Narrow vs. Broad**
   a. **Narrow** = means that the results give very few results
   b. **Broad** = means that the results give the most results
4. **Filtering Results** – review the filtering possibilities on the left of the search screen and how to narrow down the results – Click on **show ALL results**, and then use **"control + f"** to search faster
5. **Types of Filters – parents, others, dates, locations, birth, death etc**

D. HINTS = https://familysearch.org/campaign/hints or use **https://www.findarecord.com/**

E. OBITUARIES of your ancestors = https://familysearch.org/obituaries PLEASE be sure to add ALL of the people included in the obituary, not just your direct line

G. How to retrieve "not a match" sources that you have rejected
https://familysearch.org/tree/#view=possibleDuplicates&person=(enter PID) omit the parenthesis

H. Upload a Gedcom – log into **FamilySearch**, click on **Search**, then **Genealogies**, then "**Submit Tree**", but do NOT do the compare (unless you are ABSOLUTELY sure you know what you are doing with the compare)

I. BYU Classes and Webinars: https://sites.lib.byu.edu/familyhistory/classes-and-webinars/

J. Examples of Basic Wiki Searches

1. From the main FamilySearch page, highlight "Search" then, scroll down and click on "Wiki"
2. In the "search box" type in a key word, category or topic, like: ***london, cemeteries, maps, parish, etc***
   Example: Type in the exact title of an article, like: ***FamilySearch Indexing: US, County Death Records, Overview***
3. Type in "some of the words" that are in the title of the article, like: ***churches in lincolnshire england***
4. At the bottom of every article there should be a "category" that you can click on to search further

K. Examples of Advanced Wiki Searches

1. Use all of the links on the main FamilySearch page, such as: ***catalog, books***
2. Use Google type variations to narrow searches, like:
   a) **quotes** = " "
   b) **range** = .. (two periods between a range of items, for example 1800..1850)
   c) **tilde** = ~ (it is on the left of the one key on the keyboard)
   d) **asterisk** = * (global character, but you cannot use the ? In this wiki)
   e) **delimiters** = AND, NOT, OR, +, -, (many more = here is just one site that shows delimiters = "http://www.googleguide.com/advanced_operators_reference.html")
3. Here is a good source of tips for FamilySearch and also Google searches:
   https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Internet_Search_Tips

L. Click on "Get Help" - Quick Start to Family Tree, FAQs, Learning Center Video Courses, What's New Tips and Tricks, Other Resources, Help Center, Learning Center, Research Wiki, Contact Us, Call Us, Live Chat, Send Message, Find Local Help, Remote Connect, My Cases

M. Mobile Apps:

1. FamilySearch
2. Memories (including audio)
3. More to come

N. Chrome Extensions – go to **More Tools**, **Extensions**, **Browse for More Extensions**, then **Add (+Free)**

1. **Find-A-Record** 2. **Roots Search**
3. **Ancestry Family Search Extension**
4. **Google Docs**