

BREAKING DOWN GENEALOGY DNA DEFINITIONS

SO I CAN UNDERSTAND THEM

2c2r-Second cousin 2 times removed.

AUTOSOMAL DNA-Non sex determining chromosomes.

CHROMOSOME-Structures found in the center of cells which carry long pieces of DNA. DNA is the material which holds genes. Each cell has 23 pairs of chromosomes. Half from the mother and half from the father.

cMs CENTIMORGAN-Is a mapping unit used for measuring genetic linkage. It is defined as the distance between chromosome positions (also termed, loci or markers) for which the expected average number of intervening chromosomal crossovers in a single generation is 0.01. Different regions of a chromosome have different propensities towards crossover. So.... Not all cMs are the same length!!

GEDmatch - GEDmatch.com is a free site which allows you to upload raw DNA data from a few different DNA testing sites. The GEDmatch site allows one to compare their DNA with that of other members regardless of which website(s) the other members used for testing.

GENETIC GENEALOGY-The use of DNA testing in combination with traditional genealogy. So yes, you still have a lot of work to do including your trees!!!

HAPLOGROUPS-YDNA and mtDNA. YDNA is passed down from father to son. mtDNA passed down from mother to all of her children.

MRCA - This is an acronym for "most recent common ancestor". When you're trying to find the family connection between yourself and a person with whom you share DNA, you would be looking for your MRCA.

mtDNA- Mitochondrial DNA is different from the rest of your DNA, in that it comes from a different part of the cell. Most DNA is located in the center of the cell, the nucleus. MtDNA comes from a part of the cell called a mitochondrion (plural: mitochondria), which provides the cell with energy. Because of this difference, it doesn't get recombined like most DNA and is passed on unchanged from a mother to her children. Any female children will in turn pass that unchanged DNA to their children, and so on down the maternal line.