



## FIGG Volunteer Testing Information

Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) is an investigative technique to generate leads in unsolved violent crimes or unidentified human remains cases where DNA is present but remains unidentified. The unidentified DNA profile is searched in public databases accessible for law enforcement searching to attempt to identify a person of interest. Lists of potential relatives of the individual are generated and a genealogist builds family trees utilizing public records to potentially identify the person of interest. There are situations when obtaining a DNA profile from a member of the potential family lineage can aid in building family trees and identifying or eliminating potential persons of interest. A volunteer DNA sample is collected to potentially aid in this process.

FIGG is reliant on trust, support and participation by members of the public. The following information is provided to help the volunteer understand how their DNA data is used and what steps are taken to ensure their privacy.

### Common Questions and Concerns:

1. What will the volunteer's profile be used for?

The volunteer's profile will be used to aid in the genetic genealogical investigation of an unsolved violent crime or unidentified human remains case. The profile will be uploaded to a public genealogy database accessible for law enforcement searching to determine how they are related to the person of interest; this may aid in building family trees and identifying or eliminating potential candidates in a case.

The profile will not be entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) or any other law enforcement databases.

2. What options are available for testing?

A direct-to-consumer DNA testing kit may be provided by the investigating agency. It is recommended that the investigative agency provides a Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) Family Finder™ kit. It is also recommended that the investigator assist in completing the kit and mailing it to FTDNA. Instructions are provided with the FTDNA Family Finder™ kit for collection and account creation. The volunteer must opt-in for "Investigative Genetic Genealogy Matching (IGGM)" during account set-up for their profile to be searched by law enforcement. The volunteer must share their email



used for upload or FTDNA Family Finder™ kit number for future identification in any match list. For optimal genealogical research tools to be used, it is highly encouraged that after FTDNA testing is complete, the volunteer also uploads their DNA profile to GEDmatch and opt-in for law enforcement searching (see #4).

If FTDNA Family Finder™ kits are unavailable, another direct-to-consumer genetic testing kit can be utilized such as AncestryDNA®. Law enforcement can contact the FIGG team at the laboratory if help is needed to acquire a kit. If another testing company is utilized, the volunteer MUST upload their genetic profile to GEDmatch and opt-in for law enforcement searching (see #4).

3. Are there any concerns the volunteer should be aware of if submitting a kit to FTDNA?

If the volunteer would like to learn more about their ancestry, ethnicity, or potential genetic relatives, they can access their results after FTDNA has completed processing their kit. It should be noted, however, that this type of DNA testing can reveal previously unknown information about their genetic relatives that could potentially be traumatic and may cause difficulties within a family (e.g. adoptions, non-paternity, sperm or egg donation, illegitimacy, etc.). The volunteer can choose to submit a kit to FTDNA and then never access the results of the testing.

4. What if a volunteer has already tested with DNA?

If an individual has already taken a DNA test through a direct-to-consumer company like AncestryDNA®, etc., they must download their data and then upload it to GEDmatch to assist law enforcement. (See GEDmatch Download and Upload Instructions.) It is recommended that the investigator assists in this process if possible. The GEDmatch kit number and/or email address should be provided for future identification in any match list. When uploading to GEDmatch, the individual MUST opt-in for law-enforcement searching for their DNA data to be accessible.

5. Is there any follow-up that should happen after a volunteer has mailed their Family Finder™ kit to FTDNA?

Yes! It is recommended that the investigator follow-up to confirm the kit number and to ensure that the individual did opt-in to "Investigative Genetic Genealogy Matching (IGGM)." The volunteer is also encouraged to upload their data from FTDNA to GEDmatch as described above.



6. What identifying information will be associated with the volunteer's DNA data, and who has access to that identifying information?

An individual that collected their own FTDNA Family Finder™ kit (with assistance from the investigator) will be able to determine what information is associated with that kit number in FTDNA when setting up their account. Please remember that another user of that database will view contact information such as the associated email.

No identifying information or contact information will be released by the Indiana State Police to anyone outside of the investigation except pursuant to court order or as required by law.

7. What happens to a volunteer's data after a case is complete?

Any individual who voluntarily uploaded their own DNA testing results to GEDmatch and/or FTDNA and opted-in to law enforcement is in control of these results.



