

# Find relative with MyHeritage DNA Matching

New research directions to connect with relatives you may not have known about.

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MyHeritage has created and refined the capability to read the DNA data files that you can export from all main vendors and bring them to the same common ground. Thanks to this capability — accomplished with very high accuracy — we can successfully match the DNA of any of the main companies in the genealogy world. DNA Matching compares the DNA data of all individuals uploaded to MyHeritage to each other, to find matches based on shared DNA. If two people have the same ancestor, they may have some identical DNA that they inherited from that ancestor and that DNA is shared between them and can reveal the relationship between them.

## Accessing your DNA Matches

All your DNA Matches are listed under the Discoveries tab. MyHeritage displays the matches, sorted by the amount of shared DNA, so closest relatives will be listed first. The page shows additional information such as shared surnames or similar geographical locations between their family tree and yours, the possible relationship(s) between you and that person as implied by the DNA characteristics, information about the DNA Match quality, and family tree details if your match has a family tree.

The screenshot shows the MyHeritage website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with the MyHeritage logo and tabs for Home, Family tree, Discoveries (highlighted), Photos, Apps, and Research. Below the navigation bar is the heading "DNA Matches".

Under "Your DNA Matches", there is a profile card for Jonathan Miller, identified as "This is you" from the USA. To the right is a promotional banner for "Get DNA tests for your relatives" with a "Learn more" link.

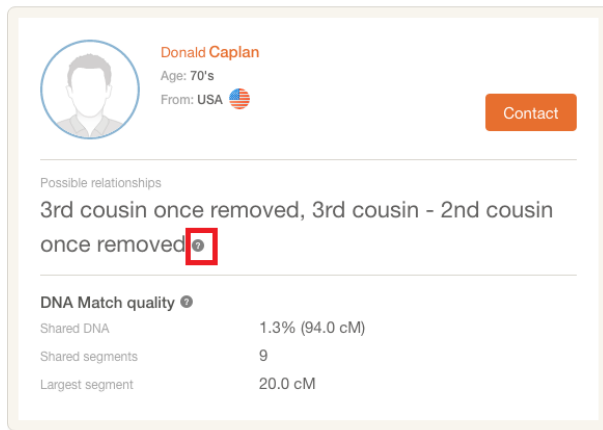
Below this, it states "448 DNA Matches found". A detailed match card is shown for Patrick Synder, a 30-year-old from the USA. The card includes a "Contact" button and a "Possible relationship" section identifying him as a "Father or son".

The "DNA Match quality" section for Patrick Synder provides the following data:

DNA Match quality	
Shared DNA	48.4% (3,509.2 cM)
Shared segments	53
Largest segment	227.8 cM

To the right of the match card is a "Family tree details" section stating that Patrick Synder appears in a family tree with 9 people that he manages, with a "View tree" button.

Here is a short explanation of the information provided for each match:



Donald Caplan  
Age: 70's  
From: USA

Contact

Possible relationships  
3rd cousin once removed, 3rd cousin - 2nd cousin once removed

DNA Match quality  
Shared DNA 1.3% (94.0 cM)  
Shared segments 9  
Largest segment 20.0 cM

### Possible relationships

For every DNA Match, the page lists the possible relationship(s) as indicated by DNA between you and the person. It's sometimes difficult to visualize these relationships; so we provide you with a handy relationship helper window (click the question mark icon) that shows you what the relationships mean. If more than one relationship is possible, the various possibilities will be highlighted in that window.

When the DNA characteristics can imply several possible relationships between you and your DNA match, MyHeritage will take advantage of genealogical metadata that is found in your tree or in the family tree of your match, to rule out relationships that do not make sense.

### DNA Match quality

This section displays three values for each match that can inform you about your genetic relationship with your DNA Match. They are Shared DNA, Shared segments, and Longest Segment. They are explained in the image below, which you can see by clicking a question mark icon next to the term "DNA Match quality."

### Contacting other users

The main action you can take is to contact your DNA Matches, i.e. get in touch with the people who seem to be interesting matches. We recommend that you do that, and exchange information about how you may be related to them. If your DNA Match is a MyHeritage member, you can contact him or her via MyHeritage (their email address will not be revealed to you). On the other hand, if your DNA Match is a family tree individual whose DNA was uploaded by another member of MyHeritage, you will be able to contact that member, i.e. the DNA manager. Sometimes you will get the option of contacting either the person you matched or the person who manages their DNA. This choice is useful in case the DNA belongs to a person who died, and the DNA is managed by his/her relative, or if the person you are trying to contact is not responding. More options to connect will increase your chances of making contact successfully.

### Viewing family tree details

The power of MyHeritage comes from its family trees. With more than 35 million family trees, containing +2 billion people from every country around the world, means that when you get DNA Matches on MyHeritage, they will almost always have a family tree associated with them,

and you will be able to view that family tree to understand better whether they are indeed related to you, and try to figure out the exact path of the relationship. MyHeritage allows you to view the family tree of any of your DNA Matches. Trees on private sites will not be viewable, but even in that situation, you will be able to request access from the site manager in most cases.

