

## Top Ten Beginner Mistakes to Avoid

1. Not everyone with your last name is a relative. Just because your last name is Washington doesn't mean you have a connection to America's first president.

2. Don't trust everything you see in print. Whether you find it online or in a book, confirm any information you find by going back to the original source when possible.

**3.** Don't neglect your living relatives. They are the single best resource for family information that can't be found elsewhere.

4. Don't do all of your searching online. The Internet is an excellent source of genealogical information, but a lot of the pieces to the puzzle of your family tree will only be found in libraries, archives, and other repositories.

5. Beware the generic family history. Those mass-produced coats of arms and family tree scrolls that you see at the mall or receive fliers for in the mail won't tell you anything about your own family tree.

**6.** Family legends aren't always fact. While most family stories of scandalous ancestors or famous relatives may have somebasis in fact, they often tend to be exaggerated with each retelling. Don't take them as truth, but don't ignore them, either—research them instead.

**7.** Genealogy isn't just name collecting. While it is fulfilling to watch your family tree grow, it is more exciting to learn about the people behind the names and dates.

**8.** Don't expect others to do your work for you. Genealogists are a very helpful bunch, but they are more likely to want to help you if you've obviously done your own homework first.

**9.** Names do change. Familiarize yourself with all the names used by your ancestors, and don't neglect to search for all alternate spellings.

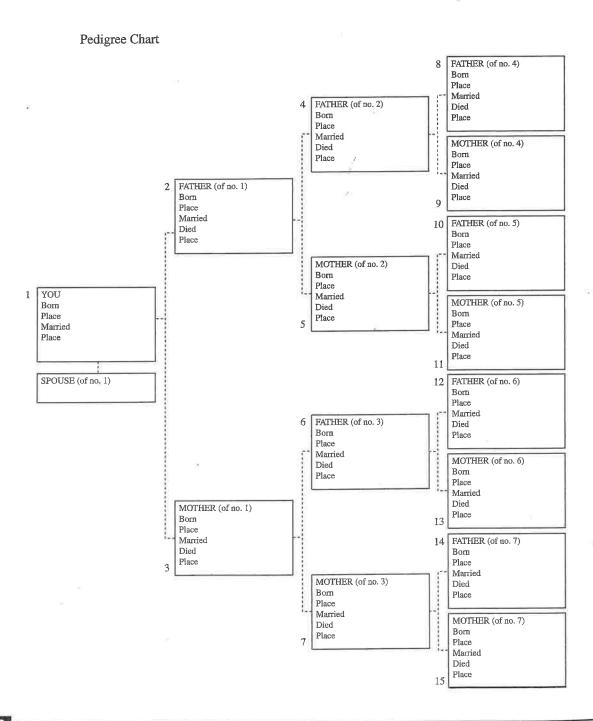
**10.** Document every source you have searched, even if you fail to find anything helpful. Otherwise you'll waste hours re-examining documents and Web sites that you've already looked at.

F	amily Group I	Record	TOP SELECTION	(TX)和60、以1000年	Total and State	
_	usband's name			表现2004年,2013年12日 - <b>2</b> 600	正当时的成功的各	
Boi	n	Place				
Chr.		Place				
Mar.		Place				
Die	d		Place			
Bur.		Place				
Fath	er		1			
Hus	band's other wives		Mother			
_	fe's name		**************************************			
Born		Place	Place			
Chr.		Place	Place			
Died		Place	Place			
Bur.						
Father			Mother			
_	s other husbands					
Chi	ldren			ş.		
Sex	Name		Spouse	Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar.	Place		
	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
Sex	x Name			Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar.	Place		
	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
Sex				Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place		Diagram		
	Died	Place	Mar, Bur	Place Place		
Sex	Name			Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar.	Place		
	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
Sex	Name		Spouse	Tinco		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar,	Place		
	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
Sex	Name			Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar,	Place		
	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
Sex	Name			Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar.	Place		
_	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
	Name			Spouse		
	B/Chr	Place	Mar.	Place		
	Died	Place	Bur	Place		
الم	Marriages		Dat	race		

Other Marriages

## Appendix B

## **Charts for Plotting Your Family Tree**



Sample Forms #2