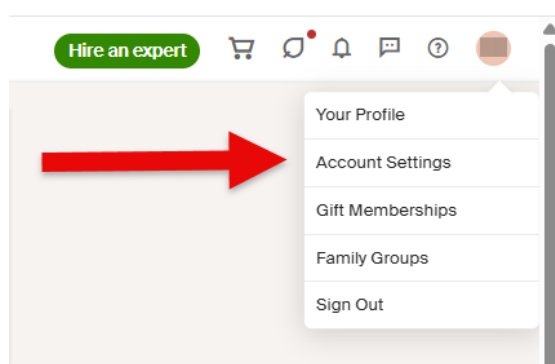
# How to Download Existing DNA Data and Upload to GEDmatch

## Part I- Download Existing DNA Data from Direct-to-Consumer DNA Testing Company

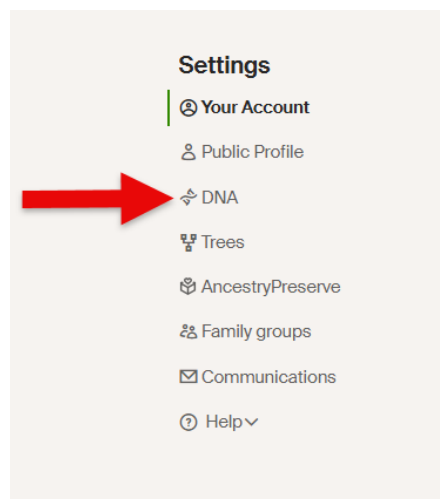
See below for detailed instructions for how to download existing DNA data from the applicable DNA testing company. Note the file name and location of downloaded DNA data. This will be used in Part II when uploading DNA data to GEDmatch. Instructions for each testing company can also be found at the listed web address.