If your tree and the family tree of your DNA Match have Smart Matches (individuals considered by MyHeritage to be the same, based on matching family tree data), this will be indicated for you on the DNA pages. Such DNA Matches are interesting to review because it is possible that DNA is now proving a relationship previously speculated via the names and dates in the family trees.

## DNA Settings

Receiving DNA Matches to make new discoveries is the main advantage for those interested in uploading their DNA data to MyHeritage. If, however, you don't wish people to be matched to your DNA, you can turn off DNA Matching by changing the setting under Settings > My Privacy. Under DNA preferences, if you uncheck "Enable DNA Matching on MyHeritage", others will no longer be able to get matched to your DNA data. By turning off this setting, you will also not receive any DNA Matches. Only the person who has uploaded the DNA data can control the DNA Matching privacy settings for that data.

# Settings

[Site account](#) [My preferences](#) [My privacy](#) [General](#) [Home page](#) [Calendar](#) [Genealogy](#)

## My privacy

We take the privacy of our members and their data very seriously. This page is a convenient location to view and change all your privacy settings.

[My member preferences](#)

[My DNA preferences](#)

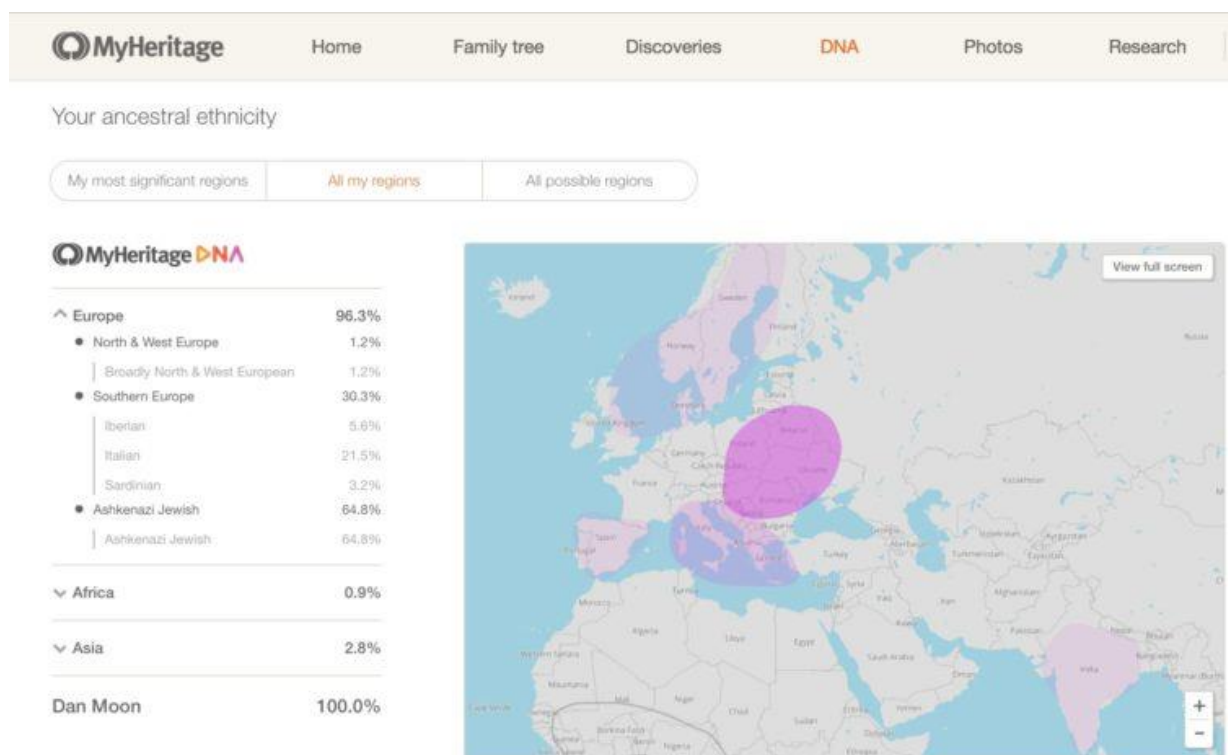
## DNA preferences

- Enable DNA Matching on MyHeritage [i](#)
- Allow my DNA matches to view my ethnicity (Coming soon)

Save

## Email Notification

MyHeritage will periodically send you an email with the best DNA Matches we've found for you. If you are managing the DNA tests of multiple people, we will send you a single consolidated email with the best DNA Matches for each DNA test that you manage, to avoid cluttering your mailbox.



## Ethnicity Report

The DNA results include a fascinating breakdown of your ancestral ethnicity. You will be able to see the percentage of your DNA that comes from different populations around the world. This breakdown, displayed in a list and on a world map, may confirm long-held beliefs about your family origins, or perhaps reveal that you have roots in some unexpected places.

## MyHeritage’s Founder Populations Project

We have reached out to thousands of MyHeritage users from all around the world who their family trees exemplify consistent heritage from the same region or ethnicity for many generations. In the past few months, we have been sending 5000 DNA kits to project participants far and wide, from Uzbekistan to Fiji, from Greenland to South Africa, and every corner of the globe. The results of these tests will yield a rich DNA data set of more than 100 ethnicities. The largest study of this kind ever conducted, the Founder Population project will enable us to show you your ancestral roots with far greater resolution than any other DNA service.