### A. Ancestry DNA Download

1. Sign in to Ancestry account.
2. Go to “Account Settings” in top right corner.

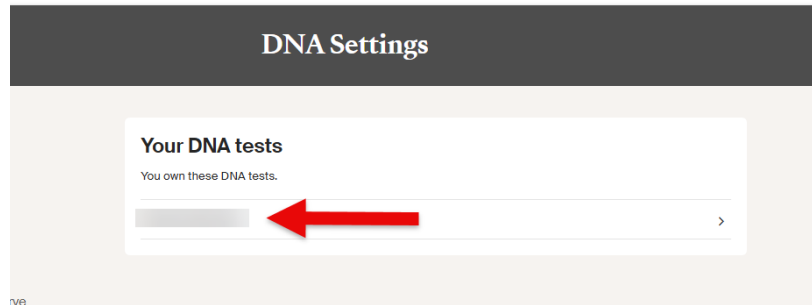


3. Click on “DNA” in the menu on the left.

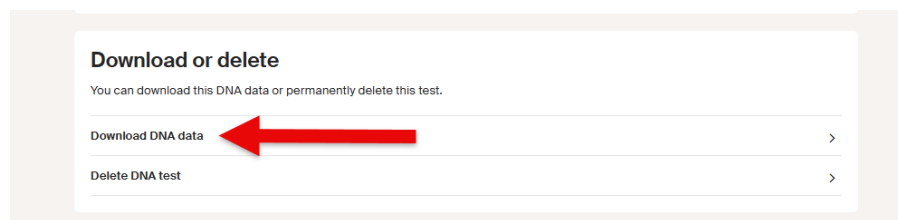




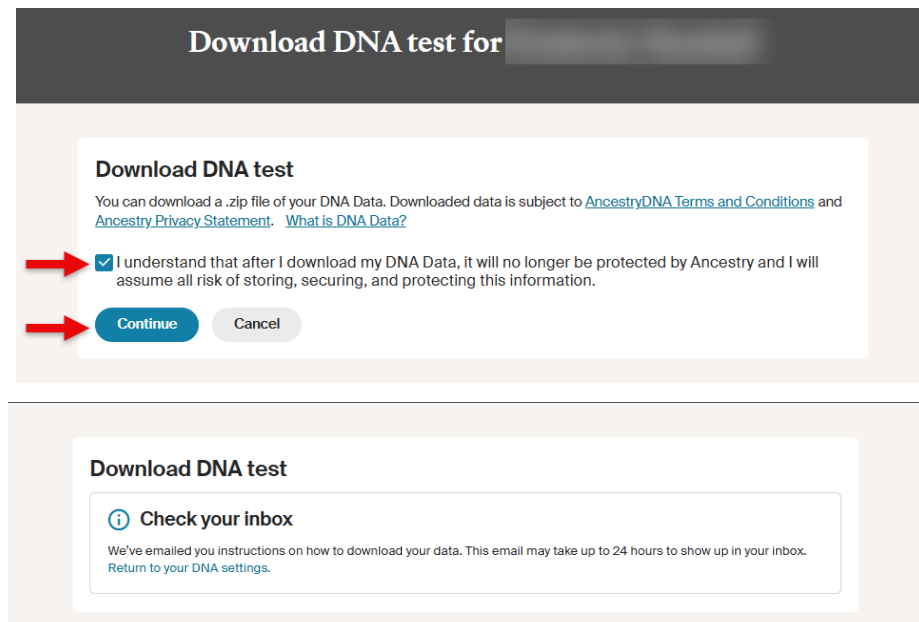
4. Choose the appropriate DNA test to download.



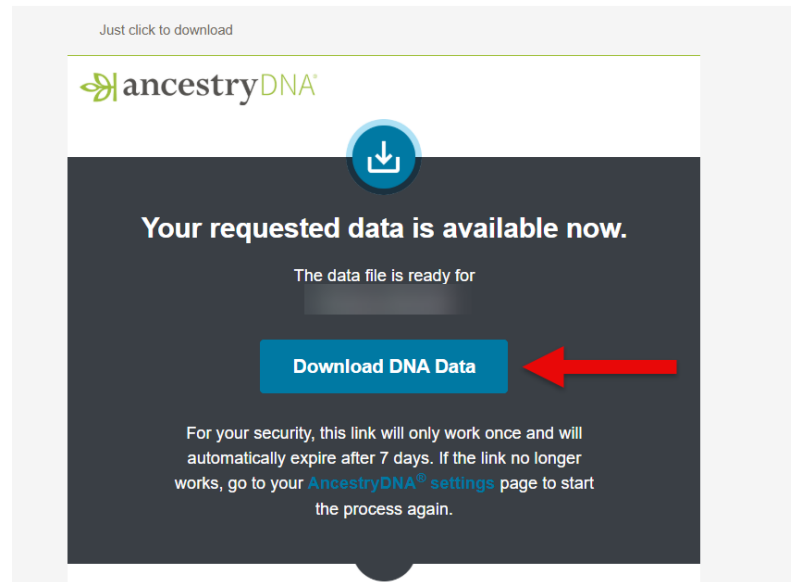
5. Click on "Download DNA data."



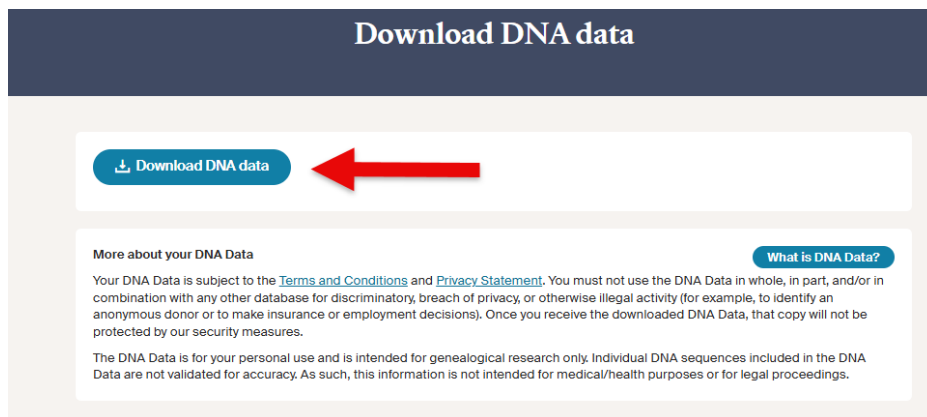
6. Click the check box and then "Continue."



7. Go to your email inbox and open the Ancestry email you received. (It may take up to 24 hours to show up in your inbox.) Click on "Download DNA Data."



8. This will take you back to your Ancestry page. Click on “Download DNA data.”





## B. Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) Download

**IMPORTANT!** Individuals who have tested with FTDNA can choose to opt-in for law enforcement searching through FTDNA. Individuals may also download their data from FTDNA and then upload to GEDmatch as shown below.

1. Opt-in for law enforcement searching through FTDNA
  - a. Navigate to “Privacy & Sharing” under “Account Settings.”
  - b. Toggle “Opt in to IGGM” to “On.”

**Account Settings** ←

ACCOUNT INFORMATION   GENEALOGY   **PRIVACY & SHARING** ←   PREFERENCES   NOTIFICATION PREFERENCES

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Your Profile ⓘ

If you have selected to participate in matching, your profile will display to your matches and to anyone your matches have granted permission to access their kit. [View an example of your profile.](#)

*Note: Profile information can be changed under the Account Information and Genealogy sections. It might take up to 24 hours for any changes to go into effect for you and your matches.*

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Matching Preferences ⓘ

To view your DNA relatives, you must [opt in to matching.](#) Opt in to Matching ☒

*Note: It might take up to 24 hours for any Matching Preferences changes to go into effect for you and your matches.*

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Investigative Genetic Genealogy Matching (IGGM) ⓘ

On a case-by-case basis, FamilyTreeDNA grants law enforcement and, in some cases, third parties working with law enforcement permission to upload a genetic file in an effort to help identify the remains of a deceased individual or a perpetrator of a homicide, abduction, or sexual assault. Permission is only granted after the required documentation is submitted, reviewed, and approved. (See [Law Enforcement Guide.](#))

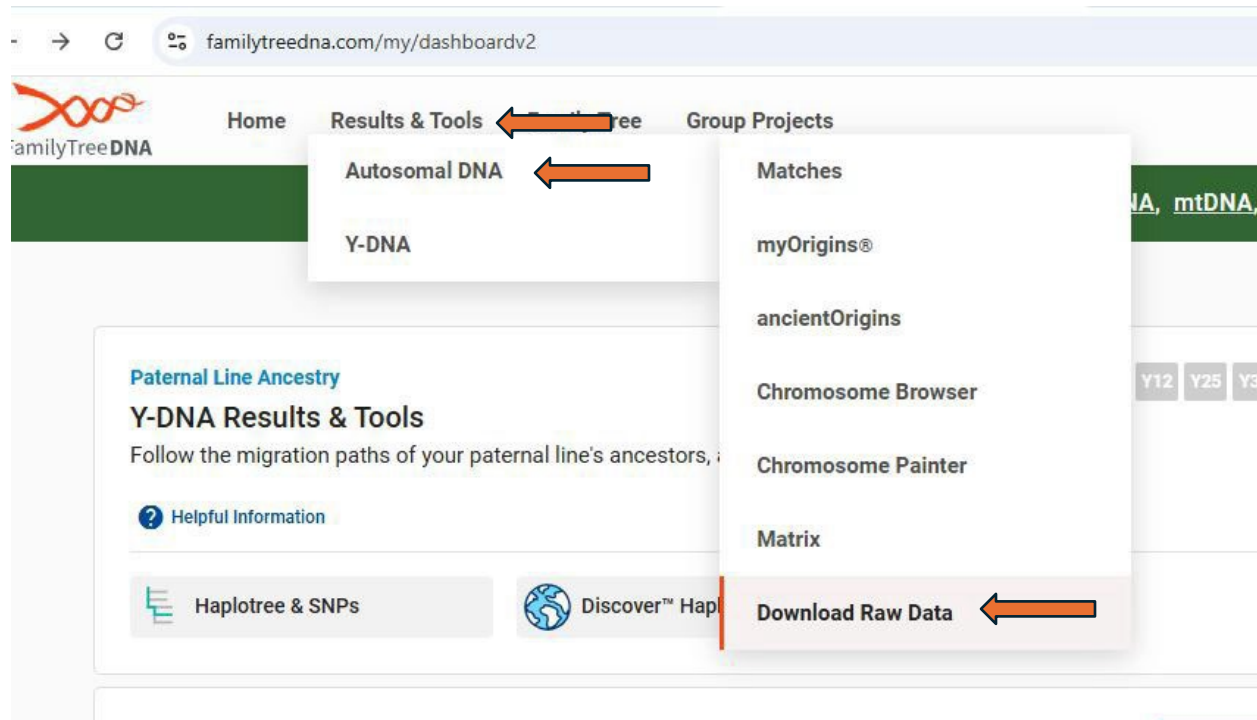
Opt in to IGGM ☒ ←

If you are opted in to [Investigative Genetic Genealogy Matching](#), you will only show up in the matches list of a law enforcement user account if ALL of the following requirements are met:



## 2. Download data from FTDNA for upload to GEDmatch

- Log into FTDNA.
- Click on “Results & Tools,” “Autosomal DNA,” and “Download Raw Data.”



- Click on “Build 37 Concatenated.”

## Download Your Data

### Raw Data

**Read before you download:** We are committed to protecting the privacy of our customers. By downloading any raw data, you hereby indicate that you are the owner of that data or have permission to download the data, and you further indicate your understanding that FamilyTreeDNA cannot in any way guarantee the security or privacy of your downloaded data. Furthermore, you understand that by uploading your raw data to a third party application and linking it to your name, FamilyTreeDNA kit number, email address, or any other identifying information, the security of your raw data and record is further put at risk and may lead to the violation of FamilyTreeDNA Privacy Policy. By downloading your raw data, you assume the liability for any breach of privacy and release FamilyTreeDNA from any privacy violation that results either directly or indirectly from the downloaded raw data and/or upload to a third party application.

The Family Finder raw data file contains your DNA results code (A, C, T, G, etc.) for each of the thousands of locations tested. It is most useful for those advanced users who wish to compare specific segments of their DNA with others.

Because they contain the results for thousands of SNPs, Family Finder autosomal DNA and X-Chromosome raw data files are large. They have been compressed for faster download. There are many free programs available on the internet for extracting GZIP files. [More Info.](#)

**Build 37 Concatenated Raw Data (GZIP, CSV)**

**Y-SNP Raw Data (GZIP, CSV)**



## C. 23andMe DNA Download

(<https://www.gedmatch.com/education/23andme/>)

### How to Access Your Raw DNA Data From 23andMe

#### 1 Sign in to your 23andMe account

##### Option 1

Go directly to **Download Raw Data**

##### Option 2

- Click on your account image in the top right corner
- Select **Browse Raw Data** from the scroll-down menu

#### 2 Click on the download option

- scroll down to **request your raw data download**
- check the consent box
- click **"submit request"**

#### 3 You will get an email from 23andMe soon.

Sometimes they take a little bit of time to arrive so don't worry if you don't get one right away! Once you do, click on the link and download the zip file.



## D. MyHeritage DNA Download

(<https://www.gedmatch.com/education/myheritage/>)

### How to Access Your Raw DNA Data From MyHeritage

#### 1 Sign in to your MyHeritage account



Log in to MyHeritage

Log in with Facebook

Log in with Google

or

Email address

Password

☒ Keep me logged in.

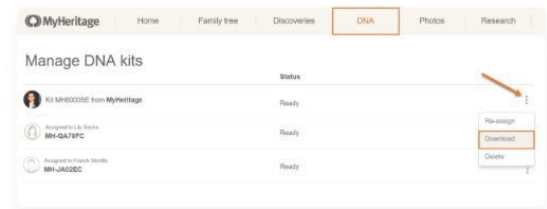
Log in

[Forgot your password?](#)

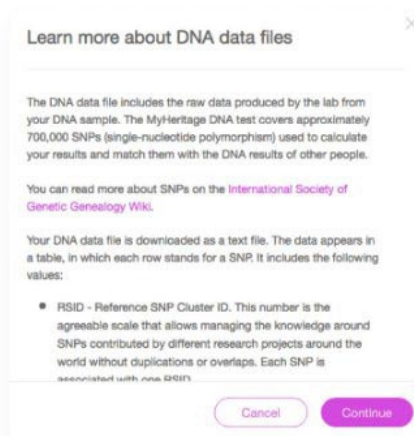
- Under DNA tab, go to 'Manage DNA Kits'



- On the right-hand side of the MyHeritage kit, you will see a button with three dots. Click it and choose the "Download" option.



- Click 'Continue' to proceed.
- Accept the MyHeritage Terms of Service and the Privacy Policy and click 'Continue'



Learn more about DNA data files

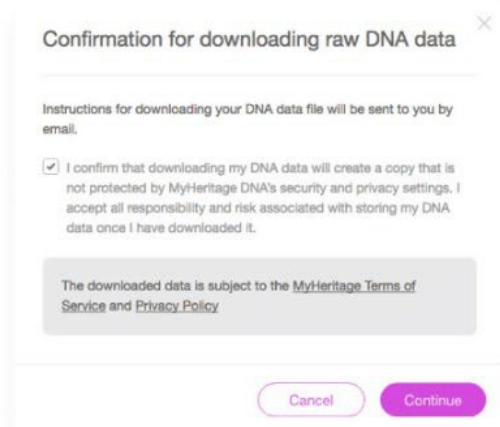
The DNA data file includes the raw data produced by the lab from your DNA sample. The MyHeritage DNA test covers approximately 700,000 SNPs (single-nucleotide polymorphism) used to calculate your results and match them with the DNA results of other people.

You can read more about SNPs on the [International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki](#).

Your DNA data file is downloaded as a text file. The data appears in a table, in which each row stands for a SNP. It includes the following values:

- RSID - Reference SNP Cluster ID. This number is the agreeable scale that allows managing the knowledge around SNPs contributed by different research projects around the world without duplications or overlaps. Each SNP is associated with one RSID.

Cancel Continue



Confirmation for downloading raw DNA data

Instructions for downloading your DNA data file will be sent to you by email.

☒ I confirm that downloading my DNA data will create a copy that is not protected by MyHeritage DNA's security and privacy settings. I accept all responsibility and risk associated with storing my DNA data once I have downloaded it.

The downloaded data is subject to the [MyHeritage Terms of Service and Privacy Policy](#)

Cancel Continue



## 2 Download Data

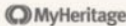
- You will receive an email with instructions, click the download link from the email.  
**The link is only valid for 24 hours!**

Please confirm your request to download the DNA data file for mom qa by clicking the link below:

[Click here to continue with the download](#) 

Please note that your DNA data file is intended for your personal genealogical research and general personal use only. It is not intended for medical, health, or legal purposes. Following download, the copy of your data file will be in your possession and under your responsibility. It will no longer be protected by our security and privacy mechanisms, so you should take measures to protect your data.

- The link will take you to the MyHeritage site. Enter your password and click **'Download'**  
*Please note: MyHeritage Files only download on Android and PC devices.*

 Home Family tree Discoveries DNA Photos Research

### DNA data file download

Your DNA data file is intended for your personal genealogical research and general personal use. It is not intended for medical, health, or legal purposes. Following download, the copy of your data file will be in your possession and under your responsibility. It will no longer be protected by our security and privacy mechanisms, so you should take measures to protect your data.

To download your DNA data file, please type your MyHeritage account password below.

[Forgot your password?](#)

**Information about your raw DNA data file**

The DNA data file includes the raw data produced by the MyHeritage DNA lab from your DNA sample. The MyHeritage DNA test covers approximately 700,000 SNPs (single-nucleotide polymorphism) used to calculate your results and match them with the DNA results of other people.

The data in your file is for your personal use and genealogical research and is not intended for any medical or legal uses. It is subject to the [MyHeritage Terms and Conditions](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Please note that your downloaded copy of the file will not be protected by our privacy and security mechanisms.



## Part II- Upload Existing DNA Data to GEDmatch

### A. Create a GEDmatch account

See below for detailed instructions on how to upload DNA data to GEDmatch after it has been downloaded from a testing company. Instructions can also be found at <https://www.gedmatch.com/how-it-works/>.

**IMPORTANT! The individual should be encouraged to share their GEDmatch kit number for future identification in any match list.**

1. Click on “JOIN FOR FREE” at <https://www.gedmatch.com/>.

DNA and Genealogy Tools to G x +

gedmatch.com

Maps Gmail AAFS Connect State Employee Res... SHIELD JusticeTrax LIMS-pla... Online RMS : Login SuccessFactors Log in PowerDMS Home Acadia® Portal UNH- MyCharger/C... UNH- Admissions P... Home - Lab Person...

[GEDmatch]

Applications Education DNA Diaries About

SIGN IN JOIN FOR FREE

Comprehensive solutions for genetic genealogy and family tree search

GEDmatch provides more applications for comparing your DNA test results with the most people worldwide.

VIEW OUR APPLICATIONS

2M+ Profiles Globally 45+ DNA Tools 12 Years of Experience 400M People in GEDCOMs



2. Click on “Sign up.”

The image shows the GEDmatch login and sign-up page. At the top is the GEDmatch logo. Below it, the text reads "Welcome to GEDmatch's new authentication platform". A message states: "Log in to continue to GEDmatch. For existing users, you will need to reset your password before logging in for the first time." There is an input field for "Email address\*" with a cursor. Below the field is a green "Continue" button. Underneath the button, it says "Don't have an account? Sign up" with an orange arrow pointing to the "Sign up" link. Below this is a horizontal line with "OR" in the center. A paragraph explains the social login feature: "By using our social login feature, you will **NOT** be able to update your email or reset your password through GEDmatch. Any password reset will be through Google or Yahoo. If you agree to these terms, please continue." There are two buttons: "Continue with Google" and "Continue with Yahoo".

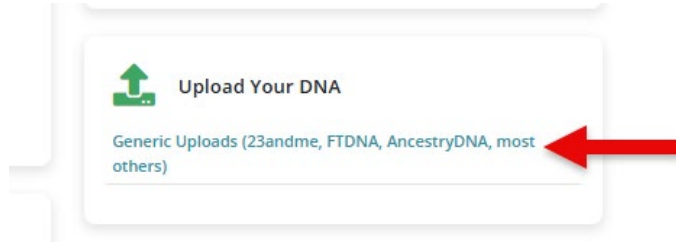
3. Fill in information to create an account. Accept the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy.

The image shows the GEDmatch "Create Your Account" page. At the top is the GEDmatch logo. Below it, the text reads "Create Your Account". A message states: "Sign up to continue to GEDmatch." A paragraph explains the account creation process: "If you are creating a new account because you do not have access to your old email, please do not continue. Click [here](#) for instructions on accessing your old account." There are four input fields: "Email address\*", "First Name", "Last Name", and "Alias (Optional)". Below these fields is a checkbox labeled "I accept the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy" with an orange arrow pointing to it. Below the checkbox is a grey "Continue" button. At the bottom, it says "Already have an account? Log in".



## B. Upload DNA Data to GEDmatch

1. Click on “Generic Uploads (23andme, FTDNA, AncestryDNA, most others)” under Upload Your DNA on the right hand side of the home page.



2. Choose the raw DNA data file you previously downloaded and provide as much information as you can in the form.

1

Choose a File to Upload

Click on "Choose File", "Browse", or similar wording (depends on your browser) to find the raw DNA data file on your computer.  
Supported file types are TXT, CSV, ZIP, GZIP. If you are not uploading from Ancestry, 23andme, or MyHeritage, be sure that your data is Build 37 (GRCh37/hg19).  
We do not accept phased kits generated from other providers. Please upload DNA data files directly downloaded from the testing service you used. Phased kits can be generated using our Tier 1 tool [here](#) on GEDmatch.

Choose File No file chosen

To learn more about how to download your DNA data, choose the company of your source file for more instructions.  
[Ancestry](#) [23andme](#) [MyHeritage](#) [FamilyTreeDNA](#)

2

Donor Information

Name of Donor (required)

Please use the DNA donor's real name here. If you don't want the real name displayed, you may also enter an alias in the box below.

Alias (optional)

If you don't want the donor's full name displayed, you may substitute an alias. Otherwise, leave this blank. If you enter an alias here, it will be shown on report pages instead of the name you entered above. The alias should either be similar to your full name, or the same as the 'screen name' that you use on forums. GEDmatch site administrators reserve the right to remove any alias that is not appropriate in their opinion.

Sex of Donor (recommended)

☐ Male ☐ Female

Name of Testing Company, or other source (required)

Select a Company or Source

Other:

Haplogroup Information (advanced/optional)

3

Raw Data to GEDmatch

When you upload Raw Data to GEDmatch, you agree that the Raw Data is one of the following. Select one option. (required)

☒ Your DNA

☐ DNA of a person for whom you are a legal guardian

☐ DNA of a person who has granted you specific authorization to upload their DNA to GEDmatch

Selecting this option indicates your upload of Raw Data is for personal genetic genealogy research only. Your violation of the foregoing may result in the permanent suspension of your account. If you are unsure whether this option is applicable, please contact [support@gedmatch.com](mailto:support@gedmatch.com).

☐ DNA of a person whose identity is known by you and who is known to be deceased

Selecting this option indicates your upload of Raw Data is for personal genetic genealogy research only. Your violation of the foregoing may result in the permanent suspension of your account. If you are unsure whether this option is applicable, please contact [support@gedmatch.com](mailto:support@gedmatch.com).

☐ DNA obtained from an artifact

If and only if: (1) you have a reasonable belief that the Raw Data is DNA from a previous owner or user of the artifact rather than from a living individual; and (2) that previous owner or user of the artifact is known to you to be deceased.

☐ None of the above

If your DNA data does not fit any of the above categories, it will not be permitted.

Issuing Authority: Biology Section Supervisor  
Issued 11/10/2026

Page 14 of 16  
Version 2



### 3. Fill in your consent.

**IMPORTANT!** For DNA data to be accessible to help narrow a search for a potential candidate in a criminal case, “Opt-in” must be selected. DNA data can still be used to help narrow a search for unidentified human remains if “Opt-out” is selected.

#### 4 Privacy Options

Select one of the following privacy options for this kit. (required) ⓘ

The screenshot shows four privacy options, each with a radio button and a description:

- Opt In** (Most Popular): We will compare your DNA kit to all other kits in the GEDmatch database to find your matching genetic relatives. Kits in the database include those submitted by users undertaking personal genetic genealogy research, adoptee searches, users (including law enforcement) attempting to identify unidentified human remains, and law enforcement attempting to identify perpetrators of violent crimes. Your kit **WILL** be compared with kits submitted by law enforcement to identify perpetrators of violent crimes. The operators of GEDmatch encourage everybody to select this option.
- Opt Out**: We will compare your DNA kit to all other kits in the GEDmatch database to find your matching genetic relatives. Kits in the database include those submitted by users undertaking personal genetic genealogy research, adoptee searches, and users (including law enforcement) attempting to identify unidentified human remains. Your kit **WILL NOT** be compared with kits submitted by law enforcement to identify perpetrators of violent crimes.
- Personal Research**: We will compare your DNA kit to all other kits in the GEDmatch database to find your matching genetic relatives. However, your DNA kits will not be shown in match result reports generated for other kits (including kits submitted by or on behalf of law enforcement). Genealogy and genetic genealogy require the sharing of information, and choosing this option will not allow your matches to see your DNA kit in their match results. This option may be used for regular uploads if you have specific reasons for doing so.
- Private**: This kit will not be available for any matching. The kit will be in the database, and it will be batch processed, but no comparison results will be shown unless this privacy setting is changed by you later.

### 4. Click “I’m not a robot” and “Upload.”

**IMPORTANT!** Note the kit number associated with the uploaded DNA profile on the Volunteer Testing Form.

#### 5 Upload File

Click “I’m not a robot”, (unless you are?) then click “Upload” to send your DNA data to GEDmatch. Your file might take a moment to process and then we will inform you of your next steps.

The screenshot shows a form with a checkbox labeled “I’m not a robot” and a reCAPTCHA logo. Below the checkbox is a large green button labeled “UPLOAD”.

### 5. Wait for the processing to finish. This may take up to 24 hours.



*I have been provided with information regarding voluntary testing for Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy. I understand that I am not required or obligated to provide a DNA sample, and that my consent to test is knowingly and voluntarily made. I have been provided a copy of this information.*

**A direct-to-consumer DNA kit has been provided: YES      NO**

**Volunteer Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Email Address Associated with Test:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FamilyTreeDNA Kit Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GEDmatch Kit Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Investigator Name (witness):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_